## Baby Animals in the Rain Forest

by Melissa Burke<br>illustrated by Burgandy Beam

| Genre | Comprehension <br> Skills and Strategy | Text Features |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Expository <br> nonfiction - Main Idea |  |  |
|  | - Author's Purpose |  |
|  | - Important Ideas |  |
|  |  |  |

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Life Science

Vocabulary
observe
parent
wild

Word count: 294
(1) Rain forests are hot, wet, and green. They are filled with plants and wild animals. Many of those animals are babies. Come and observe them!

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(1) Insects buzz and hum. Insects fill the rain forest! Sometimes young insects look just like their parents. Some insects do not look like their parents. But then they grow. A butterfly begins life as a caterpillar. The caterpillar changes into a butterfly. That is a very big change!
(1) Tapirs have noses like little elephant trunks. Grown-ups and babies use them to sniff out and grab rain forest leaves and fruit to eat. Baby tapirs have stripes and spots. After six or eight months the stripes and spots disappear. Then the babies look like the grown-ups.
(1) Caterpillars feed on leaves.

(1) Spots and stripes help baby tapirs hide.

(1) A grown bird will feed these baby birds. The grown-up will eat nuts and then spit them up for the babies.
The babies do not look much like their parents. But they will. When they do, it will be time to fly!
(1) Grown-up parrots have colorful feathers.

(1) Here are some twins. These little monkeys usually come two at a time. Older monkeys watch the younger ones. They give them rides on their backs in the trees. They feed them and play with them. They teach them. Do these babies look like their parents?
(1) Monkeys called marmosets live in treetops.

(1) Who is hanging on that grown-up? It is a sloth. Sloth babies look like their parents. Sloths spend most of the time hanging in trees. The baby hugs the mom's belly. Away they go! But they don't go quickly. Sloths are very slow.
(1) Some young animals look like their parents. Some do not. But all baby animals grow and change. Some will look more like their parents as they grow. Do you know about any other rain forest babies? Do those babies look like their parents?
(1) Sloths are hard to spot in trees.


## 保 <br> Now Try This

## Make a Rain Forest Baby Book

Show how rain forest baby animals change and grow.


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1. What is page 8 all about?
2. What important ideas did you learn about baby animals in the rain forest? How did that help you as you read?
3. What does it mean to call an animal wild?
4. Look at page 4. On your own paper, write or draw to tell about the living things you see in the picture.

