

småles matters BUG NEWS

Summer 2018



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Hej småles!

We received some of your drawings of us going through the Amazon forest and it is pretty much like what you imagined! We went through thick bushes and tall trees and came out alive to tell you all about it on **page 6**.

Do you know that rainforests are fast disappearing? Let us do our part to conserve these beautiful forests. Learn more about it on **page 14**.

We also discovered about the many interesting facts about chocolates while there. See what we found on **page 18**.

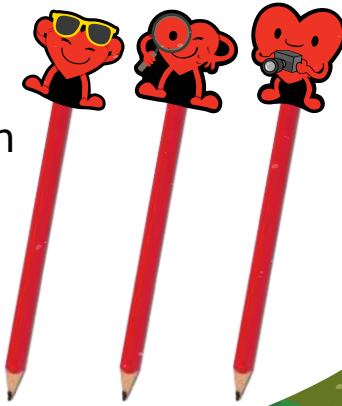
Have a marvellous school holiday and we hope to see you soon at the IKEA stores!

With Big Bug Hugs,
Sara

Now
available

Redeem a set of
Sara pencil toppers with
\$1.50 Smålish dällars
at the Bug House now!

*Pencils are not included.



Jungle chocolate cornflakes

What you need:

- 50g butter
- 100g milk or dark chocolate, broken into chunks
- 3 tablespoons golden syrup or honey
- 100g cornflakes
- Gummy worms

1. Put the butter, chocolate and golden syrup/honey in a saucepan or microwavable bowl. Put the cornflakes in another large bowl.
2. Get your mummy or daddy to melt the butter, chocolate and golden syrup/honey in the saucepan over low heat or briefly in the microwave. Allow to cool a little before pouring over the cornflakes.
3. Mix the ingredients together gently using a wooden spoon until the cornflakes are all covered with chocolate. Spoon the mixture into 12 cupcake cases.
4. Put in the fridge to set and lay a gummy worm on top just before serving or eating. Yum!

What is a tropical rainforest

A rainforest can be described as a tall, dense jungle. As its name suggests, the reason why it is called a "rain" forest is because it gets a very high amount of rainfall every year. There are two types of rainforests – tropical and temperate.

For a tropical rainforest to exist, there must be a warm climate, which explains why a big part of the tropical rainforest regions are located on or near the equator (the warmest part of the earth).

They are found in many areas near the equator such as Asia, Africa, Central America and the Pacific Islands.

Of all the tropical rainforests, the Amazon rainforest is the largest in the world.

The many layers of the rainforests

The branches and leaves of the trees form such a thick canopy (roof) that make the Amazon floor is always in darkness. In fact, because it is so thick, when it rains, it takes around ten minutes for the water to reach the ground!

Here are the different layers:

EMERGENT LAYER

The highest layer, this is where the most sunlight and where the tallest trees grow. The tallest trees are the emergents, growing as high as almost 20 floors above the ground. Some animals found here are eagles and monkeys.

CANOPY LAYER

This is the main layer of the forests and forms a roof over the two remaining layers. Many animals live in this area since food is abundant. Some of these animals includes toucans and snakes.

UNDERSTORY LAYER

Little sunshine reaches this area so the plants have to grow larger leaves to reach the sunlight. Animals living here include leopards and jaguars. There are many insects living here as well.

FOREST FLOOR

It is dark down here and because of that, almost no plants grow in this area. Giant anteaters live here.

Life in the rainforests

Only around 6% of Earth's land surface is rainforests, but because of its hot and humid climate, it is very supportive to the growth of plants and animals – about 30 million animals and plants species live there.

Some animals include parrots, the giant sloths, Howler monkeys, leopards, iguanas and flesh eating fishes called piranhas. It is believed that there will be many millions of species of plants, insects and micro-organisms thriving in rainforests which have not been discovered.

There are also more than a few thousand peoples living in the rainforests. These peoples live in tribes and depend on the rainforests for shelter and food. Many of them would suffer when the rainforests are destroyed.

What does the rainforests give us?

CO₂

A quarter of ingredients in modern medicines come only from rainforest plants.

The rainforests are sometimes referred to as 'the lungs of the Earth'. This is because the rich vegetation produces oxygen from carbon dioxide. More than 20% of the world's oxygen is produced by the Amazon rainforest.

Besides oxygen, the rainforests also provide other things we need such as:

Natural medicines



Pineapples



Sugar



Spices

coconut

turmeric

vanilla

ginger



Rubber



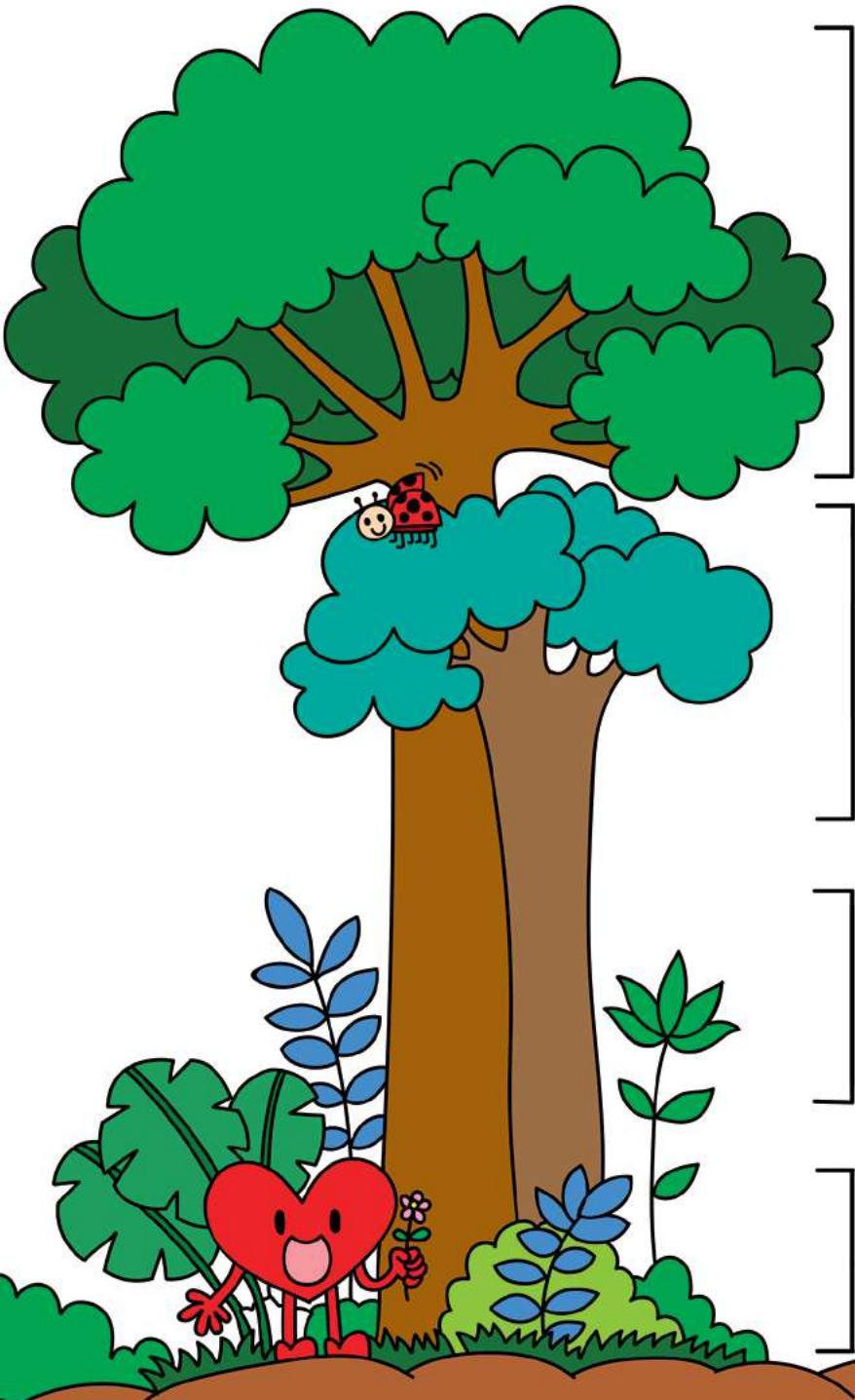
Cocoa

Is what chocolate made of!



Help Sara and Bugbug to rearrange the name of rainforests' layers.

Tip: Read on page 7 to get the answers!



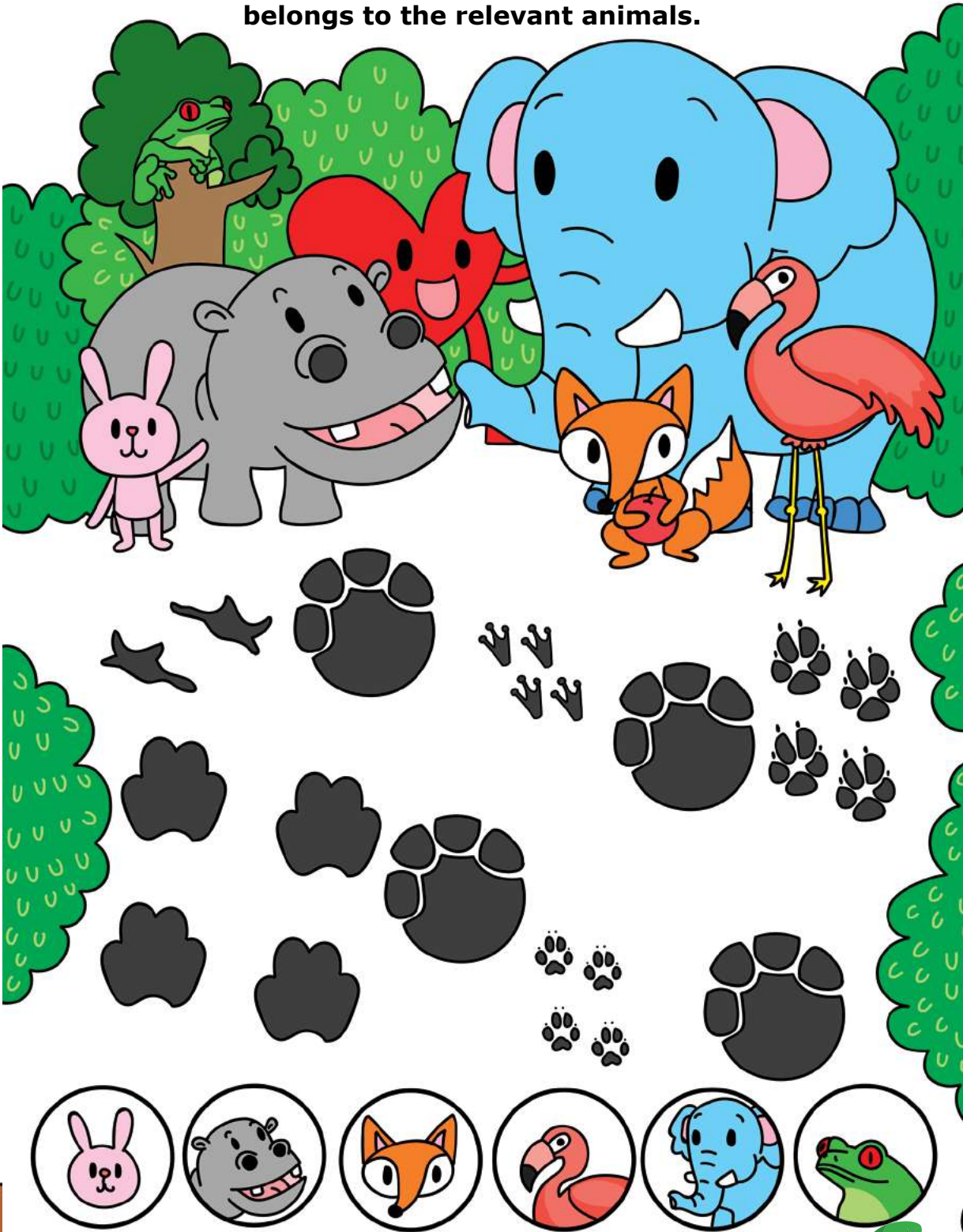
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Help Sara to find out which footprints are belongs to the relevant animals.



Threats to the rainforests

Rainforests cover
6-8%
of the Earth

Rainforests as well as species of plants and animals who live in the rainforests are rapidly disappearing due to deforestation. This would result in a loss of habitats (where plants and animals live) and add to the pollution of the atmosphere. The sad thing is, rainforests used to cover about 14% of the Earth's surface, but now they are disappearing, they only cover around 6-8% of the Earth.

Rainforests effects on global climate

With rainforests disappearing due to deforestation, it is bad news for us because when trees are cut down, they release the carbon which they are storing into the atmosphere, where it mingles with greenhouse gases from other sources and contributes to global warming.





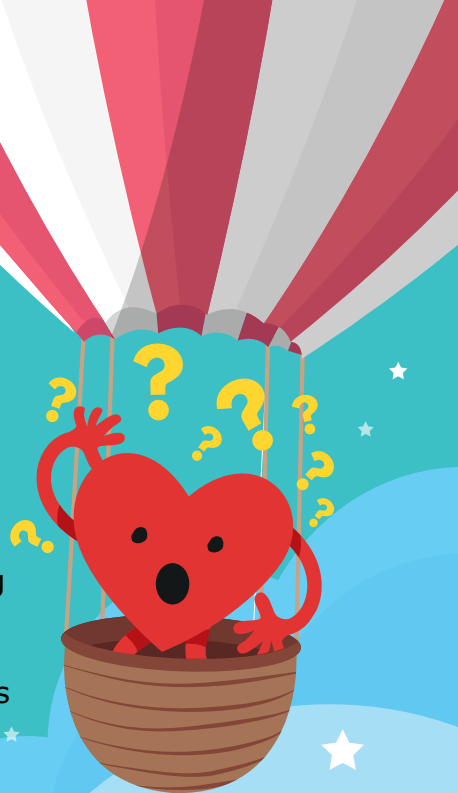
How does cutting trees down in the rainforests affect rainfall in another part of the world?

Rainforests cool the air above them by turning water from the soil into moisture in the air. When we chop the trees down, we remove the source of this cooling effect from the additional moisture. If all the trees in the tropical areas were cut down, global temperature could increase by as much as 0.7 degrees.



What we can do to help?

Little steps make a big difference. You can do your part to help prevent our rainforests from disappearing. Here are some ways:



1

Recycle as much as you can.



2

Use less paper — re-use paper instead of throwing it out. Transform paper that is only used on one side and no longer needed, to be used as a notepad, or recycle the paper you use.



3

Encourage people to live in a way that does not hurt the environment.



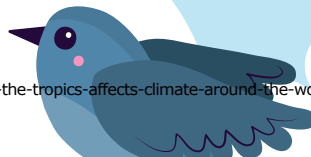
4

Start a project to learn more about rainforests and the plants and animals that live there.



5

Ask your parents to buy foods that are grown in a sustainable way (from places that do not chop down rainforests for lands).



Cocoa Beans

Do you like eating chocolates? The sweet treat is made up of cocoa powder from cocoa beans. These are first found in the rainforests and are little beans that grow in the pods on cacao (cocoa) trees.

The pods are orange and are about as big as a small pumpkin. They look like a football with some of the air out of it.

Cocoa trees grow slowly. It takes three to five years for cocoa trees to produce pods with beans for making chocolates. Though cocoa trees live up to two hundred years, they only produce cocoa beans good enough for chocolates for 20 – 25 years.

Cool facts about chocolates

Think you know your sweet candy bar well? Think again! Here are some cool facts about chocolates:

The smell of chocolates increase theta brain waves, which triggers relaxation.

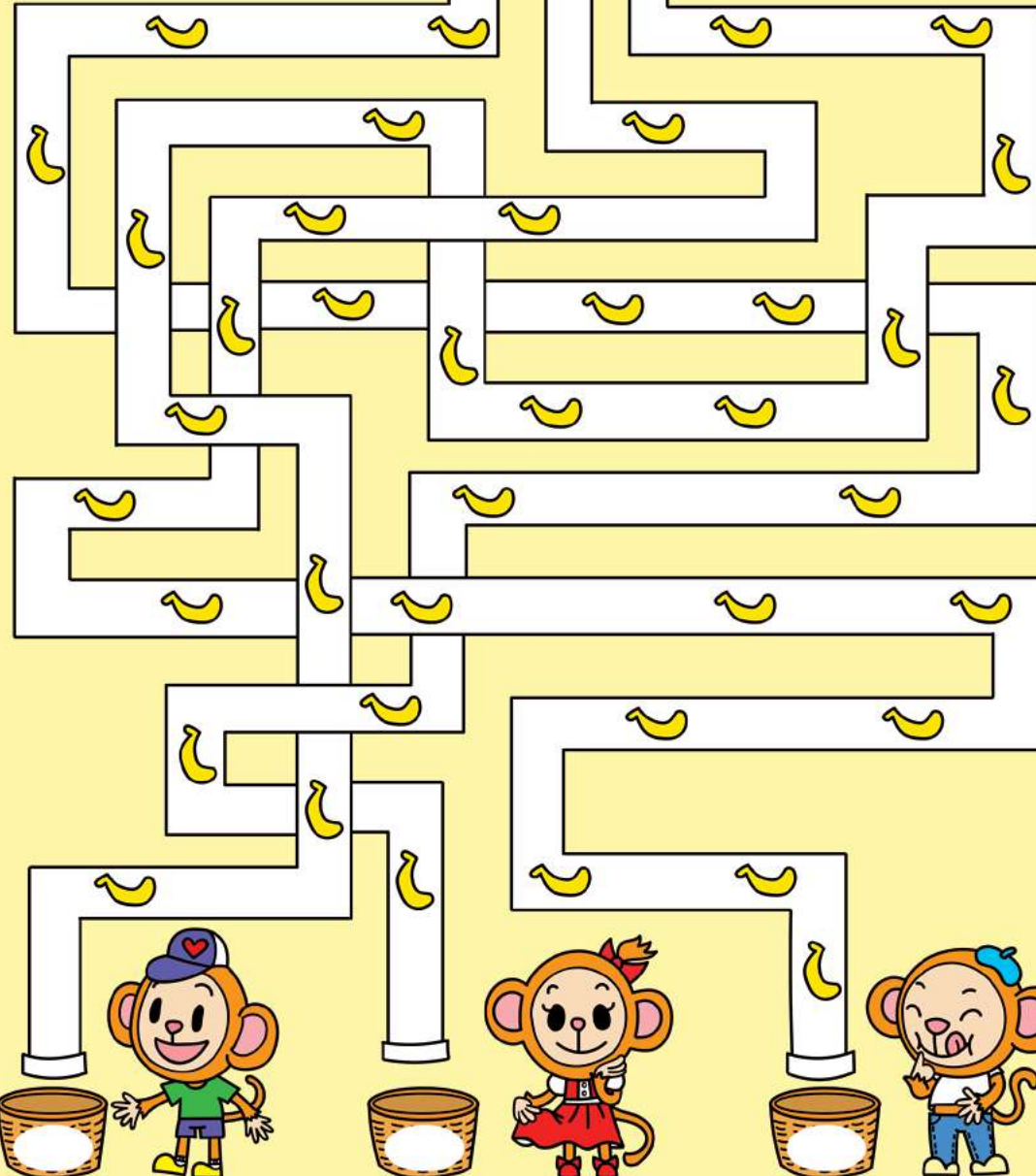
During the Revolutionary War, soldiers were sometimes paid in chocolates. Mmmm!

M&Ms were created in 1941 as a means for soldiers to enjoy chocolate that does not melt.

The scientific name for the tree that chocolate comes from *Theobroma cacao*, means "food of the gods".

The first people known to use chocolates were the Mayan Indians. They crushed the beans into powder and mixed it with water for hot chocolate. They called it bitter water because they did not put sugar in it. Ack! We wonder how that would taste!

Count how many bananas that
Sara give to her monkeys' friends.



WRECK-THIS-PAGE:
Place sticky things here

INBOX @ SMALES

Last issue's theme:

Sara and Bugbug packed their bags and visited the deep Amazon rainforest for an adventure. What did the adventure look like?

We love to receive your drawings and letters – they just brighten our day! Thank you for your lovely drawings and letters! We're sorry we can't fit everything here as there is not enough space. Visit IKEA.my/smales/inbox for more drawings and letters!



Chennie Pang, 11 years old

Winners' Drawing



Marsya Amani Binti Yusaini, 12 years old

Sara and Bugbug decided to add some flavour to their paper porridge one day and decided to visit the nearby pumpkin farm. What do you think it looks like?

Share your drawing with your name, Smålish passport number and contact details to sara@smales.com.my or **småles, No 2, Jalan PJU 7/2, Mutiara Damansara, 47800 Petaling Jaya, Selangor** by **31 July 2018**. 2 lucky winners will each win a **DJUNGELSKOG** cushion, lion/yellow.



I hope you enjoy my story. It is titled...

Sara and Bugbug in the Jungle of the Monkeys

Prologue: A few days ago, Sara and Bugbug decided to go exploring in the Småland forests. However, after a few hours, they realised that they had taken a wrong turn and were lost. As they put their compass on a flat rock to gain their bearings, they heard a loud voice in the forest saying "Ahh Eee Aiii" and looked up.

Sara: What was that?

Bugbug: I do not know. Here, have a look through my binoculars.

Sara: Thanks, Bugbug. I did not know you had binoculars.

Bugbug: "Always come prepared", that is my motto.

Sara: Oh!

Bugbug: What is it?

Sara: I am not sure, it looked like a few monkeys wearing masks.

Bugbug: Look out!

[Several coconuts fall around Sara and Bugbug, splattering the rocks and underbrush around them with coconut milk]

Sara: Look! Those monkeys are hurling coconuts at us.

Sara and Bugbug: Please stop! We are friendly.

Monkey: Hold fire chaps. Who are you and where are you from?

Sara and Bugbug: We are explorers from the distant land of Småland.

[Monkey takes off his mask]

Monkey: Oh, all right then. We were afraid that you were like the last people who passed through our jungle. They chopped down all of our trees and dug up the jungle looking for something they called 'gold'. My name is Mongo and this is the Jungle of the Monkeys.

Sara: Hi, my name is Sara.

Bugbug: And I am Bugbug.

[Monkeys hold whispered conference among themselves high in the treetops]

Mongo: Me and my friends would like to throw a feast for you, monkey-style! In case you did not know, I am the king of the monkeys.

Sara and Bugbug: Thank you very much, your majesty.

Mongo: Since we are friends, you can call me Mongo. Come, we will show you the way to the secret Monkey Kingdom, dinner awaits...

Epilogue: Sara and Bugbug arrived at the secret kingdom five minutes later by following an ancient monkey path, of which Mongo proudly remarked that his ancestors had made it. When they arrived, all the monkeys treated them as one of their own. They were then served monkey delicacies such as coconut milk with a tinge of honey, banana broullee and other delicious monkey specialties. After this, they spent the night with the monkeys in their hammocks made of banana leaves, high in the trees. The next morning, Sara and Bugbug promised not to disclose the location of the secret Monkey Kingdom and were presented with a teleportation stone as a gift from the monkeys. Mongo explained to them that they had to rub the stone twice and then say wherever they wanted to go. After bidding farewell to the monkeys, Sara activated the teleportation stone and Sara and Bugbug found themselves in the cosy living room, [furnished with IKEA furniture, of course], of their quaint cottage. Sara and Bugbug never forgot their adventure in the Jungle of the Monkeys and still use the teleportation stone to this day to visit their tree-swinging friends.

Koh Shu En, 9 years old

Bugbug decided to play a trick on Sara and hid inside a huge pumpkin. What do you think happened?

Send your story with your name, Smålish passport number and contact details to sara@smales.com.my or **småles, No 2, Jalan PJU 7/2, Mutiara Damansara, 47800 Petaling Jaya, Selangor** by **31 July 2018**. 2 lucky winners will each win a **DJUNGELSKOG** cushion, monkey/blue.

Last issue's theme:

"AHH EEE AIII EEE AIII!!!" came a loud voice from the forest as Sara and Bugbug looked up to see something or someone swinging from the trees of the forest. What did they see?

Winners' Letter

On a warm sunny day, Sara and Bugbug was camping in the forest. Suddenly "AHH EEE AIII EE AIII!!!" came a loud noise from the forest as Sara and Bugbug looked up to see someone swinging from the trees of the forest.

Bugbug: (Curiously) What is that?

Sara: I do not know.

They went closer to it.

Sara: It is a monkey.

The monkey introduced himself to them.

Monkey: Hi! My name is Bouncy. It is such a pleasure to meet you.

Sara: My name is Sara and this Bugbug, my best buddy.

Bouncy: What are you doing here?

Sara: Oh, we are just camping. Would you like to join us for lunch as it is almost lunchtime?

Bugbug: Please join us.

Bouncy: Fine, I will join. I am hungry as well too.

They ate some sandwiches, muffins and bread.

Bouncy: (Eating the muffin) This is scrumptious! Did you made these all by yourself?

Sara: Yes, I did.

Bugbug: (Coughing) With some help.

Bouncy: (Laughing) What is your next plan?

Sara: I am not sure but let us finish this first.

They were finished eating. They packed all of the stuffs.

Sara: Should we play a game of 'Hide and Seek'?

Bugbug and Bouncy: That is a great idea!

They played and played and played until it was time to go back home.

Sara: Sorry Bouncy, but we have to go back home.

Bouncy: Then, I will miss you (sadly).

Bugbug: You can come to our house, which is just a few metres from here, or come with us.

Bouncy: Sorry but my mother will worry about me.

Sara and Bugbug: Okay, then see you soon. Bye.

They went back home. They were happy that they got a new friend. After that, Sara and Bugbug went to bed and slept.

That is the end of my story.

Kirthana Vinotha Rajoo, 11 years old

