

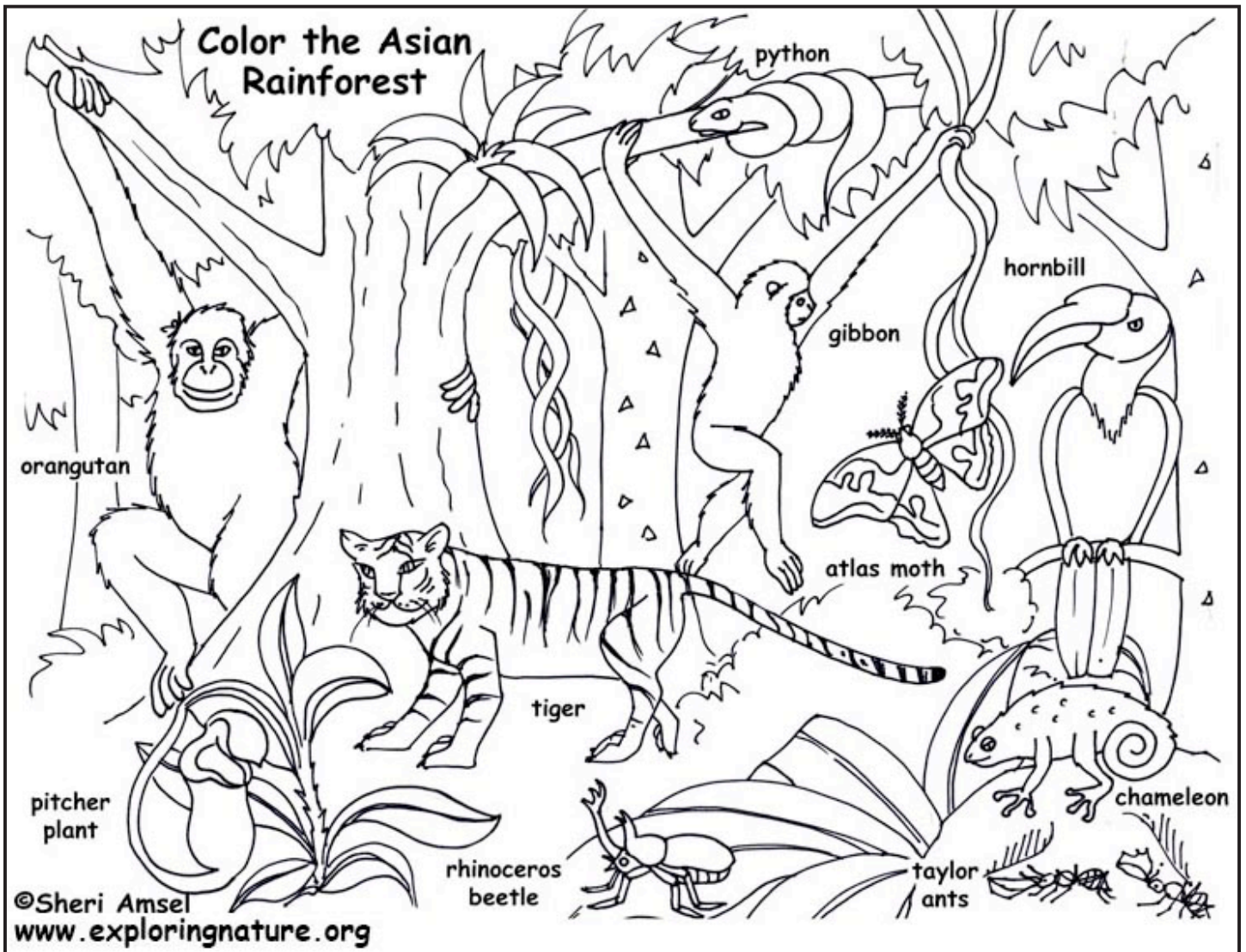
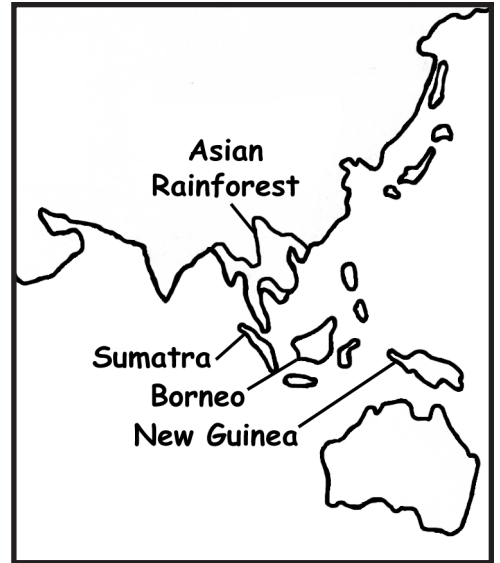
Exploring Nature's Short Answer Quiz

Read the Essay Online or in Print and Take the Short Answer Quiz

Reading Page

The Asian Rainforest

Read about the Asian Rainforest and study the animals (below).



Exploring Nature's Short Answer Quiz

Read the Essay Online or Print it Out and Take the Short Answer Quiz

Reading Page

The Asian Rainforest

Range: The Asian rainforests are found on Borneo, Sumatra, the Malay Peninsula, and many islands including New Guinea.

Habitat: Rainforests get about 60 inches of rain a year -- about 1/8 of an inch every day. The air is hot and humid, a good combination for plant growth. The trees grow so thick that falling rain often never reaches the ground.

Animals: A giant flying mammal, called the colugo, searches for fruits and flowers. It glides, making a greenish gray flash, from tree to tree. Flying lizards also glide through the trees. They don't really fly at all but spread flaps of skin or webbed toes to catch the air. Real flyers, like the hornbill, flap through the forest in search of food. The forest kingfisher munches on a katydid. Huge orange orangutan apes lumber from branch to branch, feeding on fruit and stripping leaves with their long fingers and teeth. Another ape, the gibbon, and proboscis monkeys share the treetops as well. Later at night giant fruit-eating bats will wake up to search for ripe fruit. Tigers are the biggest meat eaters here as they search the forest floor for a tapir, tree shrew or barking deer. Pythons also hunt for unwary prey. The trees in the Asian rainforest are also home for many strange insects. The bright green leaf beetle shines in the light but blends so well into the dark leaves that it easily hides from its enemies. Crickets, walking sticks, long-horned and rhinoceros beetles also hide among the leaves. Some insects, like the flower mantid, are the color of the leaves and flowers they live on. This camouflage hides them safely in the forest. Large atlas moths and birdwing butterflies flutter by.

Plants: The tapang tree is the tallest rain forest tree in the world. Strangler figs live in this forest, too, rooting in other trees. Teak trees are treasures for their precious wood, and wild ginger is a valued spice. Up on stilted roots, the screw pine is a strange sight. Because of the thin topsoil layer in rain forests, trees have shallow, widely spreading roots and are easier to log because they can be simply knocked over with a bulldozer. Everywhere liana vines hang from trees, and ferns and flowers give the forest color. The pitcher plant takes advantage of the forest's many insects by trapping them in its long neck and then dissolving them in the acid at the bottom.

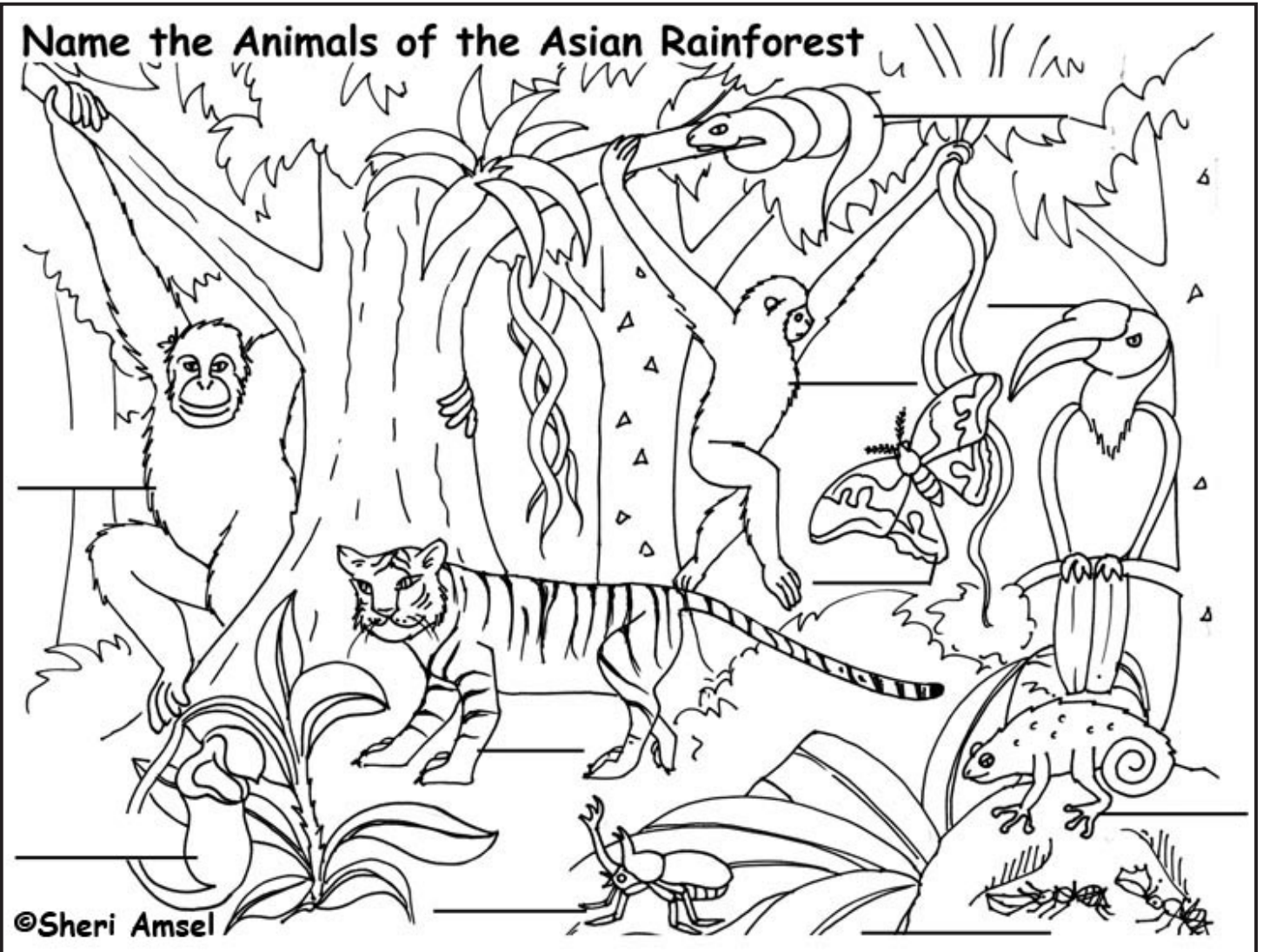
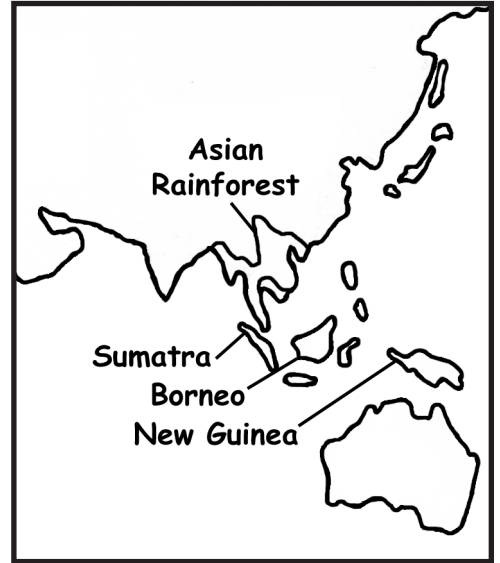
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Short Answer Quiz

The Asian Rainforest

From your reading, fill in the short answers about the Asian Rainforest and label the animals (below), then color in the habitat on the map (right).



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Short Answer Quiz

The Asian Rainforest

Range: The Asian rainforests are found on Borneo, Sumatra, the Malay Peninsula, and many islands including _____.

Habitat: Rainforests get about _____ inches of rain a year -- about 1/8 of an inch every day. The air is hot and humid, a good combination for plant growth. The trees grow so thick that falling rain often never reaches the ground.

Animals: A giant flying mammal, called the _____, searches for fruits and flowers. It glides, making a greenish gray flash, from tree to tree. Flying lizards also glide through the trees. They don't really fly at all but spread flaps of skin or webbed toes to catch the air. Real flyers, like the hornbill, flap through the forest in search of food. The forest kingfisher munches on a katydid. Huge orange _____ apes lumber from branch to branch, feeding on fruit and stripping leaves with their long fingers and teeth. Another ape, the gibbon, and proboscis _____ share the treetops as well. Later at night giant fruit-eating _____ will wake up to search for ripe fruit. _____ are the biggest meat eaters here as they search the forest floor for a tapir, tree shrew or barking deer. Pythons also hunt for unwary prey. The trees in the Asian rainforest are also home for many strange insects. The bright green leaf beetle shines in the light but blends so well into the dark leaves that it easily hides from its enemies. Crickets, walking sticks, long-horned and rhinoceros _____ also hide among the leaves. Some insects, like the flower mantid, are the color of the leaves and flowers they live on. This camouflage hides them safely in the forest. Large atlas moths and birdwing _____ flutter by.

Plants: The tapang tree is the tallest rain forest tree in the world. Strangler _____ live in this forest, too, rooting in other trees. Teak trees are treasures for their precious wood, and wild ginger is a valued spice. Up on stilted roots, the screw pine is a strange sight. Because of the thin _____ layer in rain forests, trees have shallow, widely spreading roots and are easier to log because they can be simply knocked over with a bulldozer. Everywhere liana _____ hang from trees, and ferns and flowers give the forest color. The pitcher _____ takes advantage of the forest's many insects by trapping them in its long neck and then dissolving them in the acid at the bottom.