

People of the Amazon Rainforest.





We live in a very large rainforest near the Amazon River in South America! It is a very beautiful place to live. The closest cities to us are a long way away. It takes several days just to get to a city. Most of us have never been there. We live near the Atlantic Ocean, but we've never been there either.

Have you ever gone camping? We go camping our whole lives! We live off the land. The rainforest is very important to us because it is where we hunt, eat, sleep, and raise our families.







We live off the land by hunting, fishing, and growing fruits and vegetable to survive on. Manioc is one of our main crops. We use the tuberous roots of the manioc plant to make flour for bread. But we have to be careful to squeeze all of the poison out of it first! It can kill us if we don't! But we never forget to do that. Some people even put the poison on the end of their spears to use when they go hunting!



roots of the manioc plant





Coconuts



We use a kind of stove you've probably never seen, except maybe while camping. Sometimes, we use two sticks, in the shape of a "Y", with another stick placed between the opening of the Y. We'll build a fire underneath and place the stick through the meat to hold it up. Or we'll find two large objects, place them side by side with a space in the middle to build a fire, and roast meat or heat things up on a flat surface placed over the objects.

We have three ways of cooking meat: boiling, barbecuing, and smoking. We eat lots of different kinds of meat: tapir, deer, wild pig, agouti, alligator, sloth, monkey, and various birds. We also eat a lot of manioc! From manioc, we make bread, tapioca cereal (cooked), dried tapioca flour, broth, and much more. Fruit is always available, too, like bananas





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Pet Macaws





We don't need walls on our houses for anything. It doesn't get cold here, and we don't need much privacy at all. Privacy to us is a lot different than what you may be used to. If you came here and built a simple house, put walls around it, and wrote your name on the door, that doesn't mean that it is "off limits" or "private". But, we do practice privacy when we bathe in the river. Even though we don't wear a lot of clothing usually, the women bathe at one time or place and the men at another.

To build our house, we put up some poles to support a thatched roof. Since it rains here so much, we do a good job in making the roof to have as few leaks as possible



