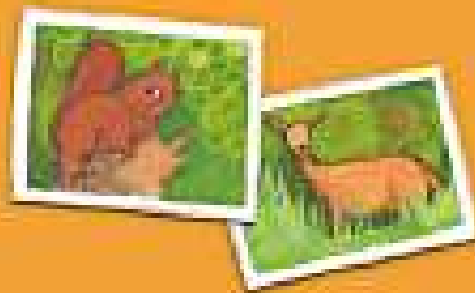




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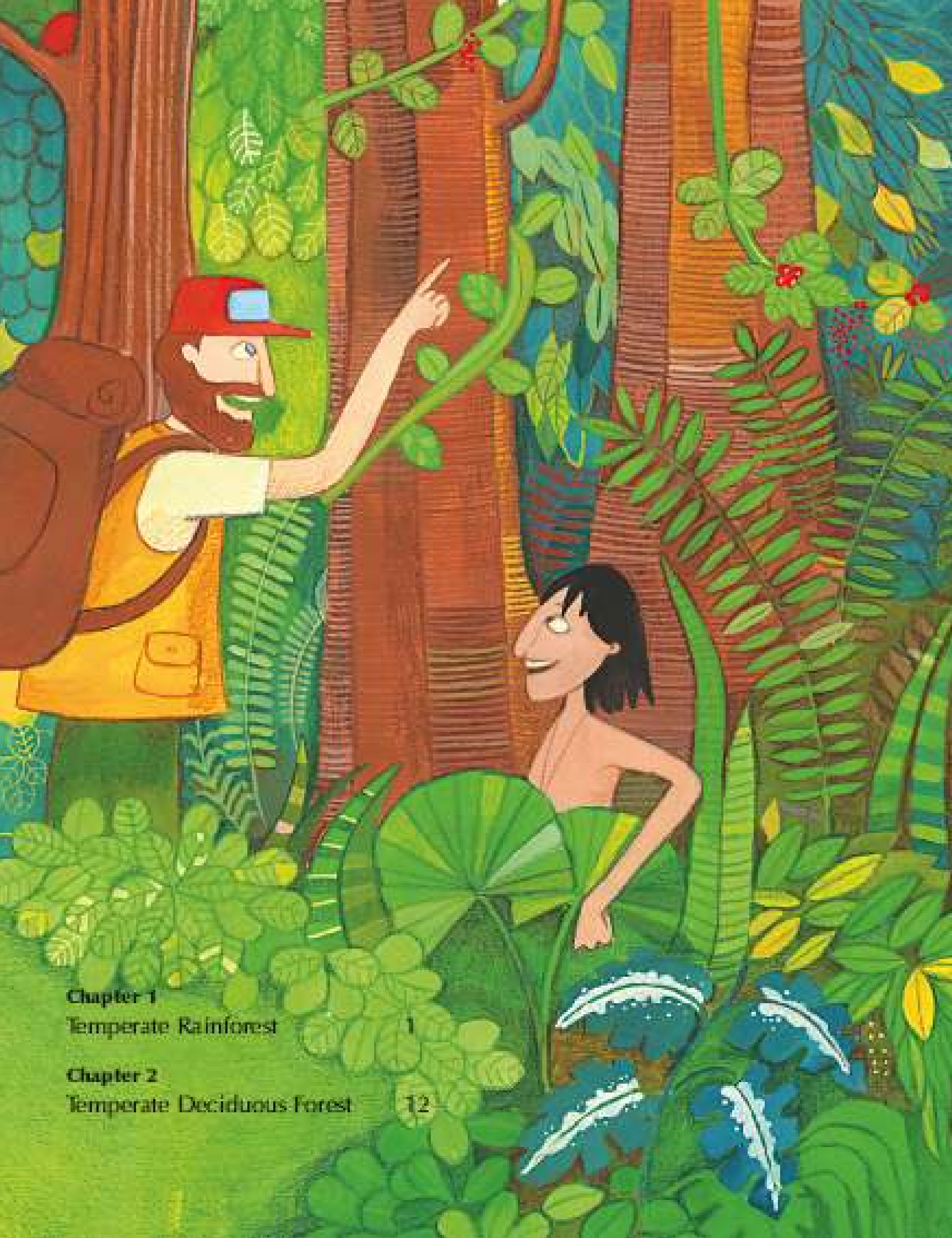




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Education & Technology
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Chapter 1
Temperate Rainforest

Chapter 2
Temperate Deciduous Forest

Temperate Rainforest

"On the Northwest Pacific coast of America is a very special and ancient forest. People have lived there for over five thousand years. That's where I am off to next. Would you like to come with me?" Joe Fielding asks Cholo.

Cholo is very excited. He loves to visit different kinds of forests with Joe. Together they have already explored the tropical rainforest and the evergreen taiga forest.

"Will it be very cold there like it was in the boreal region?" asks Cholo.

"No, actually. We are going to a rainforest. I hope to show you one of the most magnificent animals in the world..."

Cholo interrupts him. "Rainforest!" He is disappointed. "But I already know what one looks like. I live in one!"

"This time, young friend, we are off to the temperate rainforest. You belong to the tropical rainforest." Cholo's home is in the Ecuadorian rainforest in South America. He belongs to the Yanomami tribe, one of the oldest tribes in South America.

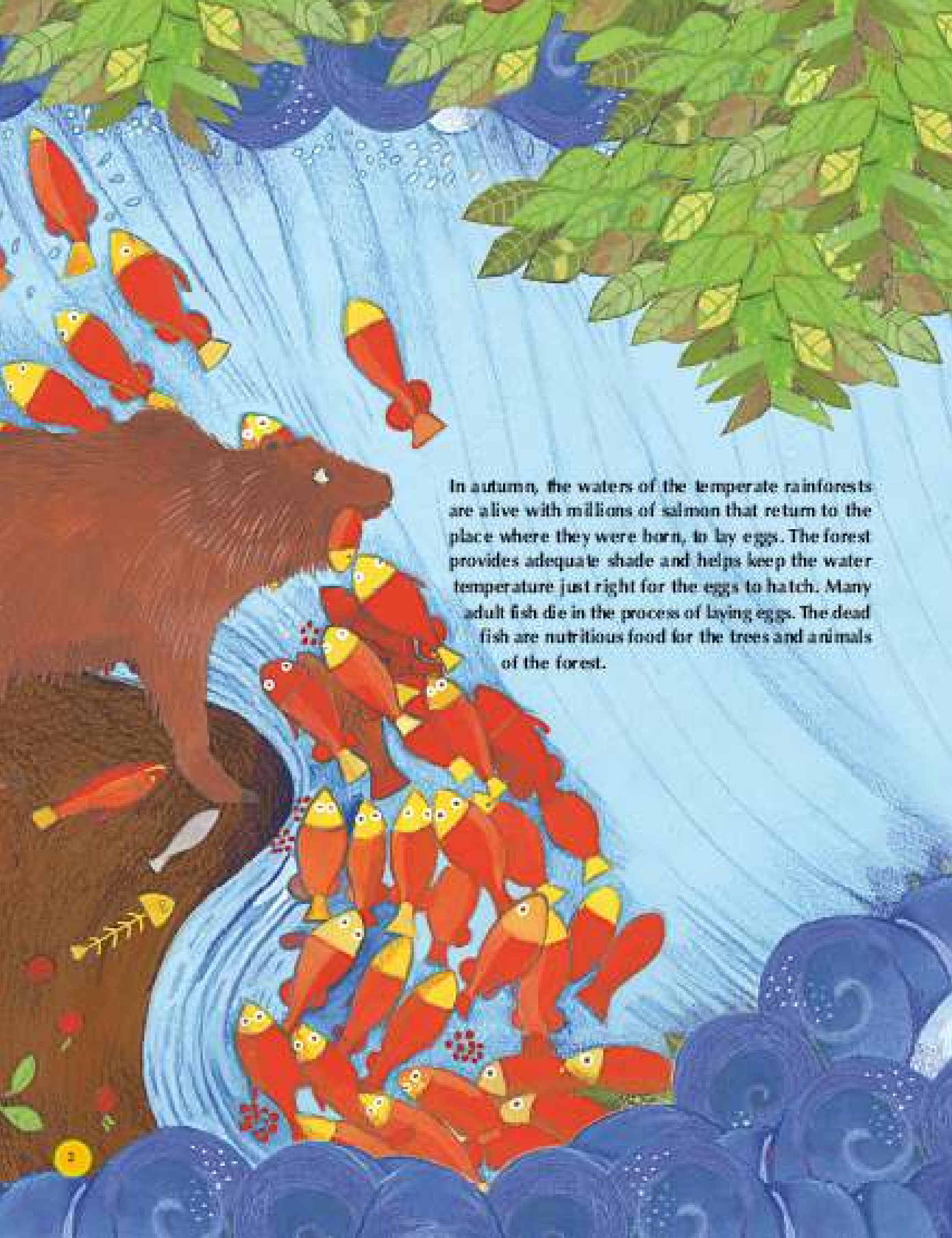
Joe is a naturalist who studies different habitats around the world. He and Cholo became friends on Joe's study trip to the Amazonian* tropical rainforest.

Cholo can barely contain his excitement. "So, where else can you find temperate rainforests, Joe?" he asks.

Joe replies, "The temperate forest runs in a thin ribbon from the North Californian coast to Alaska, passing through Canada too. They are also found in small pockets in Russia, China, Japan, Chile, Paraguay, New Zealand and Australia! But we are going to the Olympic National Park, Washington State, where the sea is close by."



* The eastern part of Ecuador forms part of the Amazon Basin.



In autumn, the waters of the temperate rainforests are alive with millions of salmon that return to the place where they were born, to lay eggs. The forest provides adequate shade and helps keep the water temperature just right for the eggs to hatch. Many adult fish die in the process of laying eggs. The dead fish are nutritious food for the trees and animals of the forest.

"A sea?" Cholo exclaims.

Joe nods, "The temperate rainforest is also called coastal rainforest. A coast is the place where land and sea meet. The temperate rainforests actually start at the seashore. In this part of the forest there are streams, wetlands and estuaries."

"What are wetlands and estuaries, Joe?" asks Cholo.

"Wetlands are areas where the land is always soggy with too much water. An estuary is the place where the river meets the sea," said Joe. "In such places the salt water of the sea mixes with the fresh water of the river. It attracts a lot of water creatures."

"Water creatures near a forest!" Cholo is excited.

"Yes, and plenty of them too!" Joe laughs.

"Wow! That's amazing!" Cholo exclaims.

"Now, let's get to the really exciting bit. We are going there on a mission. We will be helping my friend Dan Rogers track a grizzly."

"Who is Dan and why is he tracking a gr...gr...grizzly?" Cholo asks.

"Oh! Dan is an animal behaviourist," Joe tells Cholo. "He studies the way animals live in the wild – how they choose mates, look after their young and fend off predators. Right now, Dan's studying grizzlies."

"I'm not coming," says Cholo. "The grizzly will eat me up for sure. I would rather be friends with an anaconda. Joe, I have seen pictures of grizzly bears. They are HUGE and they attack human beings."

Joe laughs, "Well, a grizzly or brown bear on an average is about six feet in height, and there are grizzlies known to be 13 feet tall when standing on their hind legs. You can be sure to lose a wrestling match with a grizzly but the truth is that they are very shy creatures. And their favourite food is salmon, not humans."

"It looks fierce, not shy. Uh... uh I wouldn't want to shake hands with one," Cholo says firmly.

"Well, I don't think they want to shake hands with you either," Joe chuckles and then continues: "Like most animals a grizzly hates to come face to face with human beings. But if provoked, they can prove to be very dangerous. This species of bear has been widely hunted and is an endangered species. Which is why we are going to help Dan trap one,