

Our Beautiful Natural World

Lesson 1 » Colombia: A Country of Wonders

1. Look at the pictures and complete the words.



RIVER



VIEW FROM



LAKE



Mountain Range

2. Complete the text with the words from the box.

amphibians biodiversity bird condor
hummingbirds orchid palm tree



CONDOR



JUNGLE

Biodiversity in Colombia

The national symbols of Colombia illustrate the country's unique ¹ biodiversity. The national tree of Colombia is the wax ² palm tree that grows in the Cocora valley in Quindío. It is the tallest in the world. Another symbol is a beautiful ³ flower called *Cattleya trianae* or May flower. The national ⁴ bird is the Andean condor which is the largest flying bird in the world. There are many other interesting facts about Colombia's natural resources, for example, Colombia has a wide variety of ⁵ amphibians such as the golden poison frog, the world's most poisonous animal, which lives in the Pacific rainforest of Colombia. Colombia has also confirmed the presence of the blue-bearded helmet crest, a very rare palm tree. Scientists thought these little birds were extinct, but they are living in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta!

3. Answer the questions about the text. Write full sentences.

1. What is Colombia's national tree?

It's a wax palm tree

2. What type of flower is the May flower?

It's the orchid

3. What is the largest flying bird in the world?

4. What is the main characteristic of the golden poison frog?

It is the most poisonous

5. Why do think the blue-bearded helmet crest has that name?

Why is his appearance

Lesson 2 » Our Diverse Natural World

1. Match the animals 1-5 with the correct body covering A-E.

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------|
| 1. spectacled bear | A. feathers |
| 2. Andean condor | B. skin |
| 3. pink dolphin | C. fur |
| 4. sloth | D. scales |
| 5. blue anole lizard | E. fur |



2. Why are these animals endangered? Read the texts and choose a possible reason. Then write in the prediction box.

Animal	Prediction	Possible reasons
1. pink dolphin	because of fishing	destruction of habitat introduction of exotic species pollution
2. spectacled bear	illegal hunting and habitat loss	illegal hunting or fishing climate change
3. blue anole lizard	deforestation is causing their habitat to disappear	overexploitation long gestation and breeding

- A. Fishing has contributed to the endangerment of the pink dolphin because the dolphins compete with the fishing industry for the same fish. Dolphins get tangled in fishing nets or damage them. For this reason, fishermen kill the dolphins and use them as bait. Sometimes they die in the nets. In addition to the killing, dolphin gestation and breeding is long, so dolphin numbers don't increase quickly.
- B. The main reasons why the spectacled bear is endangered are illegal hunting and habitat loss. People hunt these bears for superstitious reasons and use their body parts to make traditional medicine. In addition, farming has contributed to the destruction of their natural habitat.
- C. The blue anole lizard has become endangered because it is now prey to the more exotic Western basilisk lizard, which is a species of lizard brought from other parts of the country. Also, deforestation is causing their habitat to disappear.

3. Answer the questions.

1. Has pollution contributed to the decline of the pink dolphin?
No, it hasn't.

2. How has the fishing industry led to problems for the pink dolphin?
Yes, it has. It has caused them to get tangled in fishing nets.

3. What has caused the spectacled bear to become endangered?
No, it hasn't. It has caused them to become endangered.

4. What risks do the blue anole lizards face nowadays?
No, it hasn't. It has caused them to become endangered.