

# Animals of South America for Kids



By Rachel Bubb

Earlier this year I was reading a book to my kids out loud that I wrote earlier: *Animals of North America for Kids*. My daughter especially loved the story- how a girl had to do a report for school and she loved the part of trying to guess which animal it was. I thought I'd do something similar for South American animals. I hope it can be a great introduction to some of the unique animals of South America for you and your family.





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Hola! My name is Pedro and I live in Ecuador. Perhaps you've heard of my country before. I speak Spanish and English but the main language of Ecuador is Spanish. Even if you don't know Spanish, you can probably guess what (and where) the name of my country means in English: Ecuador, the Equator. I love my country and love the animals that live here.

I have to write a report about an animal that lives in South America so I'm looking through some of the more famous and interesting animals that live here. Along the way I'll drop hints about which animal I'll choose to do my report on. See if you can follow the hints and guess which animal I'll do in the end. My report is at the back of the book. If you have time, you can do something like it too- write about your favorite animal from South America. I drew a picture of myself in case if you want to see how I look like.





## Chapter 1: Fast Birds

The first animals I thought about doing for my report was the hummingbirds. There are many, many different kinds of hummingbirds all over South America. I've seen them many times before. I love their bright colors. When I was working on writing this report I found a whole book just about hummingbirds.

There's one hummingbird that I thought was super cool: the booted racket-tail hummingbird. I've never seen one in person before but they look super cool. They have a long tail that looks like two rackets. By their feet their fluffy feathers are white. You can hardly see their legs because of them. In the book I found another hummingbird that has a really long beak. I never thought there could be so many different kinds of hummingbirds!

I really enjoyed seeing all the pictures of the hummingbird nests. Some are built on the trunks of palm trees while others are built on branches of trees. They are so tiny and creative with what they use to build their nests (and where their nests are!). I think a hummingbird nest could fit inside a coffee mug- at least from the pictures. Since hummingbirds are so tiny, their nests and eggs are also really small. I imagine they must be really cute as baby birds.



