



Amazon Rainforest Adopt-A-School Conservation Expedition

Preserving the rainforest one child at a time.

Most people will only dream of traveling to the rainforests of South America. For some, they will know the sound of tropical rain as it falls upon the Amazon. They will feel the forest floor under their feet and breathe in the rich air of the jungle. They will share smiles and laughter with children they met for a moment but remember for a lifetime.



As a member of a small group of volunteers, you will discover the rainforest's vast diversity of wildlife and work with the children of rural communities. Each day will bring a unique experience as you travel the river in search of dolphins, journey by foot to visit the local shaman, visit the medical clinic or library, or just relax in the hammock rooms.



The Detroit Zoological Society supports several global conservation efforts, including this conservation expedition to Peru. This expedition is for anyone with a passion for the rainforest and a desire to have a hand in its protection. Our participants have diverse backgrounds and come from around the world. The minimum age to participate is 13 and volunteers under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

The two trips we offer to the Amazon are both 10 days in length. The first trip focuses on delivering school supplies to many of the rural communities along the Amazon and Napo Rivers. Participants will travel the river by boat and visit several schools each day, participating in the celebration and excitement of receiving a year's supply of materials. A variety of options will be available to participants to discover the rainforest and culture.

On the second trip, volunteers will finish up the last few school supply deliveries along the river, then travel by boat to a community where they will spend three to four days working alongside the community members on a conservation project. In the past, projects have included painting buildings and schools, reforestation, and constructing water purification towers. This trip allows participants to get a good feel for life in the rural Amazon rainforest and to build relationships with the children and families of the community. As in the first trip, there will be a variety of options to discover the rainforest.



To participate in either trip, there is an expedition fee of \$1,250 (US). This money is used to support the conservation efforts in the Amazon.

The **2011** trip dates are:

Trip I: April 2-11, 2011

Trip II: April 9-18, 2011

Please plan for a full day of travel to and from Peru in addition to the above date listings.

For more information about trip logistics and costs, please continue reading or contact:

Claire Lannoye
Curator of Education
clannoye@dzs.org
248-541-5717 ext. 3803



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Things to consider:

The trip is physically challenging. You need to be able to walk several miles at a time, be able to climb uneven steps, get on and off boats without traditional docks, cross grass and mud-covered areas, cross non-traditional log bridges, and climb moderately sized hills. You need to be in good health. The locations are in the Amazon jungle, away from modern medical facilities, medicines and treatments.

Lodging:

We will be staying with Explorama Lodges (www.explorama.com). The lodging will range from rustic style-open air, no electricity, no indoor plumbing, only cold water, to some modern conveniences including air conditioned rooms with hot showers. Wireless internet access and limited electrical outlets for charging items are typically available in the dining areas.



Expenses:

The \$1,250 expedition fee covers your transportation to and from the Iquitos airport to the Explorama Lodges office, all transportation on the river, your lodging and meals during the trip dates, and any other program-related costs during the trip dates.

You are responsible for:

Airfare to and from your home to Iquitos, Peru, roughly \$1,000 round-trip.

Any pre and post-trip lodging and expenses.

Souvenirs

Preventative medicine; not required, but suggested (see www.cdc.gov for current recommendations).

Passport

Travel taxes/Tariffs

Baggage fees



New for 2011:

We are asking each participant to reserve space in their suitcases for trip-related items that need to be brought from the U.S. Plan on reserving one entire small suitcase for items we will distribute at a pre-trip meeting in the winter or mail to individuals who are unable to attend the meeting.

Payment Schedule—UPDATED:

We are requiring a \$500 **non-refundable deposit** to be submitted with your reservation form to hold a spot on the 2011 expedition. The remaining balance (\$750) needs to be paid in full by **90 days** prior to departure, January 2 or January 11, 2011. Without this payment in full, your spot will no longer be held and may be offered to participants on a waiting list.

For current trip availability and a reservation form, please contact:

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