

Activity - Talking Tapir

This activity gets pupils using their creativity to write a piece of persuasive writing from the perspective of someone or something living in the rainforest. The photos from the [KS1 rainforest animals](#) quiz may be helpful as a starting point.

Curriculum links:

English:

Give well-structured descriptions, explanations and narratives for different purposes

PSHE:

Living in the wider world

Learning about the importance of respecting and protecting the environment

This might help:

This Guardian article introduces some of the new species discovered in the Amazon recently: www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2013/oct/23/new-species-amazon-rainforest-in-pictures



Activity Sheet - Talking Tapir

Could you write from the perspective of someone or something living in the rainforest, imagining the sights, sounds and smells? Can you make your writing really descriptive and include a message about sustainability? Here's an example from Tapirus Kabomani:

Hello,

My name is Tapirus Kabomani but you can call me Tapir.

I live in the Amazon rainforest in Brazil but sshh, it's a secret - I'm endangered, just like my home, and not many people know I'm here. It's not hard to spot me though; I look like pig with a long, funny snout. Some people say it's like an elephant's trunk, but I think it's much shorter and cuter than that!

I use my snout for almost everything. It's great for grabbing glistening, green plants and tasty twigs from nearby trees - yum! I used to munch on loads of luscious leaves, juicy fruit and blossoming buds and berries but it's getting harder and harder to find those now.

I love to swim (I've already got my 500m swimming badge!) so you can usually find me in the river. I've been sitting in the water and watching how the forest changes each day. I remember when it was full of colour and life but now there are huge gaps between the tall trees. A little birdie told me that the trees are being cut down for timber and roads.

It can get pretty lonely here now. So if you're ever in the rainforest, come and say hi - and please don't forget about me and my home.

Tapir

