

Amazon Flooded Forest

Tip Sheet

Let's Have a Wonder-full Time!



Pre-visit



Watch this video to plan your learning journey to Amazon Flooded Forest.

Introduce Amazon Flooded Forest and some of the animals to your students before your visit:

- [Amazon Flooded Forest zone](#)
- [Brief look of Amazon Flooded Forest](#)
- [Moving Manatees](#)
- [#AskMandaiAnything – River Wonders](#)

You might also wish to download this resource to enhance the learning experience:

- [Animals We Love: Manatee](#)

Use this social script to prepare the children for the visit to River Wonders:

- [River Wonders Social Script](#)

Play this video for a music and movement activity on fish!

- [Let's Go Swimming by The Laurie Berkner Band](#)

Getting To Amazon Flooded Forest



From the entrance, make a right turn and take a 10-minute stroll along the sheltered walkway to Amazon Flooded Forest.



Download the Mandai App to view the map on mobile

During Visit

Word game



1

Hone language and literacy skills while observing the giant river otters. Prompt your children to think of words.

Additional activity:

Choose a buddy and pair up.

1. One child to say a word or phrase relating to the otter e.g. 'furry'. The buddy responds with the first word that comes to mind. Does the word apply to an otter?
2. The buddy's turn to repeat the above activity. Get the pair to discuss if the words apply to the otter.
3. Continue taking turns to have fun with words and expand your children's vocabulary.

Manatee and friends



2

Use the See-Think-Wonder Thinking Routine to keep your children focused on the biggest animal in the manatee exhibit.

Allocate time:

1. Encourage your children to practise mindfulness by taking time to observe the manatees quietly.
2. Pique their curiosity by encouraging them to ask questions about these beautiful aquatic mammals.

Additional prompting questions:

3. What vegetables do you see the manatees eating?
4. How much vegetables do you think they eat?
5. I wonder if they poop as much as they eat, and how might the aquarist clean them up.

I Spy riddles



3

Use riddles to encourage students to practise observation skills and identify various animals.

Additional game:

I Spy with My Little Eye

Find a partner and encourage children to play I Spy with each other while observing the exhibits.

// I spy with my little eye,
something big and grey. //

Word Bank

Here are some words that might be new to your class.

Essential Agreements

Simple guidelines to regulate your children's behaviour that you get your class to agree to.

Habitat

A habitat is the home of animals. It's a place where they live and find everything they need - food, water, a safe place to rest and play. Different animals live in different habitats such as forests, grasslands, wetlands, oceans, and others.

Aquatic

When we say something is aquatic, it means that it is associated with water. Aquatic animals are animals that live in water for most or all of their lives. There are aquatic plants too.

Riddle

A riddle is a tricky question that makes you think. It's like playing a guessing game with words.

Flippers

Flippers are modified limbs of animals. Broad and flat, flippers provide power to help aquatic animals swim fast.



Humongous, Gigantic, Ginormous, Enormous, Massive

All these words mean something that is extremely large. They are used to describe things that are much bigger than usual.

Scales

Most fish have scales as body coverings to protect their soft body. Overlapping fish scales also help fish to swim by reducing friction with water.



I Spy

Animals in the Amazon Flooded Forest look and move differently.
Can you spot these animals?



Manatee



Arapaima



Black-finned pacu



Red-tailed catfish



Titicaca water frog



Electric Eel



Giant river otter

Post-visit

Extend learning in your classroom

1. The Otter Song

Sing along to this and move like an otter

[🔗 Otter Song by Lotty Friends](#)

Lyrics

(Verse 1)

I'm a baby otter,
I love fresh water.
Five little toes on my
webbed feet.
I'm long and slim
And have a long tail—
Swimming is so much fun,
Zoom, zoom, zoom!

(Chorus)

Otter, Otter, Otters!
Let's dance in the water.
Otters, Otters, Otters!
Let's call the others!

(Verse 2)

I'm a mummy otter,
I love night-time.
Moving in the dark,
Searching for my prey.
I have long whiskers and
pointy teeth—
Fishing is so much fun,
Yum, yum, yum!

(Chorus x2)

Otter, Otter, Otters!
Let's dance in the water.
Otters, Otters, Otters!
Let's call the others!

2. Playdough Fun

After visiting Amazon Flooded Forest, ask your children to choose a favourite animal. Provide children with playdough and encourage them to create their favourite animal. Pay attention to the details of how the animals look.

Prompting questions:

- What body parts help the animal to move in the water?
- What body covering does the animal have? Does it have fur, scales, or skin?
- What colours does the animal have on its body?

Additional resources

Read about the native smooth-coated otters in our **bilingual audiobook**:

[🔗 Little Otter, Litter Trouble](#)

Find out more about our programmes in River Wonders:

[🔗 Preschool programmes](#)