

småle matters

BUG NEWS



Spring 2018



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Contents

- 03 Greetings from Alex and Tampi
- 04 New Merchandise
- 05 Jungle chocolate cornflakes
- 06 The rainforest
- 08 Rainforest species
- 10 Games
- 12 Spot the difference
- 14 Threats to the rainforest
- 18 Cocoa beans
- 21 Inbox@ småles
- 22 In Store Activites
- 23 Wreck-this-Page
- 24 Comic



Hej småles!

We received some of your drawings of us going through the Amazon forest and it is pretty much like what you imagined! We went through thick bushes and tall trees and came out alive to tell you all about it on **page 6**.

Do you know that rainforests are fast disappearing? Let us do our part to conserve these beautiful forests. Learn more about it on **page 14**.

We also discovered about the many interesting facts about chocolate while there. See what we found on **page 18**.

Have a marvellous school holiday and we hope to see you soon at the IKEA stores!

With Big Bug Hugs,
Alex and Tampi

New Merchandise

Keep the jungle in with your money in a rainforest coin pouch.

Available at **\$2 Smålish dállars** from 10 July.





Jungle chocolate cornflakes

What you need:

- 50g butter
- 100g milk or dark chocolate, broken into chunks
- 3 tablespoon golden syrup or honey
- 100g cornflakes
- Gummy worms

1. Put the butter, chocolate and golden syrup/honey in a saucepan or microwavable bowl. Put the cornflakes in another large bowl.
2. Get your mummy or daddy to melt the butter, chocolate and golden syrup/honey in the saucepan over low heat or briefly in the microwave. Allow to cool a little before pouring over the cornflakes.
3. Mix the ingredients together gently using a wooden spoon until the cornflakes are all covered in chocolate. Spoon the mixture into 12 cupcake cases.
4. Put in the fridge to set and lay a gummy worm on top just before serving or eating. Yum!

What is a tropical rainforest?

A rainforest can be described as a tall, dense jungle. As its name suggests, the reason why it is called a "rain" forest is because it gets a very high amount of rainfall every year. There are two types of rainforests – tropical and temperate.

For a tropical rainforest to exist, there must be a warm climate, which explains why a big part of the tropical rainforest regions are located on or near the equator (the warmest part of the earth).

They are found in many areas near the equator such as Asia, Africa, Central America and the Pacific Islands.

Of all the tropical rainforests, the Amazon rainforest is the largest in the world.

The many layers of the rainforest

These are the many layers of a rainforest. The branches and leaves of the trees form such a thick canopy (roof) that the Amazon floor is always in darkness. In fact, because it's so thick, when it rains, it takes around ten minutes for the water to reach the ground!

Here are the different layers of the rainforest:

EMERGENT LAYER

The highest layer, this is where there is most sunlight and where the tallest trees grow. The tallest trees are the emergents, growing as high as almost 20 floors above the ground. Some animals found here are eagles and monkeys.

CANOPY LAYER

This is the main layer of the forest and forms a roof over the two remaining layers. Many animals live in this area since food is abundant. Some of these animals include Toucans and snakes.

UNDERSTORY LAYER

Little sunshine reaches this area so the plants have to grow larger leaves to reach the sunlight. Animals living here include leopards and jaguars. There are many insects living here as well.

FOREST FLOOR

It is dark down here and because of that, almost no plants grow in this area. Giant anteaters live here.





Life in the rainforest



Only around 6% of Earth's land surface is rainforest, but because of its hot and humid climate, it is very supportive of the growth of plants and animals – about 30 million animal and plant species live there.

Some animals include parrots, the giant sloth, howling monkey, leopards, iguana and flesh eating fish called piranhas. It is believed that there will be many millions of species of plants, insects and micro-organisms thriving in rainforest which have not been discovered.



There are also more than a few thousand people living in the rain forests. These people live in tribes and depend on the rain forests for shelter and food. Many of them would suffer if the rain forests are destroyed.





What does the rainforest give us?

A quarter of ingredients in modern medicines come only from rainforest plants.

The rainforest is sometimes referred to as 'the lungs of the Earth'. This is because the rich vegetation produces oxygen from carbon dioxide. More than 20% of the world's oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest.

Besides oxygen, the rainforests also provide other things we need such as:

Natural medicines



Pineapples



Sugar



Spices

coconut

turmeric

vanilla

ginger



Rubber

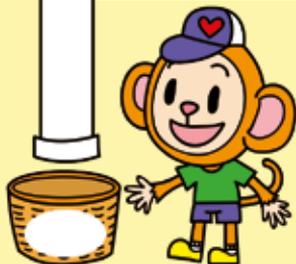
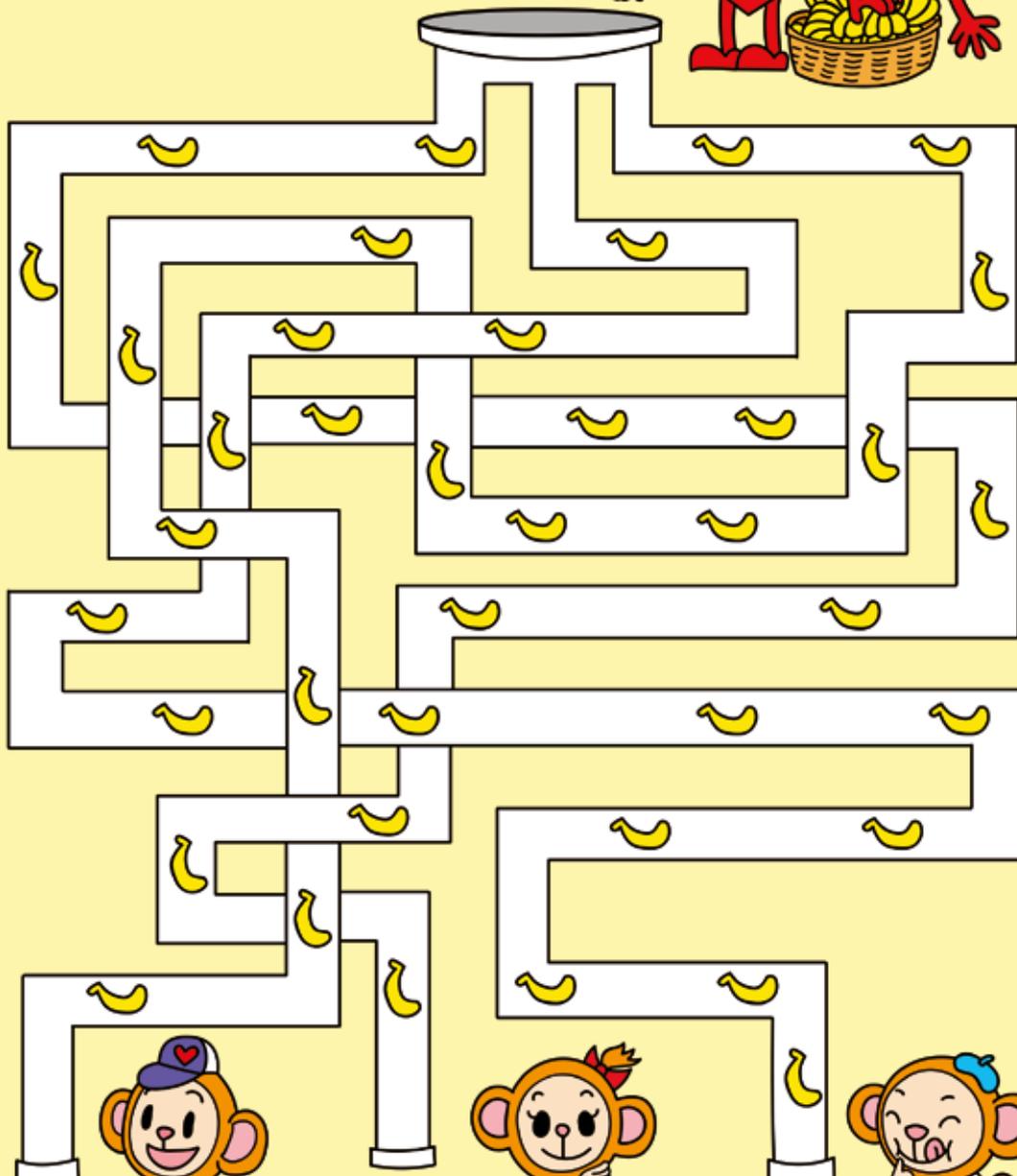
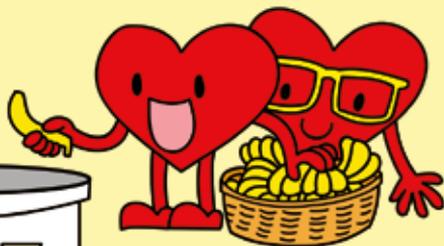


Cocoa

That's what chocolate is made of!

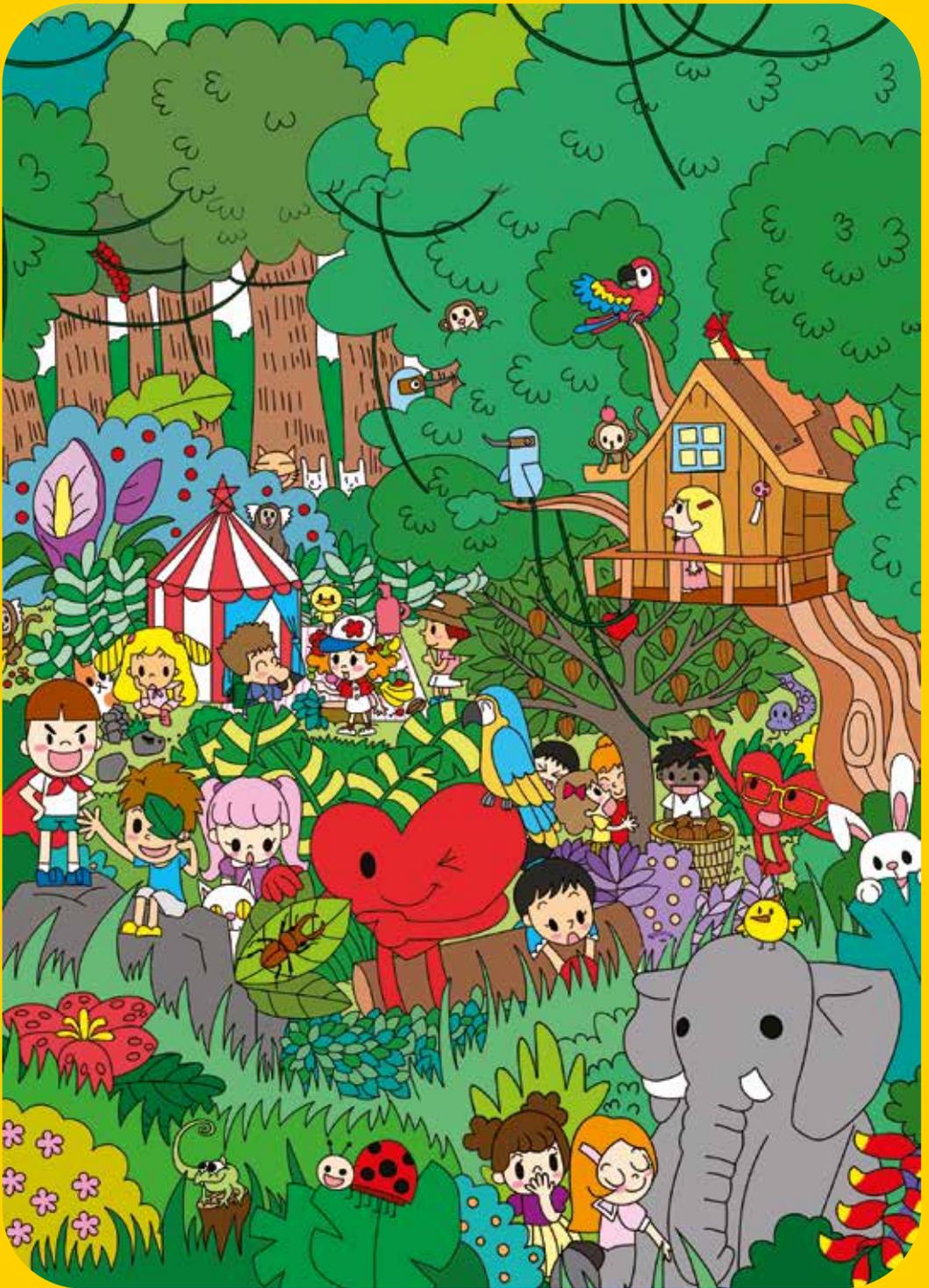


Do you know how many bananas each monkey is fed? Write the number down on the baskets!



Look at the many footprints! Can you identify which footprint belongs to which animal?





Send in your answers with your name, Smålish passport number and contact details to alexandtampi@smales.com.sg or 60 Tampines North Drive 2, Singapore 528764 by 6 July. 15 lucky winners will each win a **DJUNGELSKOG** soft toy.





Threats to the rainforest

Rainforests cover

6-8%

of the Earth

Rainforests as well as species of plants and animals who live in the rainforests are rapidly disappearing due to deforestation. This would result in a loss of habitats (where plants and animals live) and add to the pollution of the atmosphere. The sad thing is, rainforests used to cover about 14% of the Earth's surface but now that they're disappearing, they only cover around 6-8% of the Earth.



Rainforest effects on global climate

With rainforests disappearing due to deforestation, it is bad news for us because when trees are cut down they release the carbon they are storing into the atmosphere where it mingles with greenhouse gases from other sources and contributes to global warming.



How does cutting trees down in the rainforest affect rainfall in another part of the world?

Rainforests cool the air above them by turning water from the soil into moisture in the air. When we chop the trees down, we remove the source of this cooling effect from the additional moisture. If all the trees in the tropical areas were cut down, global temperature could increase by as much as 0.7 degrees.



GLOBAL WARMING





What we can do to help?

Little steps make a big difference. You too can do your part to help prevent our rainforests from disappearing. Here are some ways:

2



Use less paper—re-use paper instead of throwing it out. Cut paper that is only used on one side and no longer needed to use as a notepad, or recycle the paper you use

1

Recycle as much as you can



3

Encourage people to live in a way that doesn't hurt the environment



4

Do a project to learn more about rainforests and the plants and animals that live there



5

Ask your parents to buy foods that are grown in a sustainable way (from places that do not chop down rainforests for lands)





Cocoa Beans

Do you like eating chocolate? The sweet treat is made up of cocoa powder from cocoa beans. These are first found in the rainforests and are little beans that grow in the pods on cacao (cocoa) trees.

The pods are orange and are about as big as a small pumpkin. They look like a football with some of the air out of it.

Cocoa trees grow slowly. It takes three to five years for cocoa trees to produce pods with beans for making chocolate. Though Cocoa trees live up to two hundred years they only produce cocoa beans good enough for chocolate for 20 – 25 years.

Cool facts about chocolates

Think you know your sweet candy bar well? Think again! Here are some cool facts about Chocolate:

The smell of chocolate increases theta brain waves, which triggers relaxation.



The scientific name for the tree that chocolate comes from, *Theobroma cacao*, means "food of the gods."

During the Revolutionary War, soldiers were sometimes paid in chocolate. Mmmm!



The first people we know of to use chocolate were the Mayan Indians. They crushed the beans into powder and mixed it with water for hot chocolate. They called it bitter water because they did not put sugar in it.



M&Ms were created in 1941 as a means for soldiers to enjoy chocolate without it melting.



Ack! We wonder how that would taste!



INBOX @ SMALES

Last issue's theme:

Alex and Tampi packed their bags and visited the deep Amazon rainforest for an adventure. What did the adventure look like?

Best Drawing



Raina Ogut, 11 years old



Lim Xin Yu, 9 years old



Dexter Lum, 8 years old



Ma Chai Yee, 10 years old



Wang Yun Han, 9 years old



Vennie Lee, 10 years old



Siau Zi Qin, 10 years old



Timothy Laurentius, 8 years old



Emma Joy Ng, 10 years old

Alex and Tampi decided to add some flavour to their paper porridge one day and decided to visit the nearby pumpkin farm. What do you think it looks like?

Include your name, age and Smãlish passport number on the back of your drawing and Send your drawings to us in an A4 sized paper at **60 Tampines North Drive 2, Singapore 528764** or email it to us at **alexandtampi@smales.com.sg** by 6 July! The Best Drawing gets to win a **DJUNGELSKOG** soft toy lion!





"AHH EEE AIII EEE AIII!!" came a loud voice from the forest as Alex and Tampi looked up to see a monkey. It was holding a small box full of emeralds while the other hand holding on to a lingering vine. Looking startled and frightened, Alex decided to approach the monkey to find out more from him. After some exchange, Alex realised the monkey has lost his way while looking for the emeralds. Hence, he offered to bring him back to where he belongs. The monkey was totally delighted knowing Alex and Tampi are bringing him back to his homeland.

Justin Low, 10 years old

"AHH EEE AII EEE AIII!" Alex and Tampi looked up, they saw a dark shadow swiftly swinging across from tree to tree. Suddenly, the figure stopped in a very dark shadow of a tree and demanded "Who are you! How dare you enter my territory!", As it holds a sharp spear in his hands. Alex and Tampi timidly replied "w-w-we are A-A-Alex and T-T-Tampi we c-c-come here i-i-in peace." The figure came out of its shadow, it was Tarzen!" Alex and Tampi couldn't believe their eyes!. Well, if you came here in peace, would you want to share sojme paper porridge with me for lunch?" said Tarzen. "Why yes, you honour, we will be pleased!" exclaimed Alex and Tampi excitedly. During lunch, the tree of them happily ate their paper porridge merrily and talked with each other on that very fateful day.

Jaevier Wong, 11 years old

Suddenly a monkey popped out of the trees, making Alex and Tampi afraid.

"Don't be afraid, my name is Makito" said the monkey with a sly smile. Alex answered "My name is Alex and this is my friend Tampi".

"Makito is acting weird, we should run away" whispered Tampi. "Stop imagining things, Makito seems kind" said Alex.

Suddenly the monkey pulled a handle and the ground below them began to shake. "Help!" they cried. They fell into a hole. The more they shouted, the deeper they fall. "I should have listen to you" said Alex. A warrior heard their cries and saved them. Alex and Tampi were grateful for the warrior.

Foo Xian Deandrea Shuan (7 years old)

Alex and Tampi see a flower swinging and they decided to touch the flower. Once both of them touched the flower, Alex and Tampi begin to change into a lion. When they are lions they start to eat the flower. "Munch, munch, munch..." while they are going to eat the last bite of the flower, a big huge giant comes to Alex and Tampi and they transformed back to their original selves. What a wild adventure they had!

Goh Jing Min, 7 years old

Lele decided to play a trick on Alex and Tampi and hid inside a huge pumpkin. What do you think happened?

In **no more than 150 words**, include your name, age and Smålish passport number and send your letter to **60 Tampines North Drive 2, Singapore 528764** or email it to us at **alexandtampi@smales.com.sg** by 6 July! The Best Letter gets to win **DJUNGELSKOG soft toy, orangutan.**

Last issue's theme:

"AHH EEE AIII EEE AIII!!" came a loud voice from the forest as Alex and Tampi looked up to see something or someone swinging from the trees of the forest. What did they see?

As Alex and Tampi were walking through the forest, they heard a loud voice coming from the trees above, "Ahh Eee Aiii Eee Aiii". Both Alex and Tampi looked up but did not see anything. The voice sang again and this time, they saw something. It was a beautiful looking bird pointing to a tree. Suddenly, that tree spoke. He said sadly, "Please help us. One of our trees named Tugg has not enough sunlight to grow because he is planted in such a way that the sunlight can't reach him. If you can, please help us to move him to another spot that has sunlight. There is a spade near the edge of a river nearby. You can use it to dig Tugg out of the soil and plant him back." Alex and Tampi nodded in agreement. They immediately set off to the river and retrieved the spade. Alex started to dig tirelessly while Tampi looked for a good spot to plant Tugg in. They worked for hours and was finally done. In reward, the trees allowed them to sleep in their fluffy bushes for the night.

The next day, Alex and Tampi went to the river to get some water. As they lowered their mouths into the water, Alex tripped over a rock and fell into the river. Tampi tried to rescue him but did not manage to. Tampi desperately ran back to the forest and informed the trees. Without delay, the trees immediately came up with a plan. They would provide wood for Tampi to make a raft so that he could set sail on the river and hopefully find Alex along the way. As soon as they had finished building the raft, Tampi set sail on the river and was ready to begin his journey to find Alex. He looked at every curve and corner of the river and at a glimpse of an eye, he finally found Alex. Tampi was grateful that he had found Alex. He quickly rushed back to their heart-shaped-house with Alex in his arms. When they reached there, Tampi made some hot chocolate for Alex. The two hearts are truly best of friends!

Dylan Lee, 10 years old

Alex and Tampi were walking through the forest when they saw a monkey swinging through the trees. Suddenly, they saw a hunter crouching in the shadows and he had his gun pointed at the monkey. 'Oh no! The monkey is in trouble!' cried Tampi. Alex quickly shouted at the monkey 'You are in trouble, quickly hide!' The monkey heard Alex's cry and quickly dashed off to hide in the forest. The hunter groaned and walked off. Once the coast was clear, the monkey came out and gave Alex and Tampi a large pot of paper porridge out of gratitude. Alex and Tampi cheered happily.

Ezra Noah Seah, 6 years old



In Store Activities

Sign up at the Bug House at the IKEA stores from 2 June!

Rainbow paper snake

Hiss! What is that? Learn to make a rainbow snake made of paper.

Cost: \$1 Smålish dállar

Date: 9 June

Location: IKEA Tampines

Time: 2.30pm, 3.15pm, 4pm

Session: 15 pax per session

Date: 10 June

Location: IKEA Alexandra

Time: 2.30pm and 3.15pm

Session: 10 pax per session



Toucan paper finger puppet



Learn to make a colourful bird finger puppet as if you were seeing it in the forest!

Cost: \$1 Smålish dállar

Date: 16 June

Location: IKEA Tampines

Time: 2.30pm, 3.15pm, 4pm

Session: 15 pax per session

Date: 17 June

Location: IKEA Alexandra

Time: 2.30pm and 3.15pm

Session: 10 pax per session





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Place sticky things here