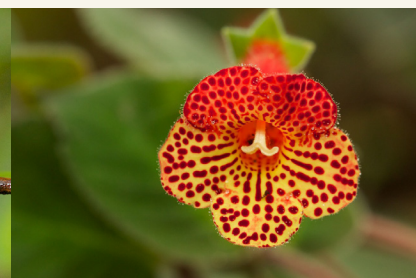
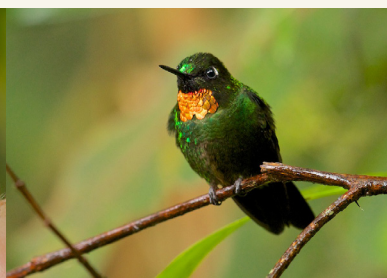
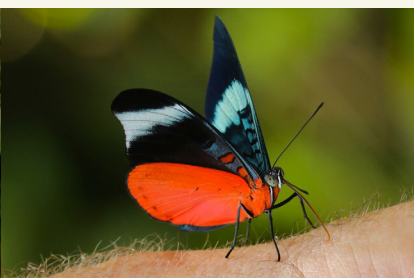
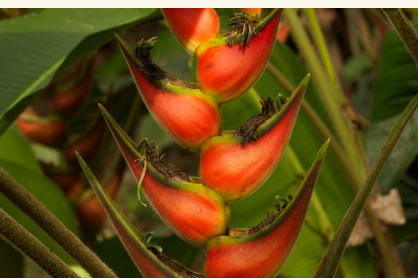




10 Fascinating Facts About the Amazon Rainforest

1. The Amazon is the **world's largest rainforest** – roughly the size of the continental United States.
2. The Amazon influences rainfall patterns as far away as the United States.
3. 70% of plants found to have **anti-cancer properties** are found only in the rainforest.
4. Just 1% of 40,000 plant varieties in the Amazon have been tested for medicinal properties.
5. Most of **our food** originally comes from the Amazon rainforest, including coffee, bananas, chocolate, corn, pineapple, rice and tomatoes.
6. 10% of the world's known species live in the Amazon rainforest.
7. 20% of the world's **bird species** live in the Amazon rainforest.
8. Around **400-500 indigenous tribes** call the Amazon rainforest home, and about 50 of these have **never had contact** with the outside world.
9. More than 20% of the **world's oxygen** is produced by the Amazon.
10. Due to the thickness of the Amazon's tree canopy, it takes about ten minutes for rain to reach the ground!





Time is of the Essence

- In the past 40 years, nearly 20% of the Amazon rainforest has been cut down – more than in the previous 450 years.
- Deforestation accounts for nearly 20% of greenhouse gas emissions, more than all of the world's cars, buses and planes combined.
- Deforestation results in soil erosion, drought, and an increase in the strength and frequency of wildfires.





How We're Battling Deforestation

- Partnering with all levels of government to create protected areas, such as the 977,660 acre Maijuna-Kichwa Reserve in the Amazon of Peru (larger than Yosemite National Park).
- Working with local and indigenous communities to develop and implement sustainable industries that leave the forest intact. To date, we've worked with seven of Ecuador's 13 indigenous groups.



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