

Tropical Rain Forest

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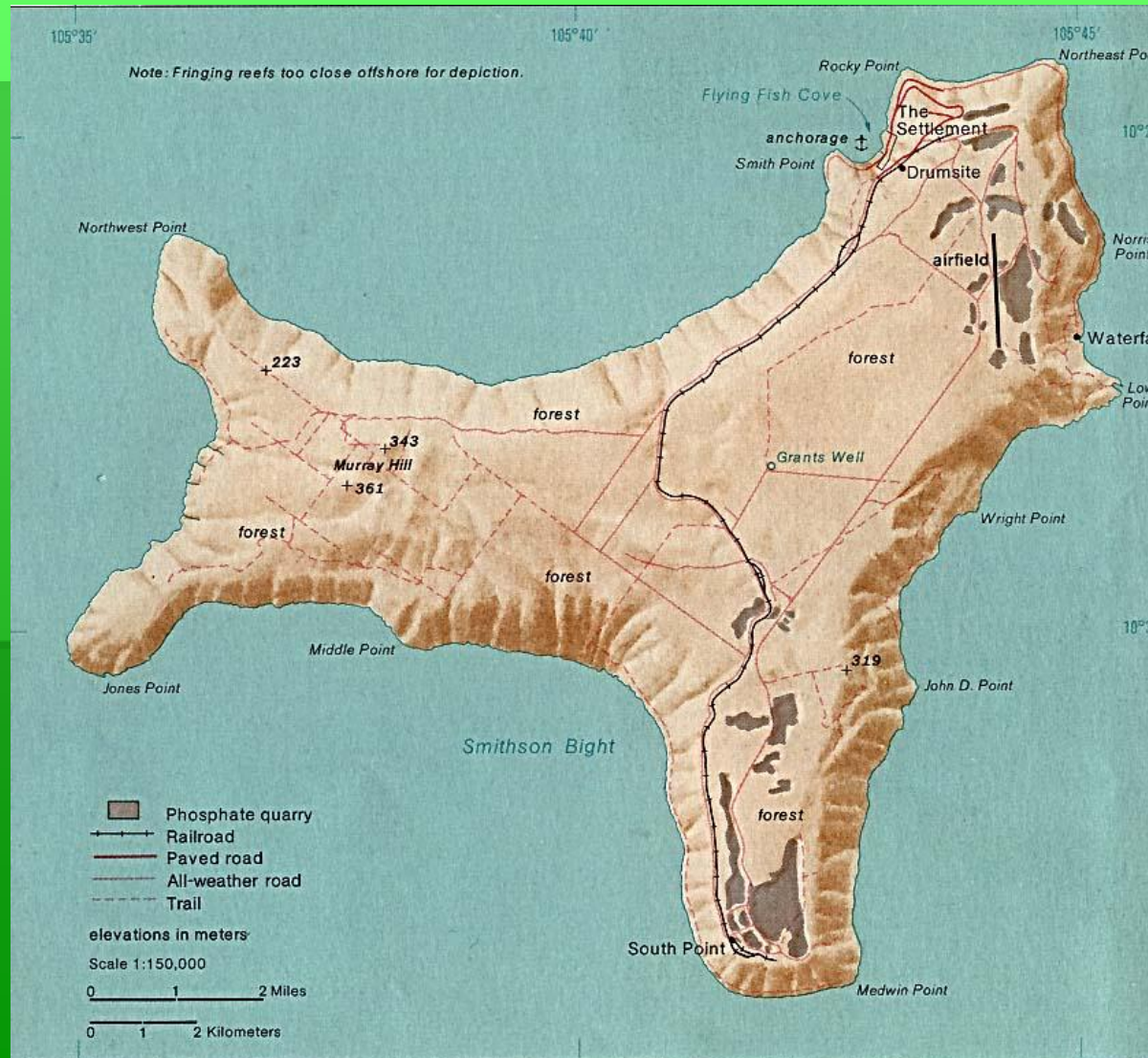
Characteristics

- **Climate**
 - 250 cm per year of precipitation
 - Humid
 - rarely gets higher than 93 °F (34 °C) or drops below 68 °F (20 °C)
- The area between the Tropic of Cancer (23.5° N latitude) and the Tropic of Capricorn (23.5° S latitude)

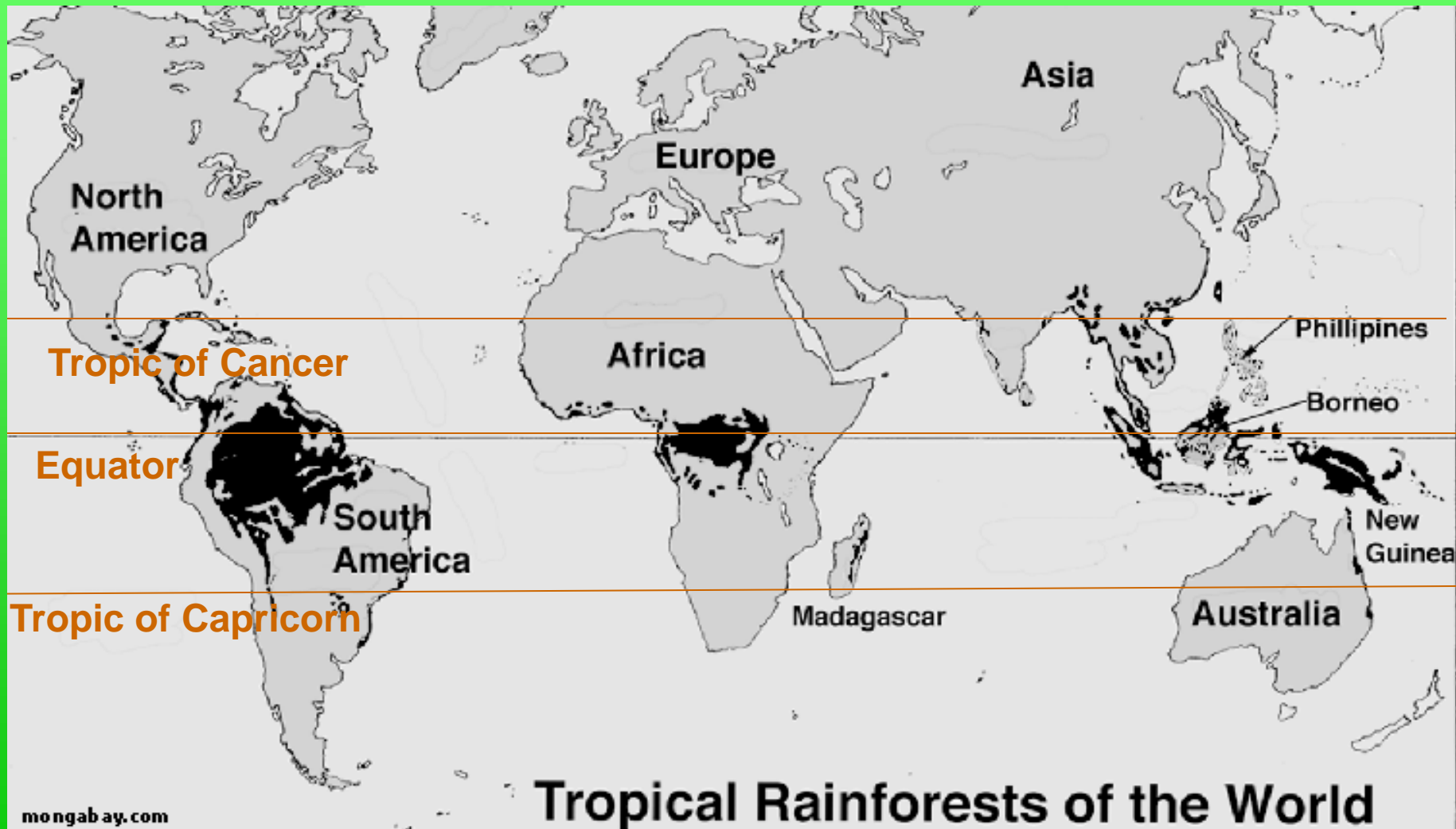
Typical Flora and Fauna

- Contains up to 30 million species
- Around 15,000 tree species – more than 10% are threatened
- Over 900 threatened bird species
- 4 layers: emergent layer, canopy layer, understory layer, and forest floor
- Many species are located ONLY here!!!

Loss of Tropical Rain Forest



Tropical Rain Forests Worldwide



Plants

- Cecropia Tree
 - Sprays formic acid and are covered by armies of ants.



Plants

- Matapalo Strangling Fig
 - Grow up and tangle around the trunk of the host tree.



Plants

- Heliconia Flower
 - It's shape fits the hummingbirds bill.
 - Hummingbirds pollinate these flowers.



Plants

- Rafflesia
 - Produces largest flower in the world.
 - One of the worst smelling flowers.



Plants

- Stag's-Horn Fern
 - Epiphyte
 - Forms two types of fronds



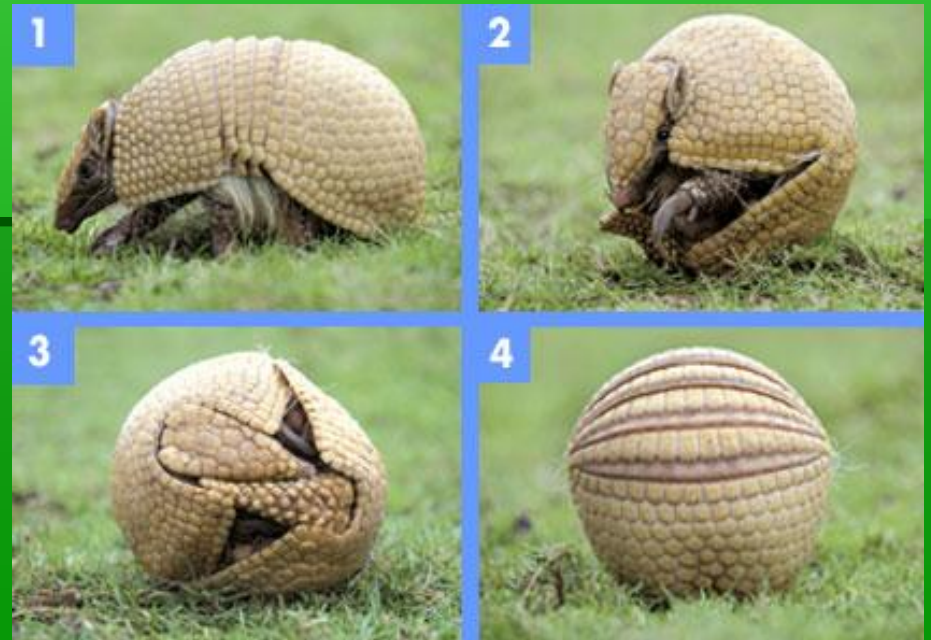
Plants

- Amazon Basin's Royal Water Lily
 - Support a child's weight.
 - Has spikes on the bottom to keep away predators.



Animals: Mammals

- Armadillo
 - It's scaly surface protects it.
 - Rolls up for protection.



Animals: Mammals

- Gorillas
 - Endangered species.
 - Largest of the apes.



Animals: Mammals

- Mandrill
 - Males have elaborate face patterns.
 - They have long mobile snouts and sharp claws for digging.



Animals: Birds

- **Macaw**
 - Brightly colored parrots.
 - Crack hard nuts with their big, strong bills.



Animals: Birds

- Peacocks
 - Males have a remarkable tail that it uses during mating displays.



Animals: Birds

- Quetzal
 - They have emerald green heads, black and green tail feathers, and the under parts are red, black, and white.



Animals: Insects

- African Snake Millipede
 - Reaches eleven inches.
 - Bright red with black head.
 - Squirts out a stinking and irritant liquid called benzoquinone.



Animals: Insects

- OGRE-FACED SPIDER
 - Makes webs above a regularly used ant trail and hangs from the web to capture them.



Animal: Insects

- Theraphosa Leblondi
 - One of the largest spiders.
 - Have a potent venom and only attack if severely provoked.



Animals: Amphibians

- Darwin's Frog
 - The males takes protection to an extreme level.
 - It holds the fertilized eggs in the mouth for protection.



Adaptations

- Animals – must be able to live in a warm climate with lots of annual rainfall
- Many animals (and reptiles, insects, etc.) disguise themselves in the forest by blending in with their surroundings
- Plants – must be able to live in warm climate with lots of annual rainfall, lack of sunlight (forest floor), or a lot of sunlight (emergent and canopy layers)

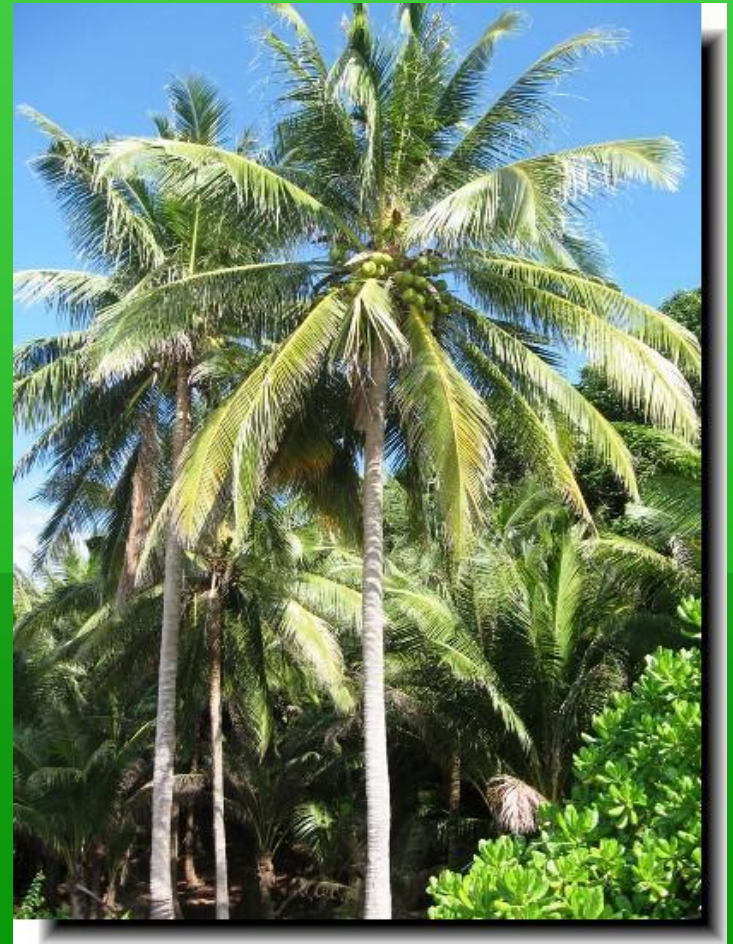
Dominant Species: Plants

- Bengal Bamboo
 - Often grows as an undergrowth scattered or in patches in the forest.
 - It likes temperatures between 40 degrees Fahrenheit and 100 degrees Fahrenheit.



Dominant Species: Plant

- Coconut Tree
 - Grow to be 50-80 feet.
 - They all have a tall graceful trunks topped by a crown light feathery leaves that are 15-17 feet long.



Dominant Species: Animals

- Bengal Tiger
 - The weight of the tiger can be up to 575 pounds.
 - The Bengal tiger can get up to ten feet long and three feet tall.



Dominant Species: Animals

- Chimpanzee
 - Chimpanzees are about 3 to 5 feet tall and weigh from 99 to 176 pounds.
 - The favorite food of chimpanzees are fruits and young leaves, but they like many different types of food.

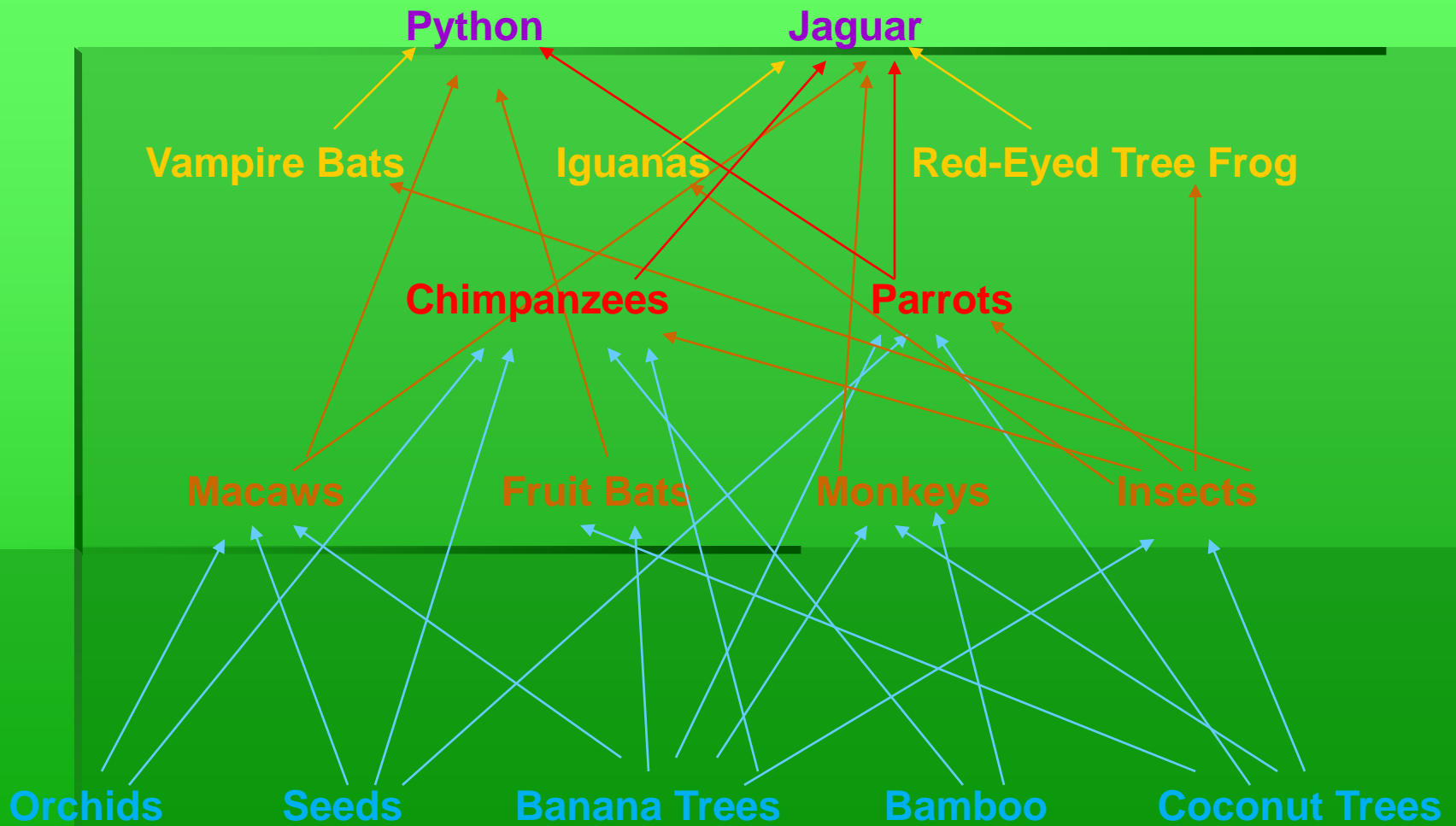


Dominant Species: Animals

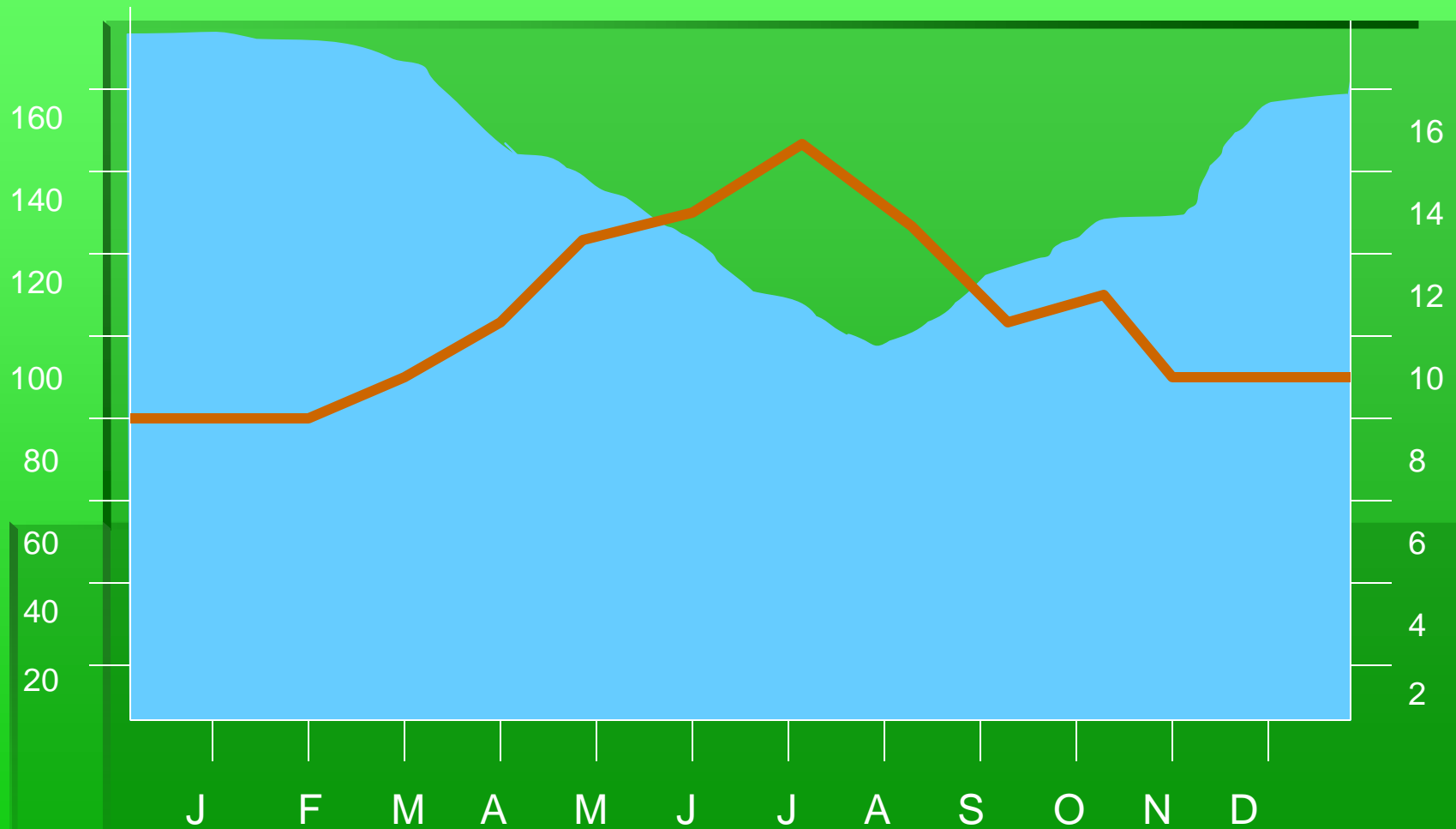
- King Cobra
 - Adults weigh 12-20 pounds.
 - Their fangs can grow a 1/2 inch.
 - The King Cobra can grow up to 12-18 feet.



Food Web



Tropical Rain Forest Climatogram



Random Facts

- Rainforest occupy 6% of the Earth's surface
- 350 million of the world's poorest people depend on forests for their subsistence & survival
- Rainforests produce 20 – 30% of the world's oxygen
- U.S. National Cancer Institute has identified over 1400 tropical forest plants with the potential to fight cancer

Random Facts

- Rainforests are the source of an estimated 2500 edible fruits
- Every year at least 50 million acres are destroyed – an area the size of England, Wales, and Scotland combined
- Over 900 threatened bird species
- U.S. imports over \$20 million worth of rainforest plants for medicinal purposes annually

Sources

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