Chapter A from reland
A Kid's Guide to heland

**Curious Kids Press** 

## The Wildlife of COSTA RICA

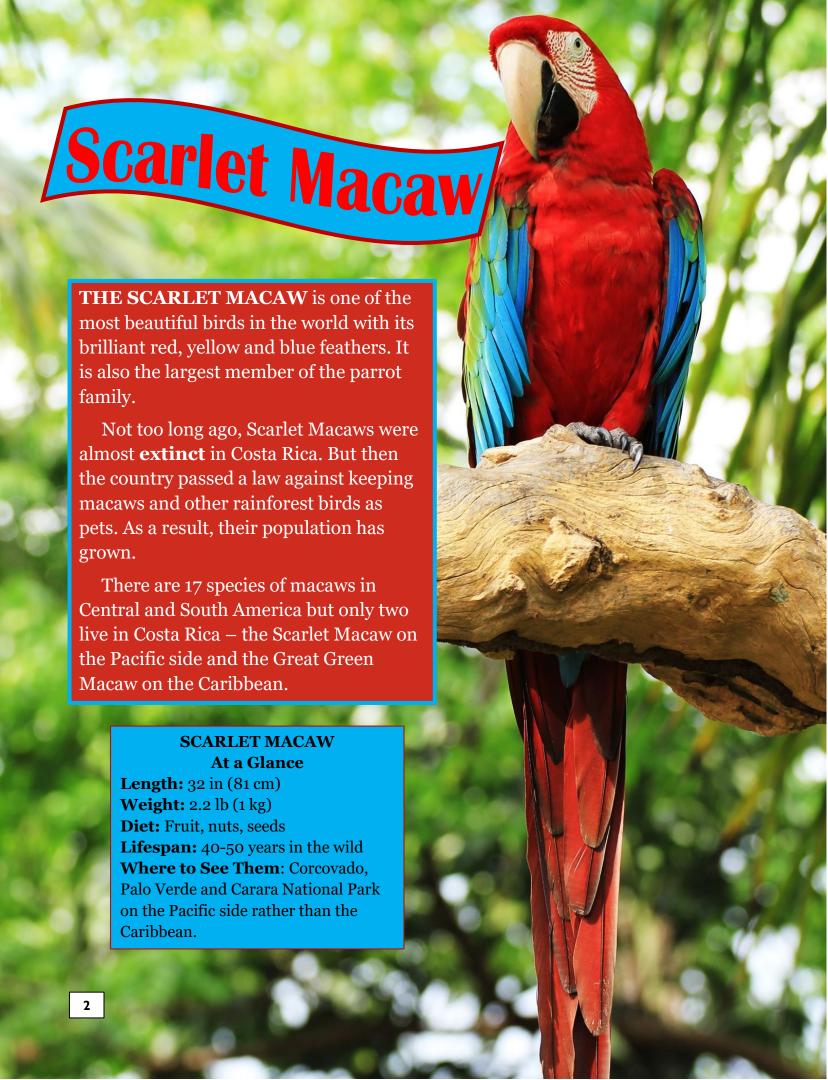


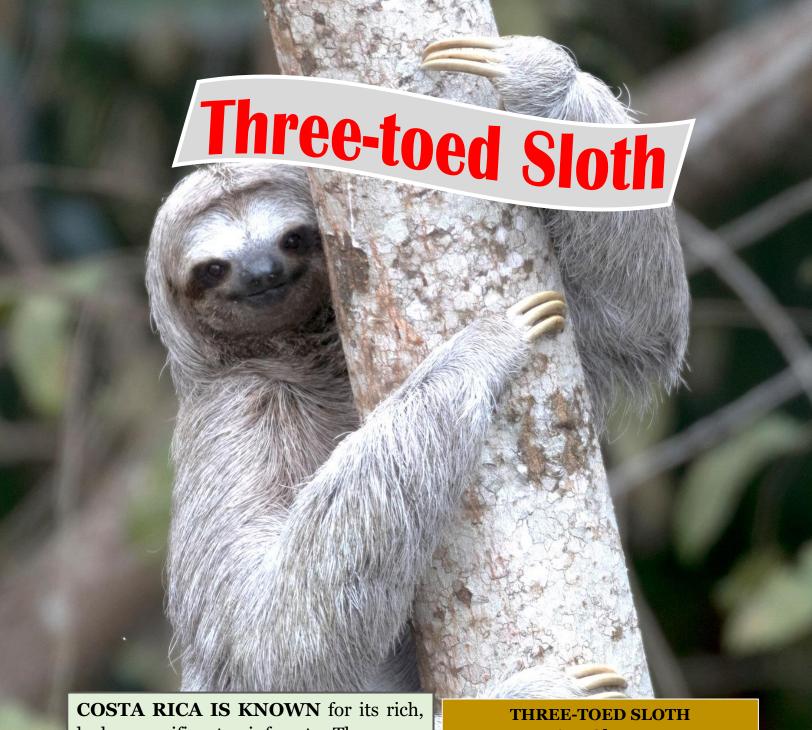
**NEXT TO THE MONKEYS**, the red-eyed tree frog is probably one of the most popular animals in Costa Rica.

They live in the trees of Costa Rica's rainforests, rarely, if ever, coming down to the ground. Tiny suction cups on the bottom of their webbed feet hold them onto leaves of the forest. They have long sticky tongues to catch crickets and other insects.

What's with the eyes? Actually, they are a means of self-defense. They keep their eyes shut most of the time. But when they sense danger, they open their eyes suddenly, scaring any would-be predator to death.

Who wouldn't love these adorable amphibians?





lush, magnificent rainforests. There, you are sure to see iguanas, hundreds of different birds, and, of course, monkeys, including three of the four species of monkeys that live in Costa Rica.

You will also see (if you're lucky) of the cutest animals in the world– the sloth.

There are actually six different species (or kinds) of sloths in the world. Only two live in Costa Rica-the two-toed sloth and the three-toed sloth. The two-toed sloth is

## At a Glance

**Length:**18 in (45 cm), plus a short tail of 2-3 in (6-7 cm).

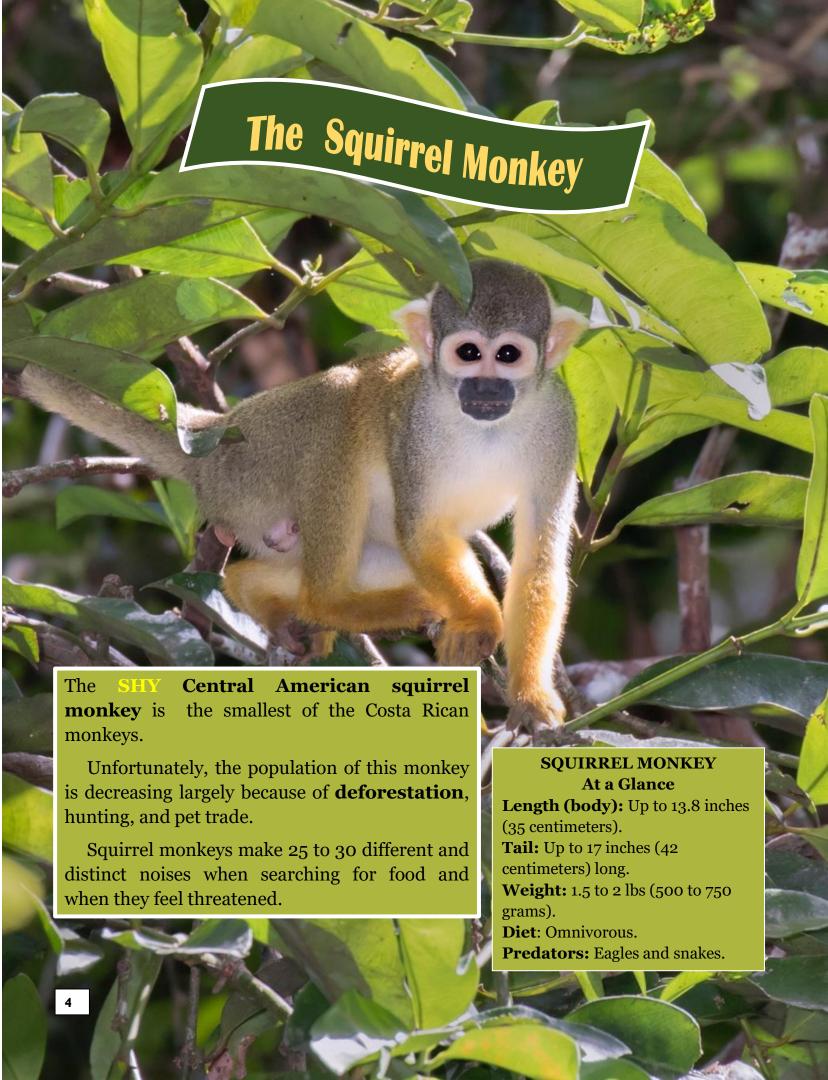
Weight: 8-10 lb (3.5-4.5 kg).

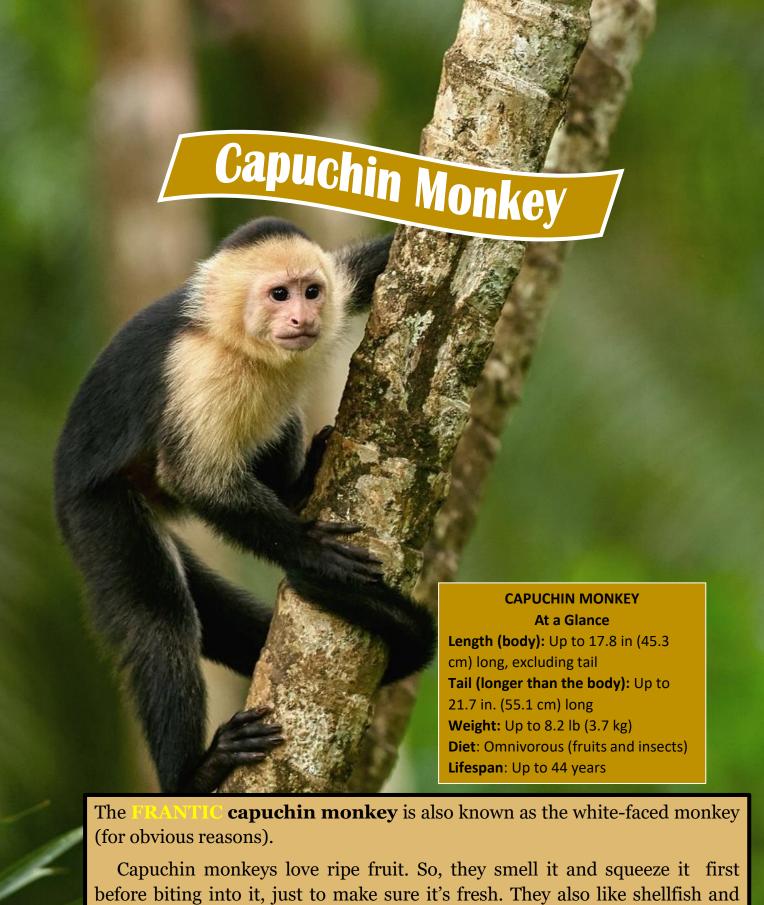
**Diet:** Leaves, branches, buds, insects.

**Lifespan**: Up to 12 years in the wild. **Interesting Fact**: It can take up to two

weeks for a sloth to digest a meal.

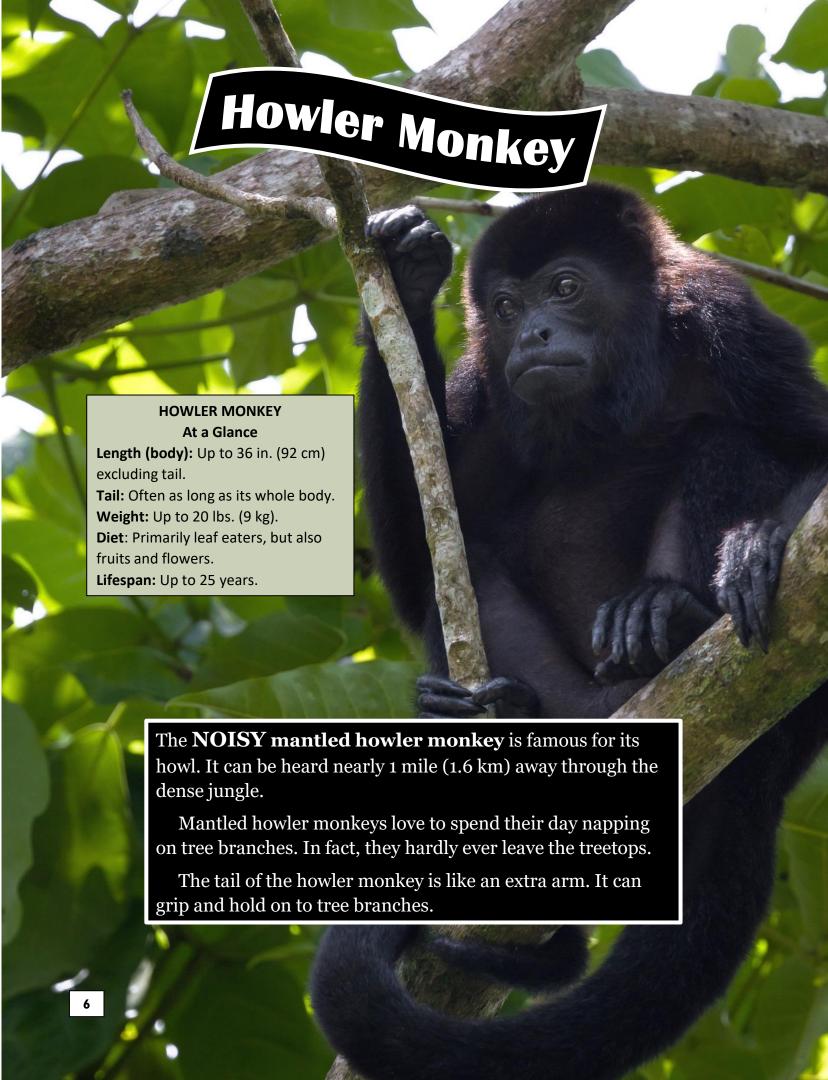
slightly bigger. It usually hangs upside down in a tree. The threetoed sloth usually sits upright in the fork of a tree branch.

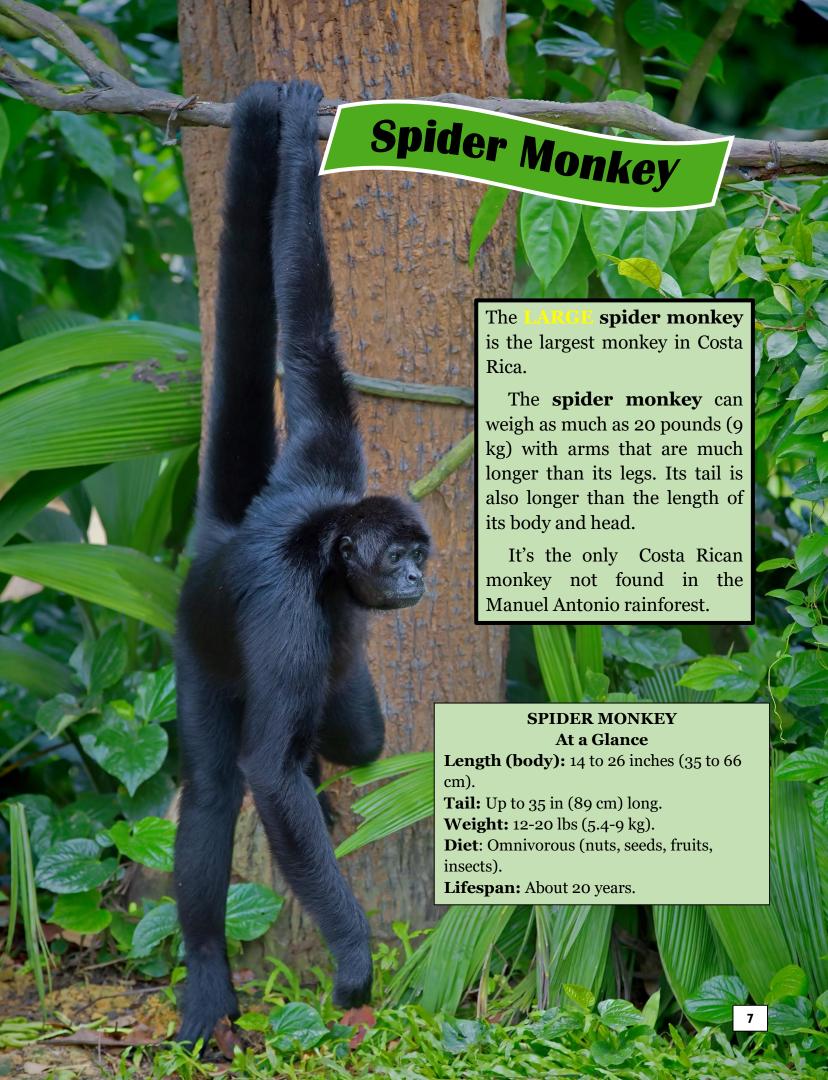




crack the shells of shellfish with stones. Like the spider monkey, they are very smart.

They have been known to beat snakes with sticks to defend themselves. They also have no fear of people. So watch out! They are likely to steal yo backpack if you leave it by itself on the beach.





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