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# Orion and Isabela's Adventures in



# Amazonía



# **Orion and Isabela's Adventures in Amazonía**

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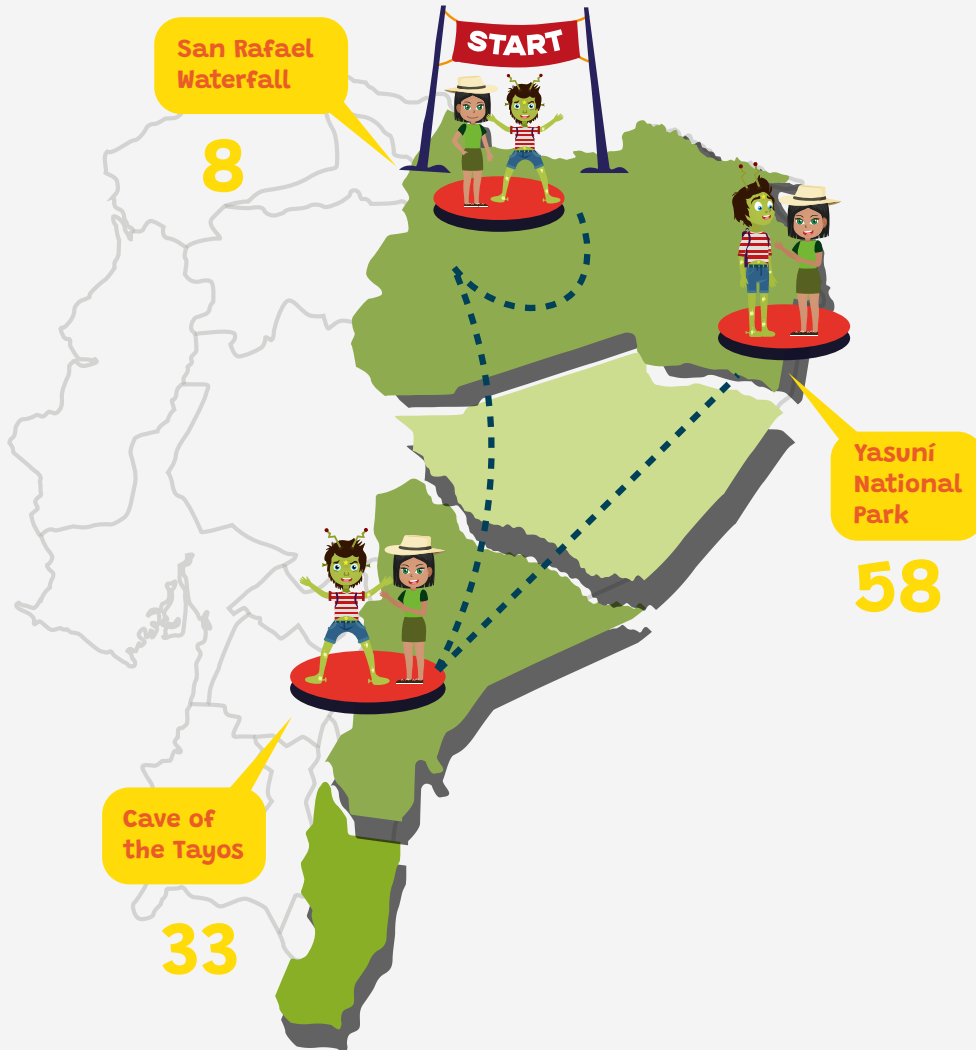
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# Content



# Prologue

In this book, you will find three stories about Orion and Isabela in the Amazonía. These stories are based on specific grammar and vocabulary topics to be used inside or outside the classroom.

Teachers can do storytelling activities and group work activities in-class time to practice, or they can ask parents to tell the stories to their children, outside the classroom, as an autonomous activity.

This book offers pre-reading, while-reading, and post-reading activities on each story, so educators can practice reading as a skill and, at the same time, interact with students and have fun with the exciting activities provided by this publication. This book goes along with the curricular threads of communication and cultural awareness, oral communication, reading, and language through the arts, topics proposed by Ecuador's Ministerio de Educación. All the stories can be used for the fourth grade of elementary school to complement the fifth module of Ministerio de Educación del Ecuador's curriculum.

"An Adventure in the Amazonía" is a story with which students can identify geography, vocabulary, customs, culture and concepts to know different Ecuadorian places from the Amazon region of Ecuador. "San Rafael Waterfall",

“ Los Tayos Cave”, and “Yasuní National Park”, all these stories contextualize the reality of these three locations. about how human interactions change natural habitats.

# San Rafael Waterfall



An implosion and a sinkhole dried up the San Rafael waterfall in Sucumbíos in February 2021. This story was created as a tribute to one of the most important tourist attractions disappeared in Ecuador.



# Post-reading Activities

1. Talk about a place you have heard about, the Amazonas region, and discuss it with a classmate.
2. If the students need to learn about places in the Amazon region, it is necessary to present them with some illustrative photographs (you can use pictures from the book).
3. Brainstorm with the class about locations, flora, fauna, and others from those places describe or elicit.




Isabela and I are going to introduce you to some tourist places in the Amazon.

Hello, Orion. Welcome to the province of Napo!

Great! I will take you to learn more about Amazon's regions. Let's start this adventure!

Hello Isabela and Amaite. Thanks for having me! I have always wanted to learn more about your country and its regions.




Will it be a pleasure to get to know the province of Napo?

You would like to visit the San Rafael waterfalls! What do you think?

It is one of the largest waterfalls in the Amazon!

It sounds fascinating and curious! On the way, please tell me a little more.

Of course, it will be a pleasure!



The San Rafael waterfall is the highest in Ecuador

Great! Where precisely is it located?

It is located in the province of Napo and Sucumbíos!




It is located on the Coca River.

Really?

Yes, on the way, you will be able to look at various birds, such as hummingbirds and toucans.

Sounds like fun! What else can you tell me about this beautiful province?

It is a humid jungle with several typical dishes and traditions you will see along the way.



It's true! On this journey, we will take you to our guide, who will offer you a typical white cocoa dish.

Yes, Orion. Our flora and fauna offer us various delicious and healthy foods. At this moment, we will go by car to our friend Akbal.

Sounds very tasty and healthy!

I hope we arrive soon to start this wonderful adventure.

Hello Akbal!


Hello Isabela and Amaite.

Let me introduce to you a new friend called Orion! He comes from a different planet.

The pleasure is mine.

Nice to meet you, Orion. It will still be a pleasure to be your guide today.





Before continuing, I will prepare something to eat and drink for you.

Yes? Because I'm starving.

I'll offer you white cocoa, also known as pinchos de pata.

Can you tell Orion what that contains?

Sure! To prepare it, first, we will roast the white cacao, do it with typical chili, yucca, and salt, and place it on bamboo sticks.




I am amazed!

Yes?

It's true! Orion, I hope you liked what you ate.

Thank you! All our foods are unique in the world.





Ok, now we will take a trip to the San Rafael waterfalls.

It is a trip that we will make by car, and then we will walk; we will have to pass the province of Sucumbios since it is next to our province

What else do we need to bring with us?

We will take a bit more food and a chicha of chontadura to rest and explain more about our province.

The four friends continued preparing for this adventure, and Orion looked excited at his typical clothing, and he was more and more surprised.

Yes.

Great I like its flora, its fauna, its typical dishes, and traditional clothing.


It's incredible what your culture has and does!

Look, Orion, we will paint your face with paint and very decorative figures, and we will give you some of the bracelets that our culture uses.

# While-reading Activities

1. What have you learned until now?
2. Make some drawings about typical clothes and accessories from the Amazon cultures that people use.






They have a very colorful color, and the toucan has a longer beak than the tanager is impressive

Orion! There are lovely birds with striking colors, such as light blue, yellow, and orange.

Look, Orion, there is a unique species: the toucan and tanager. They inhabit our lands because they have a humid and green climate to live in.

The four friends began the trip, and as time passed, Orion looked at the different birds that appeared, and his guide and friends explained a little more.



Wow, and what is that bird that seems to have glasses?

Hey, Orion! Here you can do various activities such as climbing, learning about different animals and plants, and eating healthily.

Is it true. Our province has very friendly inhabitants; most of them are dedicated to the house, and you always have their spears to be able to hunt some food.

That is a bird called caiman de anteojos, it is a peculiar bird of Sucumbíos.

Yes, Orion. Well! We are here now and must walk a little more to get to the waterfalls. Right, Akbal?

Isabela is correct; in 10 minutes, we will arrive at the Waterfall, where you can see the enormous trees and the huge Waterfall.

Thank you!

When can we show you the province of Sucumbíos? You will see more of its animals.



Wow! I look at a big mountain,  
but where is the Waterfall?

We are a few  
steps away from  
reaching Orion.

It is a very touristy place  
where several tourists  
climb around Orion.

Sounds good. Luckily, I  
brought a rope.



Don't worry, Orion; if you look ahead, there is the Waterfall

We could go in my flying saucer and get there quickly because what you are saying is impressive.

Apparently, you came prepared, Orion, because the Waterfall is 150 meters high and 180 meters wide, and its waters are very clean and crystalline.


It is magnificent how its waters fall in the Waterfall.

After a trip by car and on foot, Orion was able to admire the Waterfall, and they sat down to drink the drink that Akbal had brought for his friends.

That's Interesting! I did not know that the Amazon would be full of magical places.

There are still many more tourist spots!

Do you like our Waterfall?



It is one of the wonders that our province has.

The trees surrounding them are very big and have been there for many years.

I would like to climb one of your giant trees and look from the very top.




I hope another time you can meet the different cultures that inhabit our beautiful Amazon.

I never thought that I could breathe such clean air and I could see various plants around.

it was a long adventure and a lot of fun.

Yes, because our entire culture has different customs and many more surprises that you will be able to see one day Orion.



It was a fascinating excursion!

I'm so happy! From to see seen the incredible Waterfall.

It was! Right Orion?

Yes! Before we go, I want to take a picture of everyone.

Same! But it's time to go back,  
and I would like to stay.

No problem. It was nice  
meeting you, Orion

We'll see each other  
another time, Orion; see you  
soon!

The friends said goodbye. Akbal returned to his house, and Orion, Isabela and Amaite left for their next adventure.

Thank you for everything!

You're welcome! Come back soon. And I hope you liked our nature and Waterfall.

# Post-reading Activities

1. What have you learned from these characters in the San Rafael Waterfall Story?

2. Talk about the characters:






# Los Tayos Cave







We arrived at  
Morona Santiago

Great! What are we  
going to visit?

We are going to see  
a friend of mine, his  
name is Samik.


Ok, let's  
go.



Hello,  
Samik; nice  
to meet  
you.

Hello Samik, how are you?  
Let me introduce a friend  
called Orion; he is visiting  
Ecuador.

Hello Isabella! It has  
been a long time;  
good to see you  
here.




Well, guys, we can go to the Cueva de Los Tayos, a tourist place in the Amazon.

We can go in my flying saucer to get there faster.

Great!


Great, I will get my things, and we can leave.



Very well,  
Samik

Great! But to get  
into the cave, we  
must go by canoe.


Excellent; I've  
never been in  
a canoe, so I  
am excited.

An illustration of three children in a yellow canoe on a blue river. The child in the middle is a boy with a blue helmet and a life jacket, holding a wooden paddle. The child on the left is a girl with a blue helmet and a life jacket, also holding a paddle. The child on the right is a girl with a blue helmet and a life jacket, holding a paddle. The background features green bushes and a blue sky with white clouds.

This is the Santiago River to Coangos Bajo because there are many more entrances.

Are we going to use protection for the trip?

Yes, of course, we will use a helmet, life jacket, and other implements.

An illustration of three children in a yellow canoe on a blue river. The child on the left is a girl with dark hair, wearing a blue helmet and a red life vest. The child in the middle is a boy with dark hair, wearing a blue helmet and a red life vest, holding a wooden oar. The child on the right is a girl with dark hair, wearing a blue helmet and a red life vest with a white and red striped pattern. The background features green bushes and a blue sky with white clouds. Five speech bubbles contain their conversation.

Samik, What will the route be?

First, we will advance in the canoe, then we will have to walk for about two hours until we reach the cave entrance.

Yes, we could do it, but you will miss out on the beautiful views and nature we can find.

So, we can't do all this in my flying saucer

Yes, you're right, Samik, Orion, we'll have a lot of fun!





But now we must be very careful because there are dangerous animals like boas.

Ready? Let's start the adventure!

Ok, now we must walk to the entrance.

You were right, the landscape is stunning. We were going to miss the view in my flying saucer.




Welcome to the commune; we were waiting for you.

We arrive at the Coangos community; here, we will be received by the commune president, who will give us their typical dishes, and we will rest.

Here comes the president of the commune.

Hello, how are you?



Thank  
you very  
much.

My family and I prepare chicken with hearts of  
palm cooked on the same leaf as the bijao.

It's delicious;  
I've never  
tasted  
anything like it  
before.



Mr. Tiwiram, where exactly is the Cueva de Los Tayos located?

It is located in Ecuador, in the province of Morona Santiago, in the Limón Indanza Canton, in the irregular mountainous area called Cordillera del Cóndor.


You're right, it's delicious; I had come before but hadn't tried this food.

Interesting!!  
It's terrific  
to know  
that.

# While-reading Activities

1. Role-play with the characters of the story.
2. Each student will choose a character from the picture.
3. Imagine a situation and create a dialogue.
4. Participate and talk in front of the class or record a video and share it with the class.






It's already very late, we will rest; tomorrow will be a very long day.

See you tomorrow...

Rest up, guys.




Samik, is it  
always cloudy  
here?

Why do you  
say so?

Yes. The  
environment is  
almost always  
humid, but  
enjoying this  
fantastic weather  
is good.

You have to be very  
careful along the way.




On this planet, there are very rare animals.

Because there are many poisonous animals, like those ants, the pain lasts up to four hours if they bite you.

And not only the animals but also the very slippery ground that makes walking difficult.






Excellent!  
We will never  
run out of  
battery.

You have to take  
a lot of batteries  
for the flashlights  
because they run  
out twice as fast.

That's not a  
problem, Samik; I  
always have energy  
since I'm not from  
this planet.



We arrived; now it's time to prepare to go down to the cave.

And where are the harnesses? We have to use that too.

I already have my helmet ready.

You were right, Samik; the road was very slippery



Do we have to go down here?

Yes!

I'm scared, Samik; I've never done this.

Don't worry, Orion, you'll make it.




Don't worry, nothing's wrong.

Ok, let's continue.

Those animals are rare but cute.

Oh, bats, how scary!



I liked going  
down this cave;  
I saw many animals  
I did not know.

It's impressive to see  
rivers and waterfalls in  
the cave.


This trip is incredible,  
and its history is even  
more so.



It's already getting late; we'll have to camp here; tomorrow morning, we'll go up.

Let's eat the snack our Shuar brothers gave us.

Yes. Let's eat and rest.



Let's go... the same way we went down; we have to go up very carefully.

Good morning, guys; let's start to get out of the cave.

Yes.

I hope it's not the last meeting we have.

It was a pleasure to show you a little about the Ecuadorian Amazon.

Samik, the trip was incredible; thank you also, Isabela, for this great adventure.

See you guys soon.



# Post-reading Activities

**1. Discuss the following questions for class participation:**

What did you learn about the Los Tayos Cave?

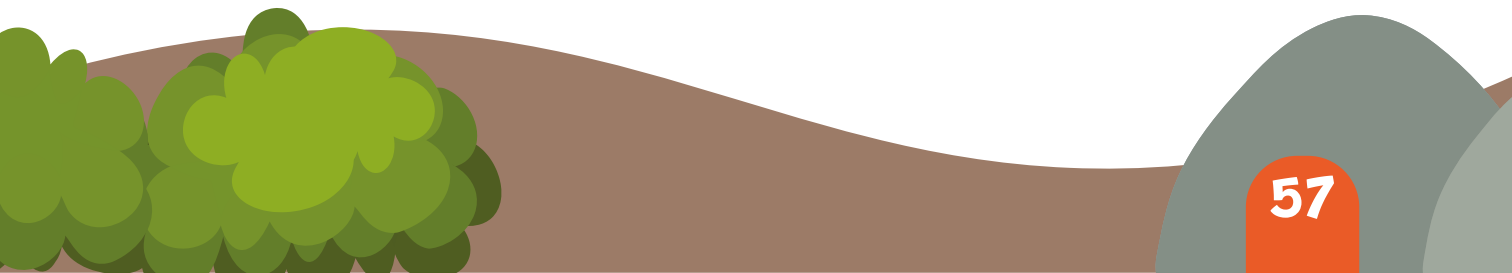
What Superpower does Orion have?

Where is the Los Tayos Cave located?

What is important when you want to visit Los Tayos Cave?

Would you like to visit Los Tayos Cave? Give details...

Add more questions if necessary.....



# Yasuni National Park



# Pre-reading Activities

1. Look up the pictures and use adjectives to describe the characters: similar and different characteristics.



E.g. She is a girl

---

---

---

---



Eg. He is a boy

---

---

---

---



Welcome to Ecuador!

You're going to love it. I will accompany you to discover beautiful places in the Amazon.

Thanks for the welcome! I have always wondered what the Ecuadorian Amazon is like.

Orión and Isabela left the airport by bus to the Yasuní National Park.

COCA

National Park  
Yasuní  
←

It is located in the province of Napo, the north of Ecuador.

I have been highly recommended to visit the Yasuní National Park. Where is it located?

I am very interested in knowing that place.

Sure, I'll gladly accompany you on this adventure.




Your visit to the Yasuní National Park will be unforgettable.

As the first stop, we will arrive at our accommodation, and an Amazonian Kichwa community will receive us.

Great! Come on, and I'm looking forward to getting there!

Accommodation  
←



When we arrive, they will give us a warm welcome with one of their typical dances; we will be able to participate in energy cleansing rituals and preparation of ancestral drinks.

This is only the beginning; many more things will surprise you.

We must go by boat for 4 hours to the Yasuni National Park.

Wow! I liked their culture.

And now, what will we do?




After four hours...

Look! We arrived.

Everything looks beautiful!  
There is a lot of vegetation!  
The landscape is enormous!

It is one of the  
best places in the  
Amazon to visit.





I will introduce you to the one who will guide us on this journey through the Park.

Hi, nice to meet you; I'm the one who will guide you on this adventure.

We will delve into the flora and fauna of Yasuni and will take a short walk to visit one of the giant and longest-lived trees in the National Park.

Yeah! Let's start now.

You will be amazed by the flora and fauna of this place.

It's enormous! How tall is this tree? How many years of existence does it have?

We reached the most significant and longest-lived tree in the Park.

It's inhabitants assure that it is around 400 years old and measures approximately 20 meters.

This place is  
impressing me.

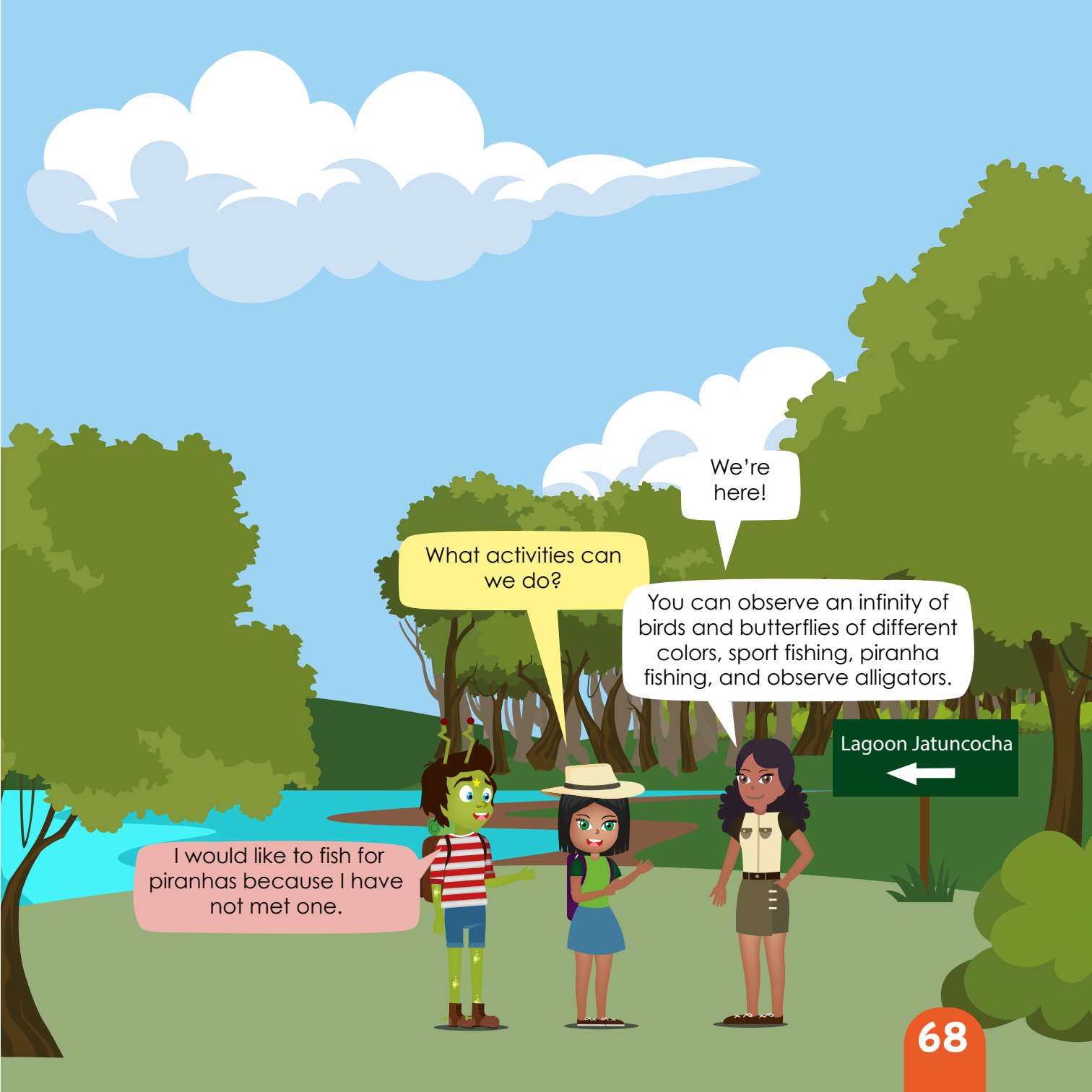
I have investigated this Park,  
and I have seen a lagoon called  
Jatuncocha.

Come on! I already  
want to meet her.

What do you want to visit in this Park?

Great! It is one of the best  
lagoons in this Amazon  
region.

Yes,  
come on!



We're here!

What activities can we do?

You can observe an infinity of birds and butterflies of different colors, sport fishing, piranha fishing, and observe alligators.

Lagoon Jatuncocha



I would like to fish for piranhas because I have not met one.

# While-reading Activities

1. Make groups (4-5 students. It depends on the size of your class).
2. Ask the students to discuss the interesting facts of the story. E.g., Location, places, flora, fauna, characters, others...
3. Take some notes in a notebook or piece of paper.
4. In groups, present their ideas in front of the class. Previous continue reading the story.



You must be careful with the piranhas and not let them bite you.

You're right! Piranhas have very sharp teeth, and their bite is very dangerous.

Once, I had it in my hand, and I almost lost a finger with its bite.

I'll be cautious.


After fishing for piranhas, Isabela, Orion, and Asiri stopped to observe alligators, monkeys, butterflies, and parrots.

After this passage through the lagoon, we are going to rest and eat something to continue to another place.

Are you enjoying this adventure around this place?

Yes, I am learning a lot and getting to know different places and wonderful species.

The three continued in the boat until they reached the accommodation where their typical lunch would be prepared.



Can we eat a typical dish from here?

Sure! At this time, we will try a delicious dish you will love.






It smells so good.

Just with the smell, I already like it a lot.

Yes, it smells so good that it made me hungry.

This is where we're going to try the dish.



The avocado is fish maito; it is a delicious dish due to the magic that the leaves of the bijao in which the maito is covered.

Let's try it!

I had not tried this dish before.

After lunch, we will participate in a curative ritual directed by a shaman.



It will help us expel your ailments, discomforts, and negative energies.

You are going to feel very relaxed after the process.

And what is that for?

Wow! Sounds very interesting.



It was a wonderful day, but we must go now because it is already getting dark.

I'm glad you enjoyed this day.

I love it!

It was a great day!

We must continue our adventure and visit other beautiful places.

The friends said goodbye. Asiri went to sleep, and Orion and Isabela went where they were staying.


Your next adventure will be to visit the pink dolphins.

Thank you, Asiri, for such a beautiful day!


You're welcome! Tomorrow another adventure awaits us.

lodging







They are pink dolphins.



Wow! I had never seen a pink dolphin in my life. It's incredible!



Look, Orion, we're here.



I loved swimming with the dolphins; they are very affectionate with tourists.

It was a unique experience.

You are right, they are very kind animals with people.

We must take care of them and not throw garbage in the lake because they are species that tourists highly visit.



It sounds very interesting.

As it is your last day here, I will take you to the preparation of the Ayahuasca juice, a medicinal drink.


A Shaman healer who uses it in the spiritual healing rite.

And now what?

Who prepares that drink?



Orión, Isabela, and Asiri, after observing the preparation of the drink as a last activity, went to a hut where they will have stories, legends, and myths of the Yasuni narrated by guide Asiri..



I enjoyed this trip with Orion.

This place is very magical, and they chose a perfect place to visit.

I really liked those stories; this place is a paradise with many legends I had never heard of.

It was a great adventure; these days here in the Park, I loved it; I got to know beautiful places and animals of all kinds; thanks for everything Asiri.

It was a pleasure to have accompanied you; I hope to see you soon...

Orion and Isabela, the next day, undertook the return trip to Francisco de Orellana, where they said goodbye and Orion had to return to his planet...



# Post-reading Activities

1. Students will have to draw a picture from the story individually or in groups.
2. The drawing will give an alternative end to the story.
3. Use all your creativity to present in front of the class.
4. Or record a video explaining the alternative end of the story and share it with the class.



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