

Magdalena's Picnic- Reader's Guide & Activity Sheets

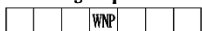
Magdalena's Picnic Guide & Activity Sheets provide enrichment activities for young children through thought provoking questions. Before reading the story, find the author's letter at the end of the book. Here you will find some basic information regarding the animals and plants featured in the story. An asterisk* marks material for older readers.

1. Brigitte and friends are looking for a picnic spot in the Amazon rainforest. Help your child find a map of South America and follow the Amazon river from its source in the Andes mountains to the Atlantic Ocean.
2. Ask your child to pick two animals from the story. How are they different? How are they the same? What animals would you encounter if you looked for a picnic spot in your area?
3. Magdalena's friend Junior is a chocolate cake-loving purple tapir. Help your child learn about the South American tapirs. Where do they live? What do they eat? How many types of tapirs are there?
4. Magdalena takes Brigitte and Junior on this jungle adventure. Ask your child to choose a place to have an adventure. Who would he/she choose to take? Why?
5. Towards the end of the story, a jaguar is waiting in the bushes. Ask your child to name other big cats. Compare jaguars to pet cats? How are they different? How are they alike?
6. At the end of the story the reader discovers that Magdalena has not left her yard. Ask your child what object represents the waterfall, the cave, the pitcher plant, the snake, the macaws, and the monkeys. Encourage your child to create his/her own adventure using objects that are readily available to create an imaginary setting.
7. * What animals in the story are herbivores or plant eaters? What animals are carnivores or meat eaters? Are there animals in the story that are omnivores (plant and meat eaters)? Ask your child to name one or two animals he knows that fit these categories.
8. * A habitat is a unique place where an animal lives. The monkeys and the macaws have the Amazon rainforest as their habitat. Ask your child what habitat is the ideal one for a lion, a polar bear and a blue jay. How are these habitats different? Why are they appropriate to these animals? What will happen to the animal if the habitat disappears?

Magdalena's Picnic – Written by Patricia Aguilar Morrissey / Illustrated by Gretchen Deahl

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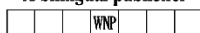


9. The Amazon rainforest is the largest green area on the planet. Ask your child why this area is important to the planet. Consider mentioning clean air, medicinal plants, and the fact that the Amazon rainforest is home to native groups and to a large variety of animal species.
10. Magdalena has used her imagination to take us to the Amazon rainforest. Ask your child to create an imaginary story in an unusual setting.

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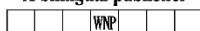
Fill in the blanks with the correct words:

I	to	big
is	and	wants

1. Junior _____ a little tapir.
2. _____ want to visit the rainforest.
3. The cave is dark _____ wet.
4. The anaconda is a _____ snake.
5. Junior _____ to eat chocolate cake.
6. The monkeys like _____ swing.

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Animals of the Amazon Rainforest

Can you unscramble the letters to find Amazon rainforest animals?

GURAJA

NACADONA

KENYOM

CAWAM

RITPA

UCNTA

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