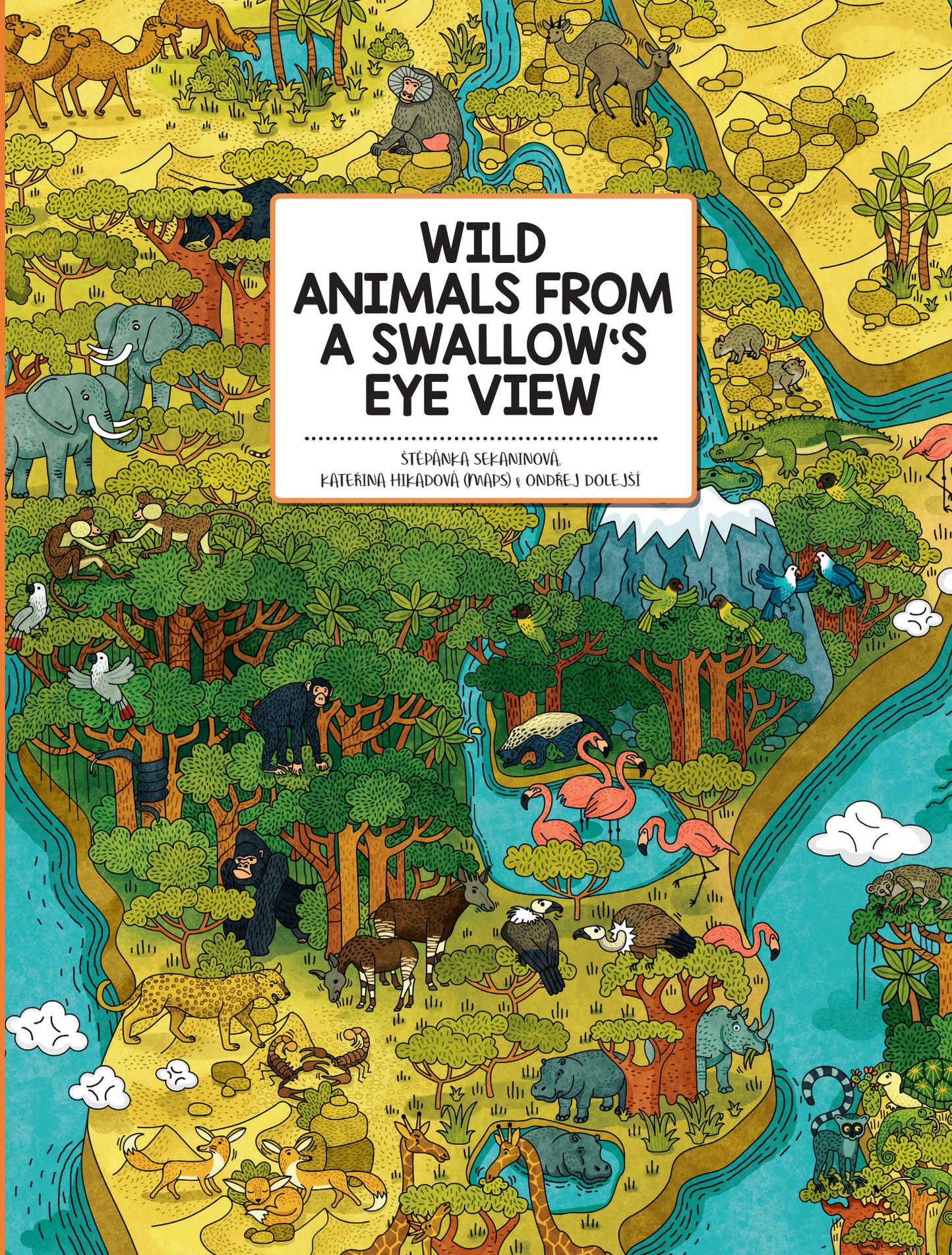




WILD ANIMALS FROM A SWALLOW'S EYE VIEW

STĚPÁNKA SEKANINOVÁ,
KATEŘINA HIFADOVÁ (MAPS) & ONDŘEJ DOLEJŠÍ

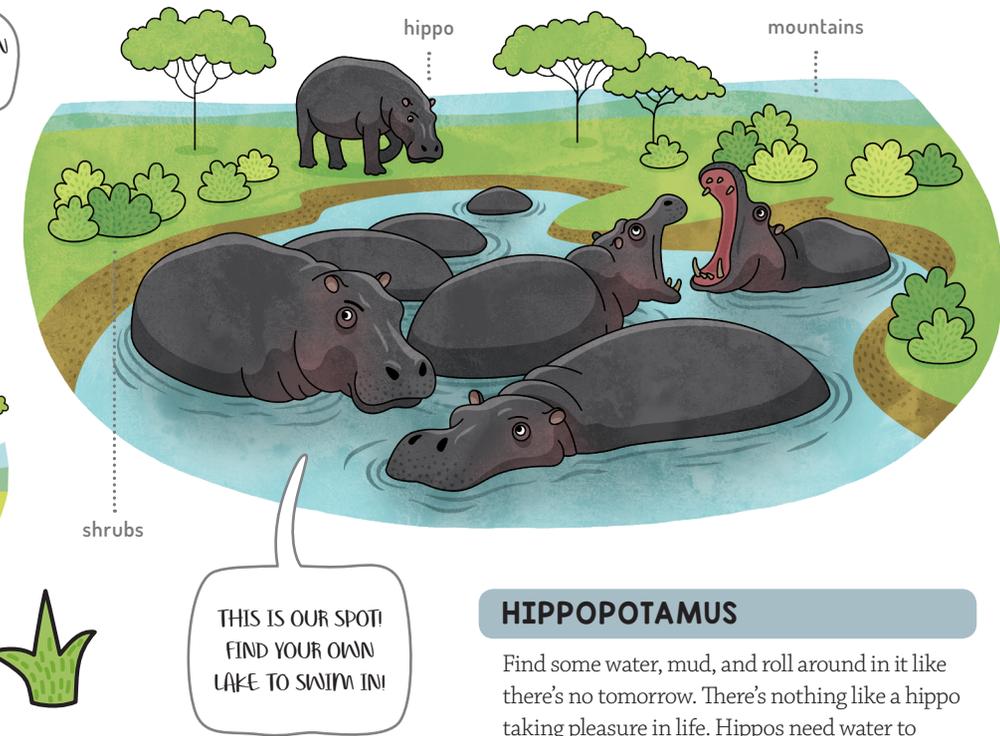
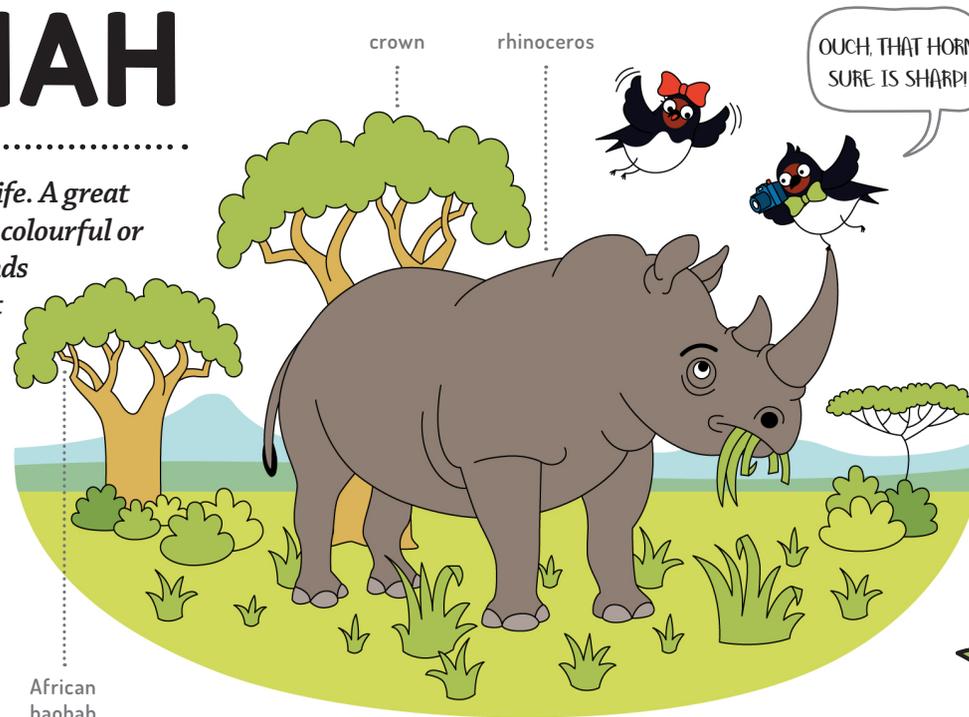


4 SAVANNAH

Oh my, grassy savannahs are bustling with life. A great variety of animals - be they tall, wide, short, colourful or horned - can be found here. Our swallow friends are lucky they didn't come here during the wet season. It's much better to be exploring the wonders of Africa when the sun is shining.

RHINOCEROS

The horn on the rhinoceros' snout definitely isn't for decoration only. It helps him e.g. dig up roots of grasses which are too short and can't be grazed. The defence factor is also nothing to sneeze at. Having such a horn stuck in your behind would be no fun at all. Apart from a large amount of grass, rhinoceroses need lots of water to drink and cool down. These horned beauties have a bad eyesight, but on the other hand can hear perfectly. And why wouldn't they, considering that they can rotate their ears around.



HIPPOTAMUS

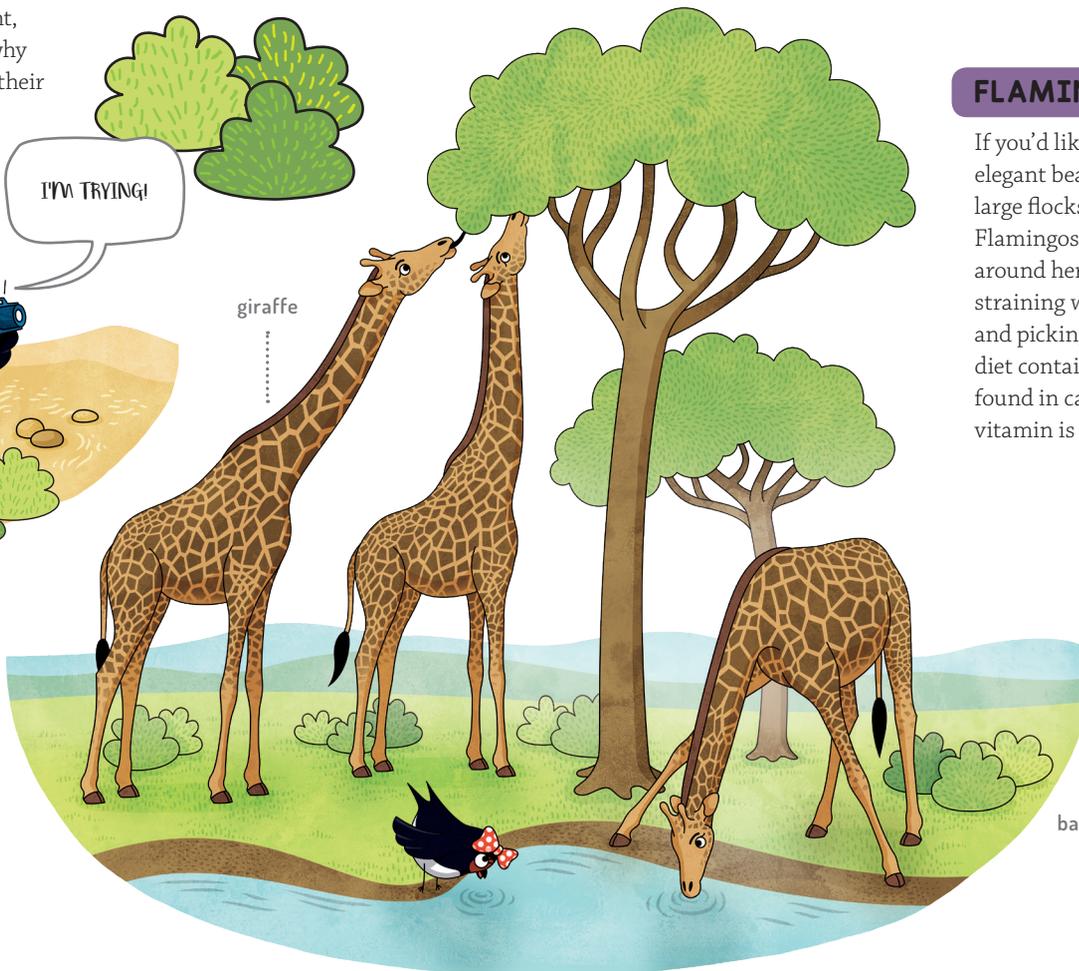
Find some water, mud, and roll around in it like there's no tomorrow. There's nothing like a hippo taking pleasure in life. Hippos need water to moisturize their thick skin, and so they spend most of their time in rivers. Even though their body is as round as a barrel, they're fast runners and great swimmers. They can even walk on the bottom of the river. Simply put, water is their element.

Hippos can open their mouths really really wide. Such a gaping mouth can be more than half a meter wide.



GIRAFFE

Giraffes boast a long graceful neck that lifts their head almost all the way up into the sky. This allows them to peacefully graze on the nutritious leaves that grow on tall trees, and not to get worried that someone else might beat them to it. After all, they're the tallest animals in the world. Giraffes are great fops; even though their patterns may look the same, each one is unique.



FLAMINGO

If you'd like to encounter these long-legged elegant beauties, look no further than the large flocks at the banks of water courses. Flamingos are very sociable; no loners around here! They wade through the shallows, straining water with their crooked beaks and picking various delicacies out of it. If their diet contains the same vitamin that can be found in carrots, they have pink colour; if this vitamin is lacking, flamingos turn pale.



JUNGLE

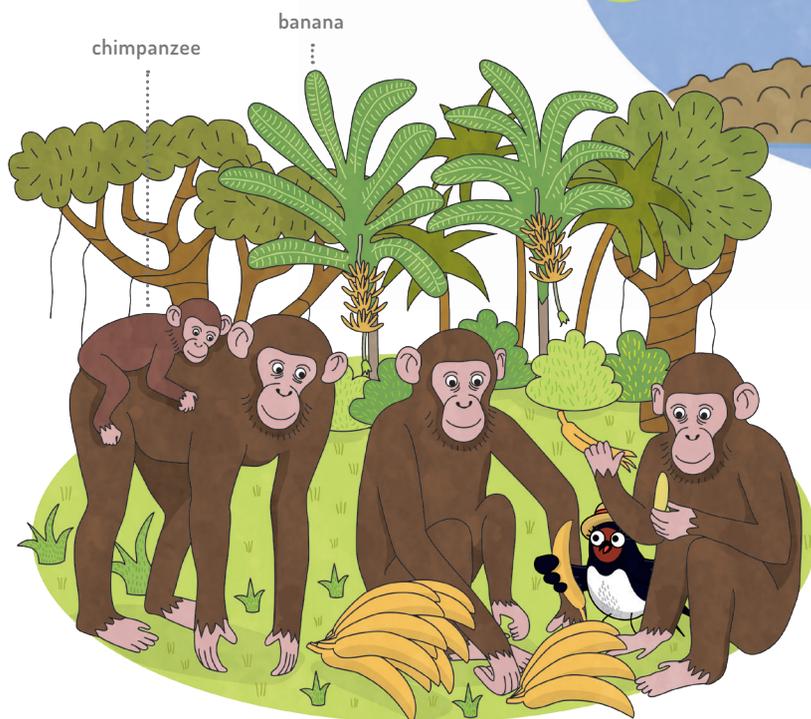
Our young newlyweds took wing and left the savannah for African jungle. There, they were welcomed by dense wet tropical forests, full of beautiful plants and wild animals.

WOW, SO MANY ANIMALS!



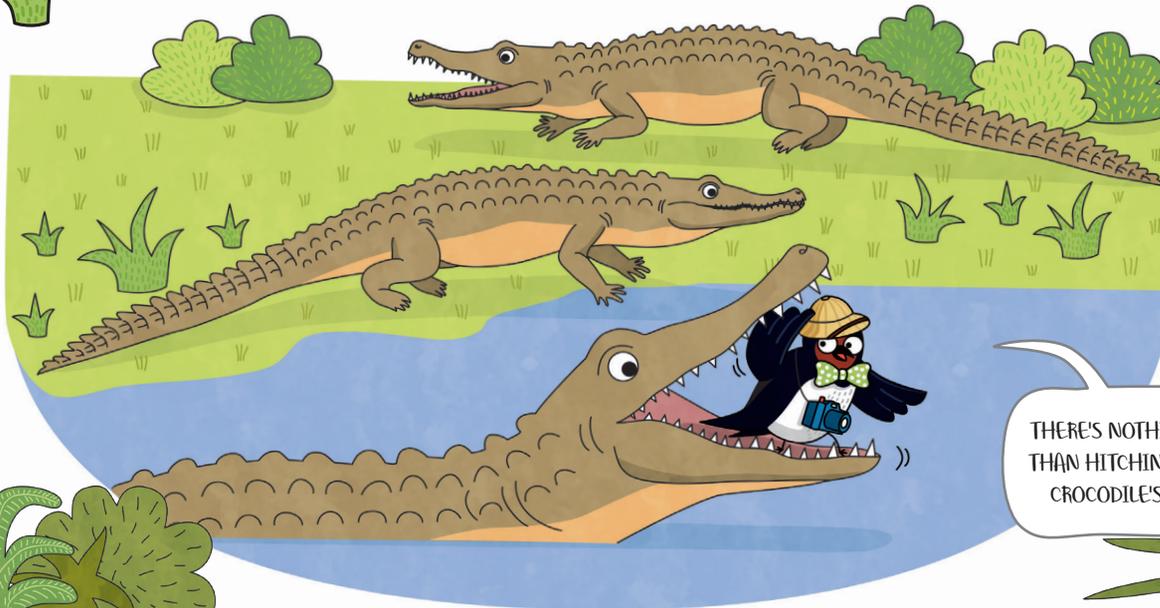
CHIMPANZEE

These inhabitants of dense African forests are the most intelligent monkeys in the world. Like humans, they learn new things easily. They use simple tools to find food and their mutual communication is on a very high level. Besides a wide range of sounds, they express themselves with many facial expressions. These monkeys are very sociable and live in packs headed by an experienced male. Sometimes, two packs even visit one another.



NILE CROCODILE

Hush, don't wake him up! He's fast asleep... with his mouth wide open to cool himself down and prevent overheating in the tropical Africa. Who? The largest crocodile in the world, of course – the Nile crocodile. This amphibian, which hasn't changed his appearance for 65 million years, can be found in rivers or fresh-water lakes. His eyes and nostrils are placed on the upper part of his head which gives the crocodile a good eyesight and ability to breathe well even if he's lying in water.

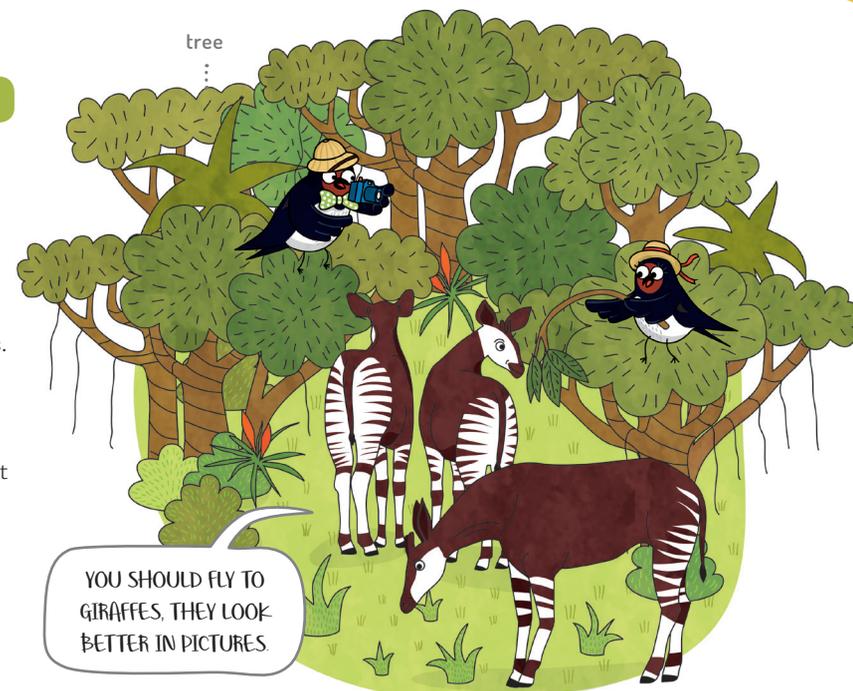


NOISY FRIENDS

When baby crocodiles are hatched, they squeak loudly to let the world know they've just arrived. Crocodiles in general make various sounds and can hiss really well. It certainly doesn't come as a surprise that they enjoy eating meat the most, right?

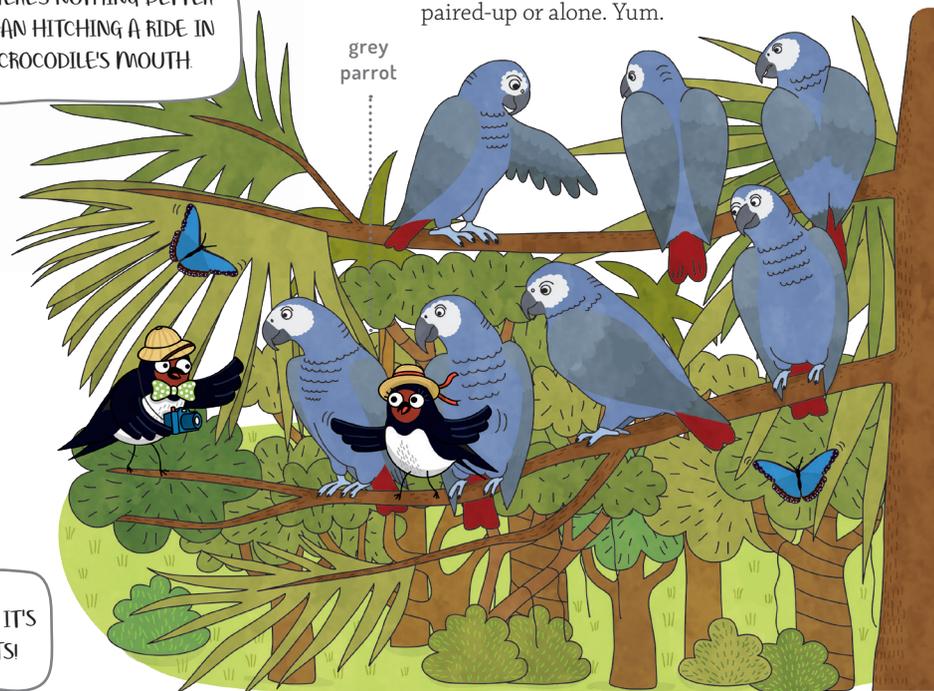
OKAPI

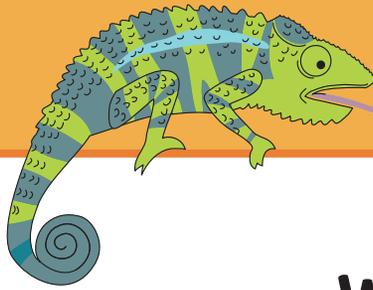
Believe it or not, but this shy creature with white stripes on its bottom is related to giraffes. Unlike their long-necked cousin, okapi live hidden in the thick jungle vegetation where they obsessively stick to their well-trodden footpaths. Their white stripes help them blend in with surrounding bushes and hide themselves from animals, for example leopards. Okapi have a great sense of hearing and smell; they can smell and hear anyone at a great distance and take off immediately.



AFRICAN GREY PARROT

Who's making all those whistling sounds and screams hoarsely? Just the adorable African grey parrots who have only now returned from pasture and are trying to assemble. That's because they're friendly and sociable little birds. They live in large flocks in thick jungles. At night, they happily snooze in tall trees and then they go looking for sweet fruits in the morning, paired-up or alone. Yum.





JOIN US ON JOURNEY.

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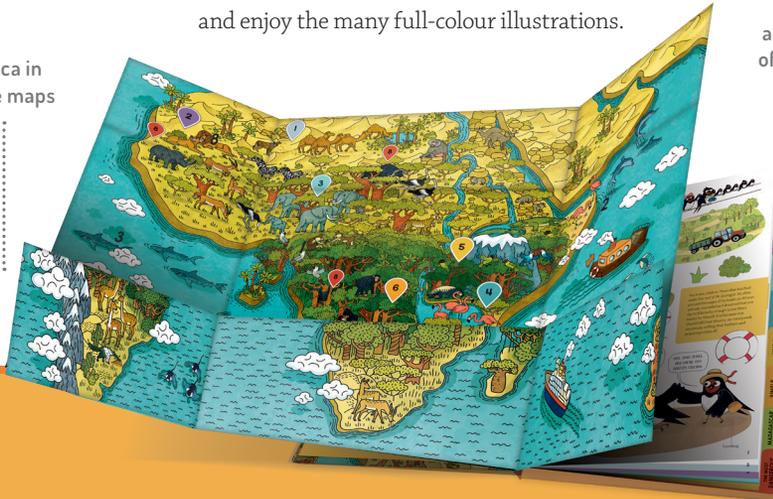
ŠTĚPÁNKA SEKANINOVÁ,
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Emily is a young swallow lady, Maximilian her beloved. Just married, they are about to fly away on their honeymoon. Where to? Africa, of course! Not only will they be glad to get warm, they are really looking forward to making the acquaintance of fellow animals. They expect the lions to be scary but thrilling and the zebras to be fashionable and elegant. And the flamingos must surely be looked at through rose-tinted glasses! Do you want to join our lovebirds on their trip? Then just say the word! Using the three foldout maps inside the book, you'll find your way around Africa with ease. Then all you have to do is read on, learn about how wild animals live, and enjoy the many full-colour illustrations.

LET'S EXPLORE THE AFRICA



Africa in three maps



animals of Africa



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