

# My Rainforest Book on

Okapi



Written by Simón L.



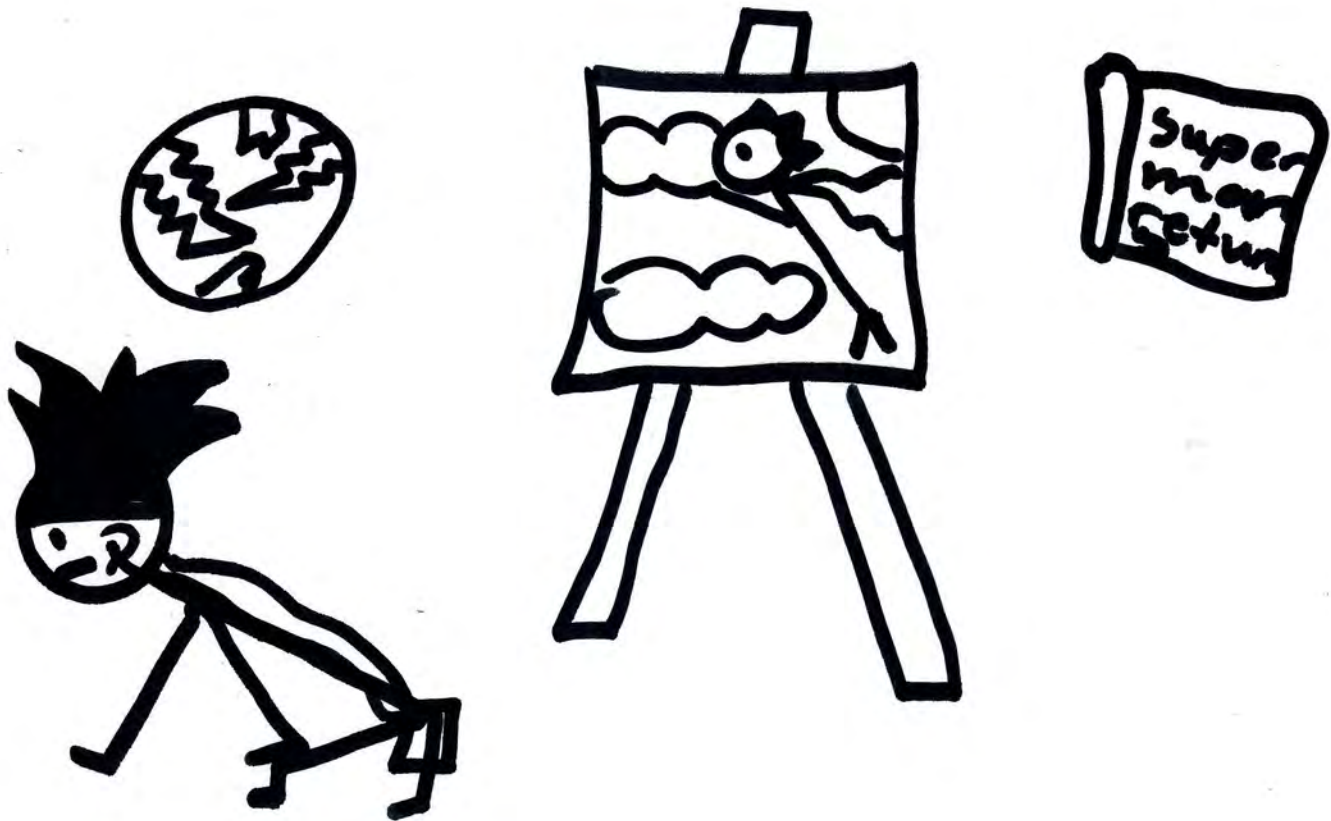
Hello fellow students. My name is Simon  
and I'm a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student at an elementary  
school in Watsonville. I'm in a special class where  
we are learning about *rainforests* and I'd like to  
share with you about what *rainforests* are, how  
*important* they are, and an *animal* of particular  
interest to me, Okapi.



*About me...*

But before I start my book, I'd like to share with you about some of my favorite things.

I like to play Soccer, draw,  
read, and run.



Okay, now I'm ready to write about what *rainforests* are, their *importance*, and facts about one of my favorite *animals*, Okapi.

First, *rainforests* are a very important ecosystem. Of all the ecosystems in the world, they have the highest biodiversity which means different kinds of plants and animals. In addition, rainforests have special characteristics such as:

green trees, wet dirt, and  
full of life.

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**Second, rainforests provide many *important* purposes, such as:**

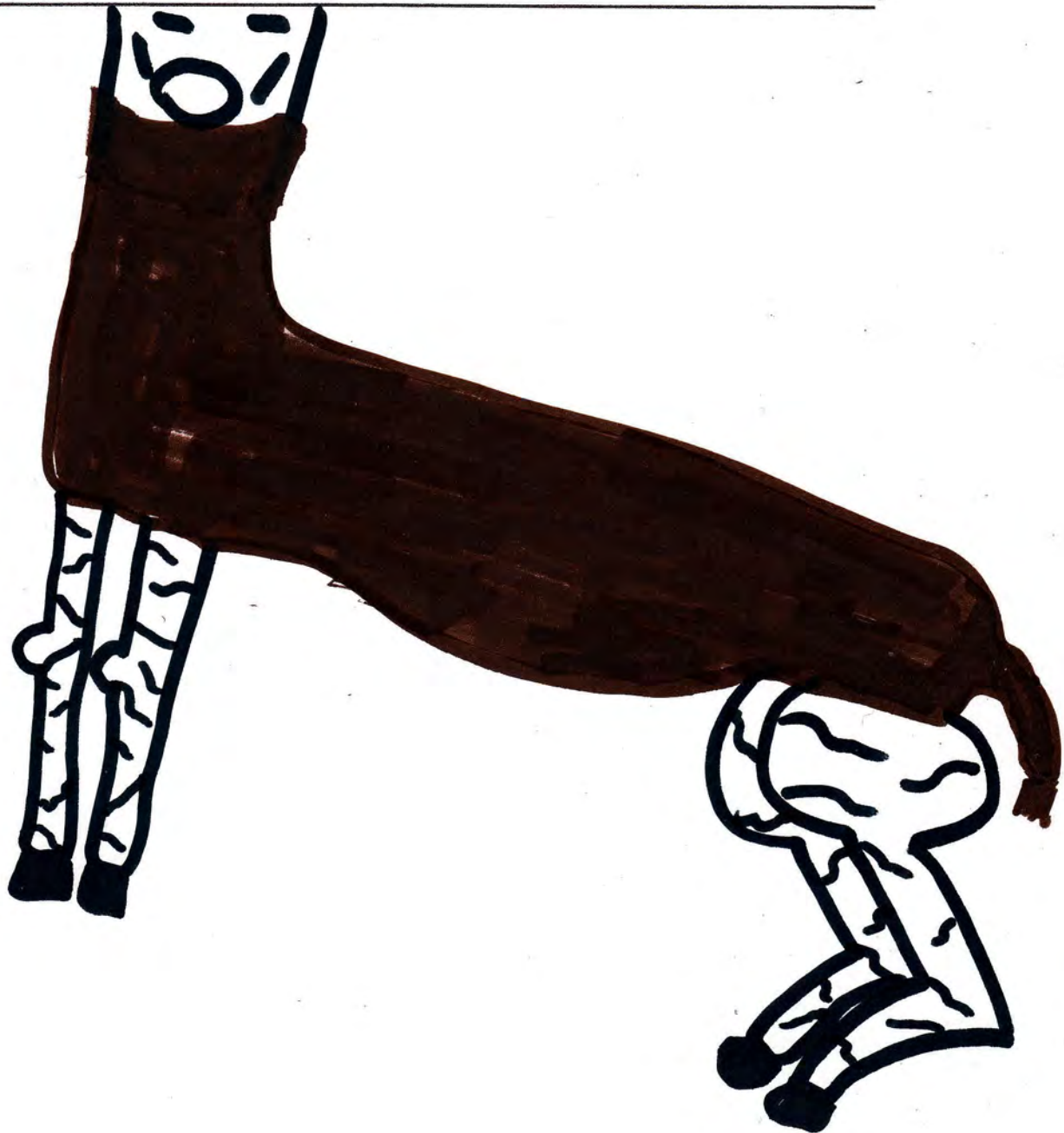
oxygen, food, and keeps animals  
away from cities

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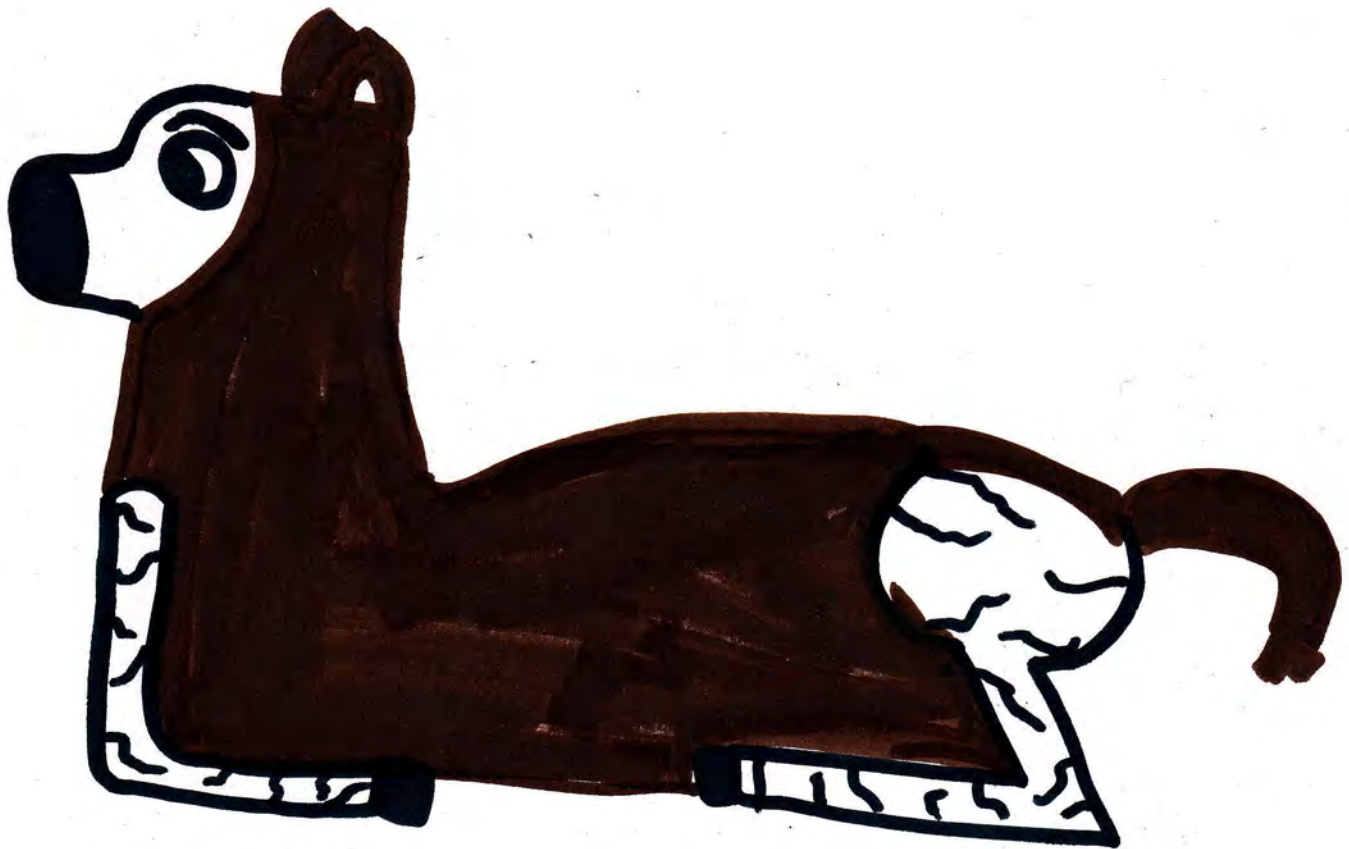
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Third, there is a particular *animal* of interest to me, namely the Okapi. I chose this *animal* because it looks like a giraffe and a zebra.



In the following paragraphs, I will briefly discuss what I researched about my animal of interest, the Okapi. I will cover the following: classification, common name, scientific name, physical characteristics, if the animal camouflages, range, population, status, habitat, prey, predators, and where animal fits in food web. *I hope you enjoy the book!*



## **Classification**

The Okapi is a vertebrate because it has a backbone. It is classified as a mammal because it has hair, it has live births, and it drinks milk when it is a baby.

## **Names**

The Okapi has two names. The common name is Okapi, and the scientific name is Okapi johnstoni.

In science, the *scientific name* is the genus and species of the animal or plant.



**Physical characteristics... my animal looks like...**

My animal looks like a giraffe and zebra combined. It has a long neck and tongue to reach up high. It has legs like a zebra so it camouflages.



**Camouflage...does my animal blend into its environment?**

After looking at my animal and reading more about it, I realize that it camouflages with its legs and fur.

### **Range**

The Okapi is found in the  
tropical rain forests.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### **Population**

The population of my animal is 1,000 to  
35,000 in the wild.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### **Status**

The status of the Okapi tells me  
whether it is endangered, threatened, or stable.  
What I found out is that the Okapi is  
endangered. I find this  
interesting because they are a beautiful  
animal and they need to be  
protected.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.



### ***Habitat...home***

The Okapi habitat is the  
tropical rainforests  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

### ***Animal behavior***

The way I would describe the behavior of my  
animal is that they are quiet and  
shy.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

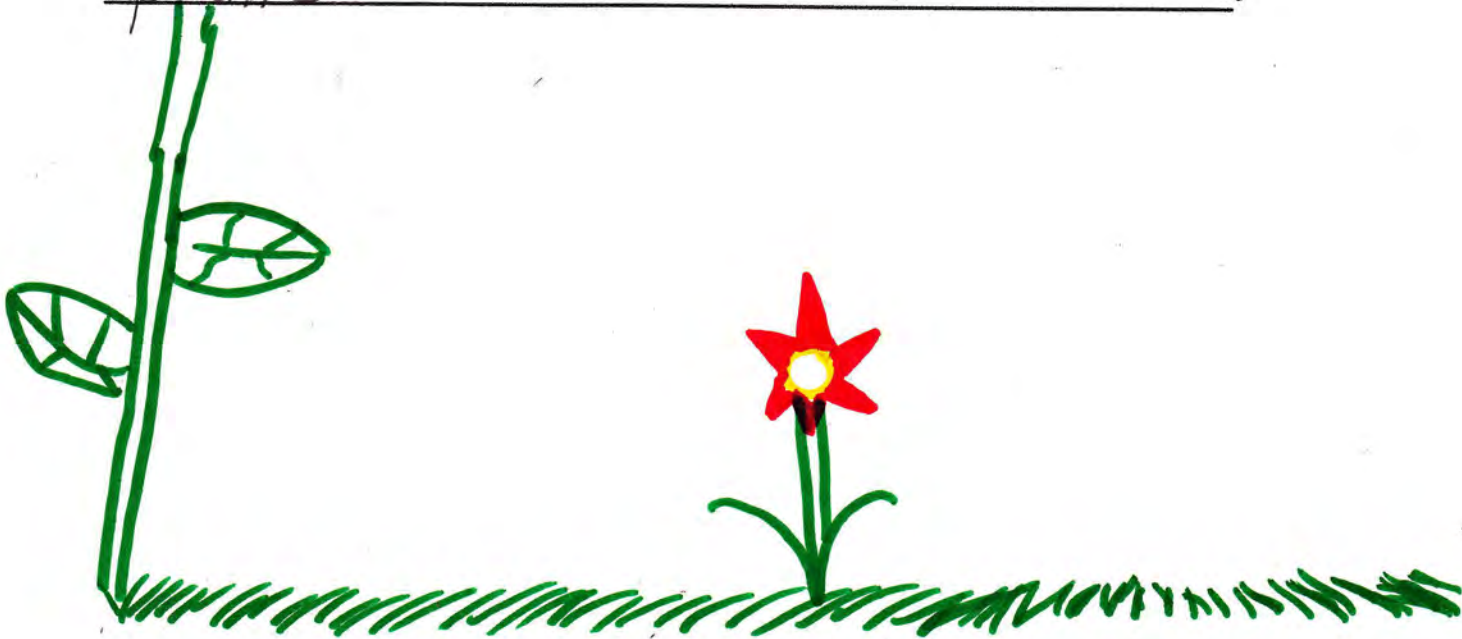
*Prey and predator...(to eat and to be eaten)*

The prey my animal eats are: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

My animal eats other things such as:

plants \_\_\_\_\_.



The predators that eat me are: leopards  
and man \_\_\_\_\_.





## *Food web*

My animal is a herbivore. The following picture demonstrates where my animal fits in the food web.





## References

(books, articles, web-sites, etc. )

[www.OKapifacts.com](http://www.OKapifacts.com)



Thank you for reading my book. I hope you enjoyed it and learned a lot about the Okapi. Please feel free to *comment* about my book and also, test your knowledge by answering the following *questions* below. I look forward to hearing from you.

Comments for me:

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Questions for you: (See if you can answer these...)

1. What does it eat?
2. Where does it live?
3. What does it look like?