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Many interesting and unusual animals can only be found in parts of South East Asia. There are flying frogs, gliding lizards, tiny deer and birds that dig tunnels in the sand. There are even deadly mammals! But some of these species are in danger from hunting and climate change.



Information Report/Imaginative Recount

Nelson

ISBN 978-0170332248

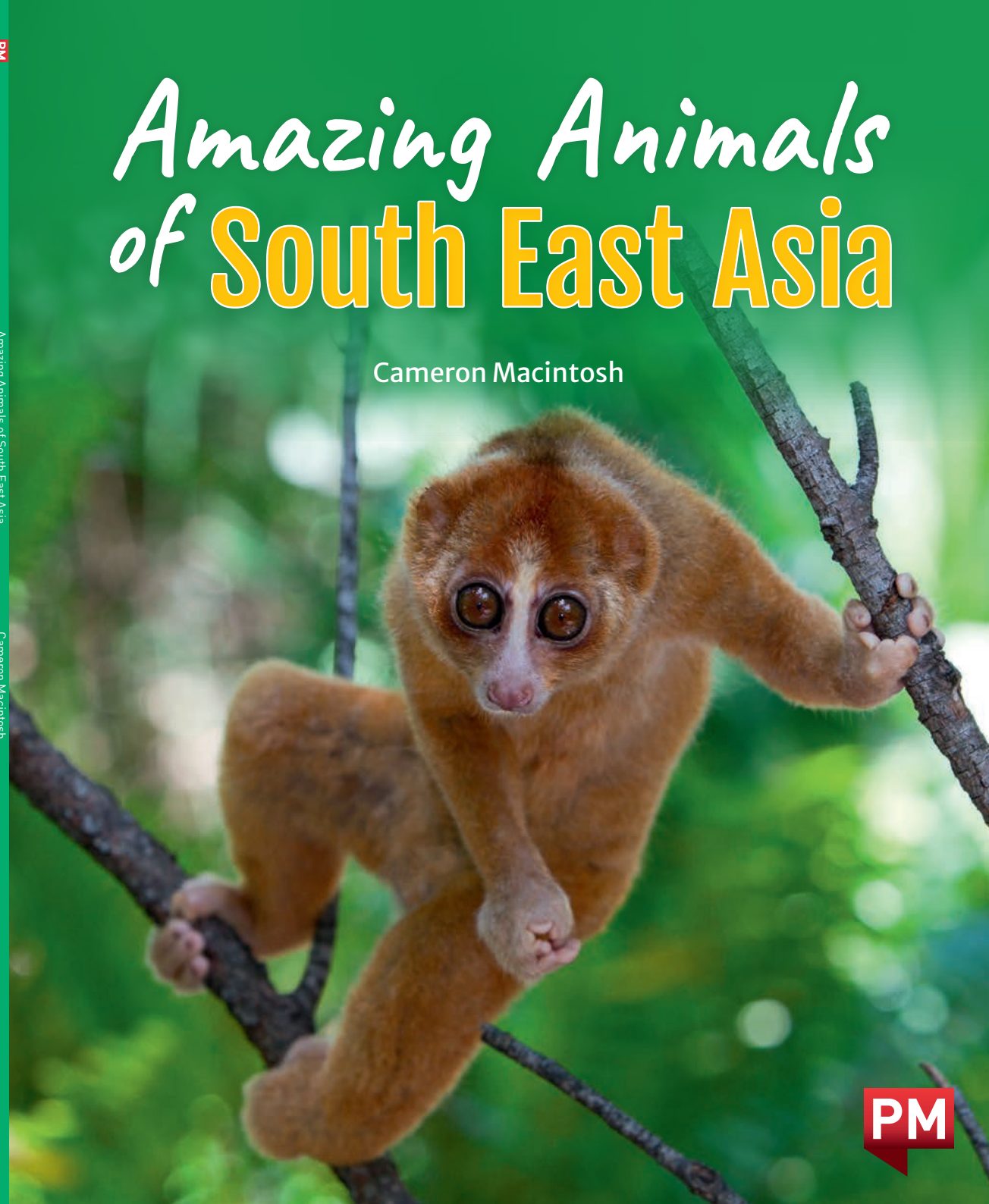


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Amazing Animals of South East Asia
Cameron Macintosh

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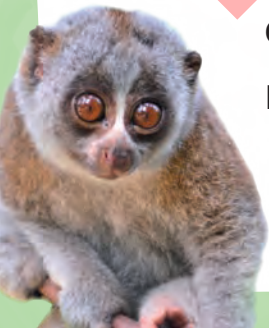


Cameron Macintosh



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Amazing Animals of South East Asia

Where Is South East Asia?

South East Asia is a large area spanning many countries. It includes Myanmar (also called Burma), Laos, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei, the Philippines, Indonesia and East Timor. Some parts of South East Asia are connected to mainland Asia, while other parts consist of large and small islands.

A Map of South East Asia



Most of South East Asia is **tropical**, so it is usually very warm and humid. In most parts of South East Asia, there are two main seasons – the **dry season** and the **wet season**.

In the **dry season**, there is **less** rain than at other times of the year, and the **weather** is cooler. Short, heavy rain showers occur regularly during the **wet season**.



The tropical rainforest in Indonesia is still green during the dry season.



Heavy rain falls during the wet season in the rainforest in Borneo.

South East Asia has a wide range of environments that vary greatly from place to place. These include mountain ranges, large areas of rainforest and extensive river systems. There are also many coral reefs near the islands and coasts of South East Asia.

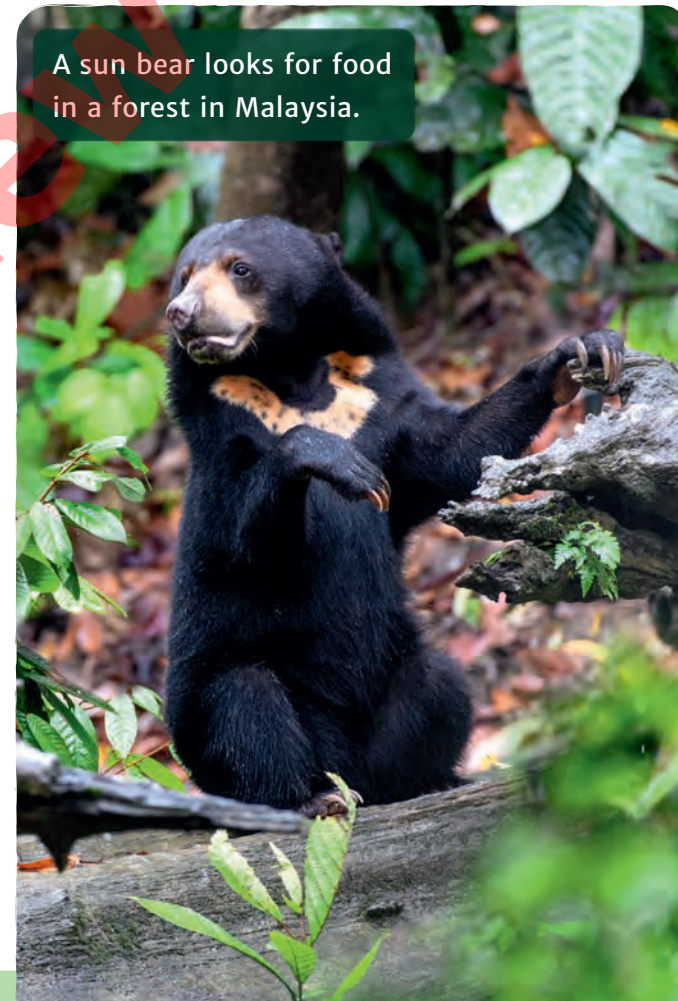


Padar Island in Indonesia is unique because it has green mountains.

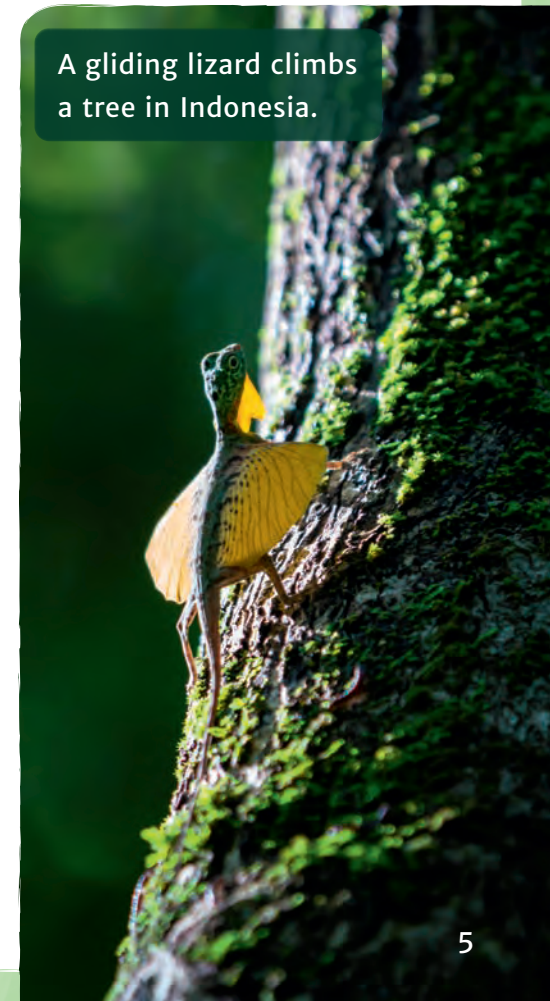
With so many unique environments, South East Asia provides ideal habitats for an incredibly wide range of animals. These include **amphibians**, birds, reptiles and mammals.



Great hornbills live in the tallest trees in the old rainforests.



A sun bear looks for food in a forest in Malaysia.



A gliding lizard climbs a tree in Indonesia.

Amphibians of South East Asia

More than 800 species of frogs and other amphibians live in the swamps and forests of South East Asia. Some species of frogs can jump surprisingly long distances to move from tree to tree, and some can even glide through the air!

Abah River Flying Frog

The Abah River flying frog is found in the forests of Indonesia, Thailand and Malaysia. It is a large green and yellow frog with a white underbelly. It spends most of its life high in the forest trees.



An Abah River flying frog sits on a branch.

The Abah River flying frog has unusually long webbed fingers and toes, and fringes of skin on its sides that allow it to glide from tree to tree.

It uses its webbing and fringes of skin like a parachute. This slows the frog's fall and gives it control over where it lands. The frog can glide through the air to catch prey such as insects, or to avoid predators such as tree snakes.



The Abah River flying frog spreads its fingers and toes to glide through the air.