



South American Tapirs



by Rachel Lynette

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Meet a tapir calf

In a grassy area by a lake, a mother tapir and her **calf** rest.

It is the middle of the day, but they are sleepy.



The mother and calf were awake
all night searching for food.



**mother
tapir**

calf

What is a tapir?

A tapir is a **mammal** with a long, bendable nose, or snout.

Adult tapirs are very large—they can weigh up to 700 pounds (318 kg).

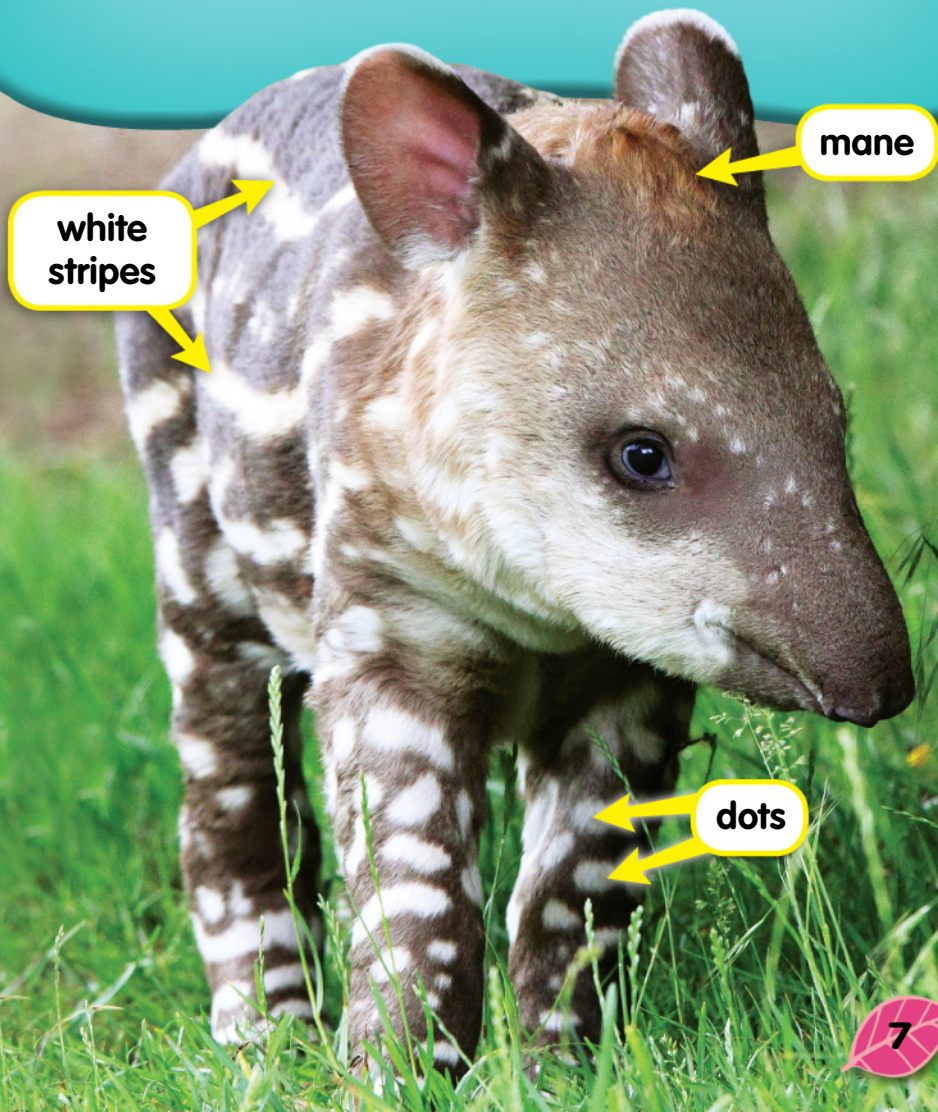
They have brown or red fur and a short **mane** on their heads and necks.

Tapir calves have white stripes and dots on their fur when they are born.

Adult South American
tapir size



Although they do have a mane like their parents, it's much shorter.



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Read more

Franklin, Carolyn. *Rain Forest Animals (World of Wonder)*. New York: Scholastic (2008).

Kalman, Bobbie. *Baby Animals in Rain Forest Habitats (Habitats of Baby Animals)*. New York: Crabtree Publishing (2012).

Learn more online

To learn more about South American tapirs, visit
www.bearportpublishing.com/JungleBabies

About the author

Rachel Lynette has written more than 100 nonfiction books for children. She also creates resources for teachers. Rachel lives near Seattle, Washington. She enjoys biking, hiking, crocheting hats, and spending time with her family and friends.

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South American Tapirs

A South American tapir is usually born in a hidden spot near a river or lake. After just one week, the calf and its mother go out at night to search for food. They use their long, bendable snouts to sniff out their favorite plants. Look inside to discover more about how tapir babies grow up.

Capybaras
Giant River Otters
Jaguars
Kinkajous

Pink River Dolphins
South American Tapirs
Squirrel Monkeys
Three-Toed Sloths

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