# **Rainforest Calling**

### Chapter 1: It's No Big Deal

Sometimes, I think that Rodrigo loves himself way, way too much. "Rodrigo, nobody is impressed by your feathers – lots of birds around here have colourful feathers. The whole forest has already seen your bottom far too many times, OK?"

Take my word for it, my new one-eyed compadre, no potoo wants to see a macaw's booty shaking like that, especially after a breakfast feast of grubs and beetles. It's like watching a wonky rainbow wobbling in a storm, and makes my tummy roll like I've just flapped from the top of the tallest tree to the forest floor. But this potoo will keep his beak shut – those flashy macaws can be so sensitive.

It's just that this forest is full of many things that are so much



more beautiful than Rodrigo's feathers. Look at all these leaves and flower petals below us. Do you notice how they shine, and how the raindrops sparkle in the sunlight? Aren't they a delight?

What about the swirly swarms of butterflies under the canopy? They do make tasty

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snacks, but I like to admire the way they flutter and fly, too. Food that looks as good as it tastes – what can be better than that, huh? Just wait until you go beneath the leaves, one-eye. That's when you'll see those colourful creatures fluttering by, like tiny fragments of a broken rainbow. Every week, I see new colours and patterns.

I wonder what kind of creature you are: a strange new forest animal, perhaps, or a brand new kind of plant... I'm not sure. You're green like the bushes and trees but look at your skin: it's hard and tough like a caiman's tail, and smooth, too, just like a turtle's belly. I am one puzzled potoo because you don't have any legs or wings or even a beak, and I haven't seen you walk or crawl or fly yet. In fact, all you ever do is sit there on a tree like a lazy, sleeping sloth – just not nearly as pretty, huh?

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## Question

Read the extract carefully.

Using evidence from the text, give two examples to show that the author gives the impression that the jungle is a beautiful place. [3 marks]



#### Acceptable points:

AP1. Uses descriptive language to make the forest sound beautiful.
AP2. Uses powerful verbs to make the jungle sound beautiful.
AP3. Implies there are beautiful animals and plants in the jungle.
AP4. Implies the main character thinks the jungle is beautiful.
Award 3 marks for giving two acceptable points, at least one with evidence, e.g:

The author uses descriptive language to make the forest sound bright and colourful, such as how they say the tiny creatures are like tiny fragments of a broken rainbow. They also imply that the main character thinks it's beautiful because there are many more beautiful things than the bird. [AP1 + evidence and AP4 + evidence]

The author implies there are many beautiful animals and plants in the jungle by using powerful verbs to describe them, such as how the butterflies flutter. They also imply that the main character thinks the jungle is beautiful. [AP3, AP2 + evidence and AP4] **Award 2 marks for either two acceptable points or one with evidence, e.g:** 

The text implies that the jungle is beautiful because it uses powerful verbs like flutter and sparkle. [AP2 + evidence] The author implies that the jungle is beautiful by using descriptive language and powerful verbs. [AP1 and AP2]

### Award 1 mark for one acceptable point, e.g:

The main character thinks the jungle is beautiful. [AP4] There are beautiful animals and plants. [AP3]





