



# *The animals of the Amazon*

*By Emma*



**BIRDS**



# Scarlet Macaws

Scarlet Macaws usually live in small groups. Strong wings and light, hollow bones allow them to reach speeds of 56 kilometers per hour. They will live up to 40-50 years in the wild. Scarlet Macaws are herbivores and eat a variety of berries, seeds, fruits, nuts and other vegetation.

# The hummingbirds

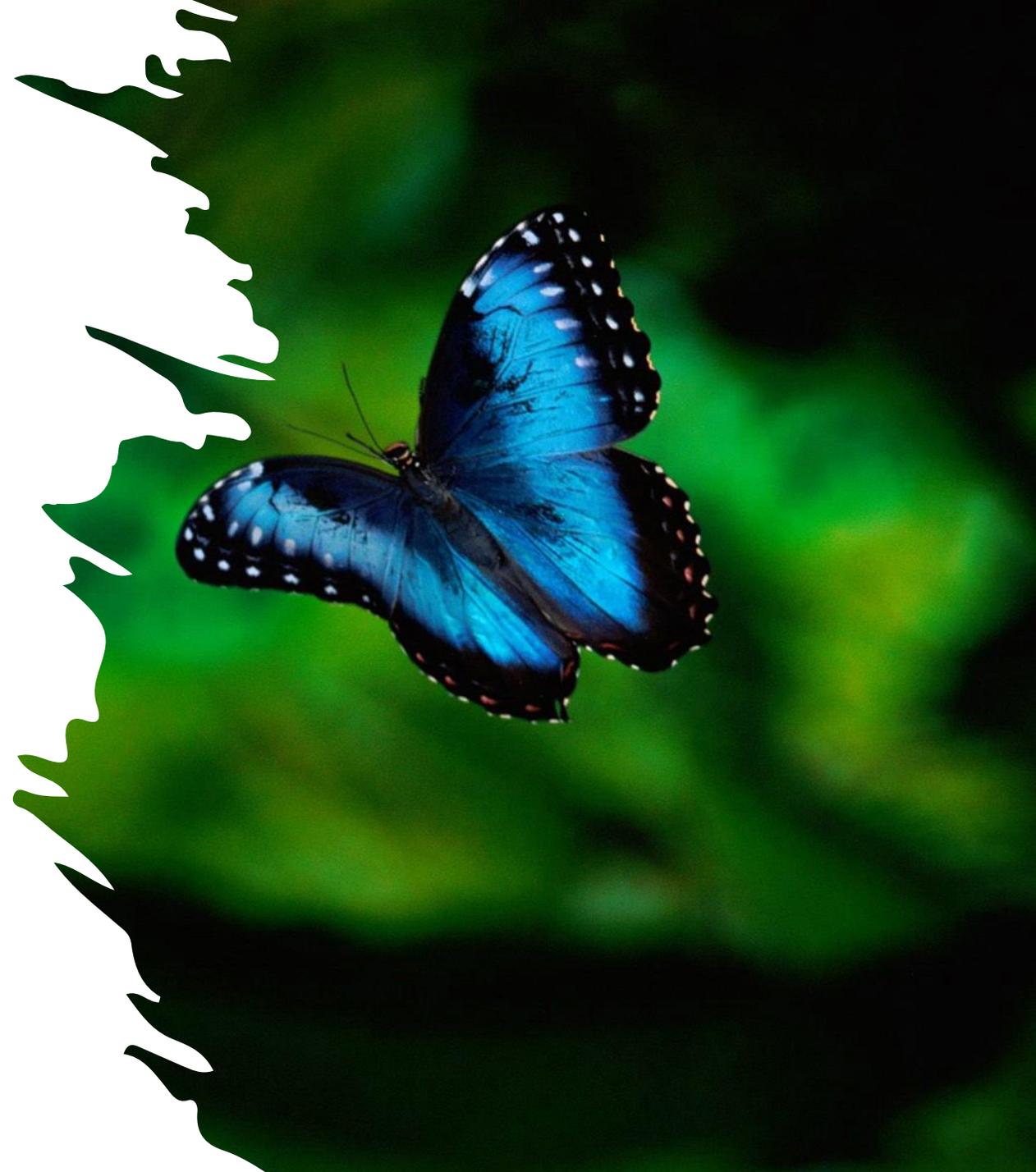
A hummingbird's wings beat around 53 times a second, the most recorded on an Amethyst wood-star hummingbird was 80 per second! As you can see in the picture they like to lap up nectar with their long, hollow tongues, they like to eat a variety of insects too.



# INSECTS

# Blue morpho butterflies

These pretty butterflies deceive their predators by being poisonous. As caterpillars they eat a poisonous leaf and the poison stays in them when they turn into butterflies. They suck up nectar, sap and fruit juice with their proboscis. Their scales overlap acting like a prism to create their wonderful azure colour.



# Rhinoceros beetles

An average adult rhinoceros beetle is around 6cm. They have two horns with moderately forked ends, used for fighting and lifting things. Rhinoceros beetles can lift up 850 times their own weight! They live for about 3-6 months.



# REPTILES



# Poison Frogs

*There are many different types of poisonous frogs in the Amazon, some of these include strawberry poison frogs, chocolate poison frogs, poison dart frogs and golden poison frogs. The most poisonous is the golden poison frog it can kill you in less than ten minutes, there is no cure and it is considered to be one of the most toxic animals in the world.*

# MAMMALS

# Sloths

Baby sloths will stay with their parents from 2-4 years, but they stop clinging to their mother's bellies from 5 weeks to 6 months (when they can feed themselves).

Sloths can live up to 20 years and have a diet of leaves bugs and twigs.



# Capybaras

Capybaras are the largest rodents in the world and are closely related to guinea pigs. These semi aquatic mammals graze on aquatic plants and grasses, if their dung is rich in protein they will eat it too! Capybaras can run 35 kilometers per hour. They can sleep underwater too!



# Pink river dolphins

Pink river dolphins' brains and bodies are larger than any fresh-water dolphins. Rough games or fights causing scar tissue are thought to be what makes the dolphins pink. The brighter the pink on males the more attractive they are to females. They live up to around 30 years old. Having a diet of sea-food they are not picky, they eat turtles, crabs, shrimp and over 40 different species of fish including piranhas!

