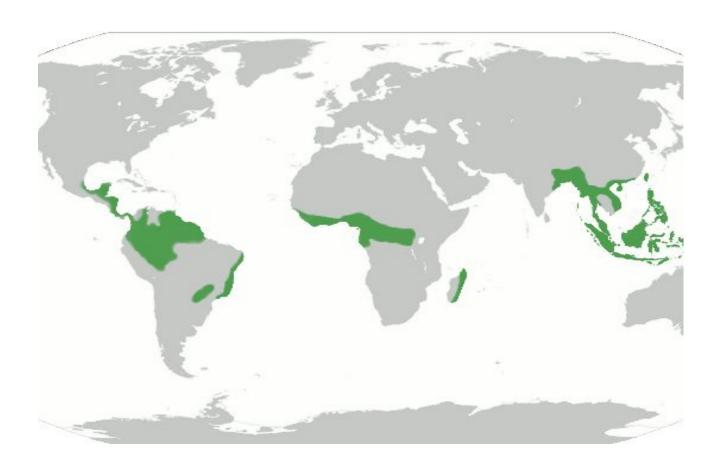
### Life on Earth. The Rainforests.

## Жизнь на Земле. Влажные тропические леса.

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### Where are the Rainforests?

Rainforests cover over 6% of the Earth's surface. The biggest forests are in South America, Africa and South East Asia. The are no rainforests in Europe and North America.

#### Fauna

About 75% of all the types of animals that we know come from rainforests. Thousand and thousand of animals live in rainforests. There are such unusual animals as solenodons (щелезуб) and drawfish hippopotamus (карликовый бегемот)





There are also insects. Here you can see a predatory ant (хищный муравей) and a spider.





Reptiles such as iguanas.



There are also many birds. For example, little owls (сычики).





**Flora** 

There are also thousands of different plants and lots of tall trees. It is always hot in rainforests and the ground is always wet. Such conditions are very good for plants.

# In rainforests there grow many plants such as Spotty Begonia (Бегония Пятнистая)





Why are the Rainforests important?

The rainforests are very important for us. We need them. The trees and other plants in the forests help to make the air that we breath. They also help to control the weather. They give us wood, rubber (каучук), fruits and many of our medicines.

#### What is happening to the Rainforests?

Unfortunately, in many places, the rainforest are in danger. People chop down trees because they need wood and soil to grow plants. Many animals have to leave this places, some of them disappear forever.

