



LET'S GO TO THE JUNGLE!

Learning Objective:

To locate mangroves and describe their features and weather.



This is a special type of jungle called a **mangrove forest**.



What can you see? How would you describe this mangrove to someone else?



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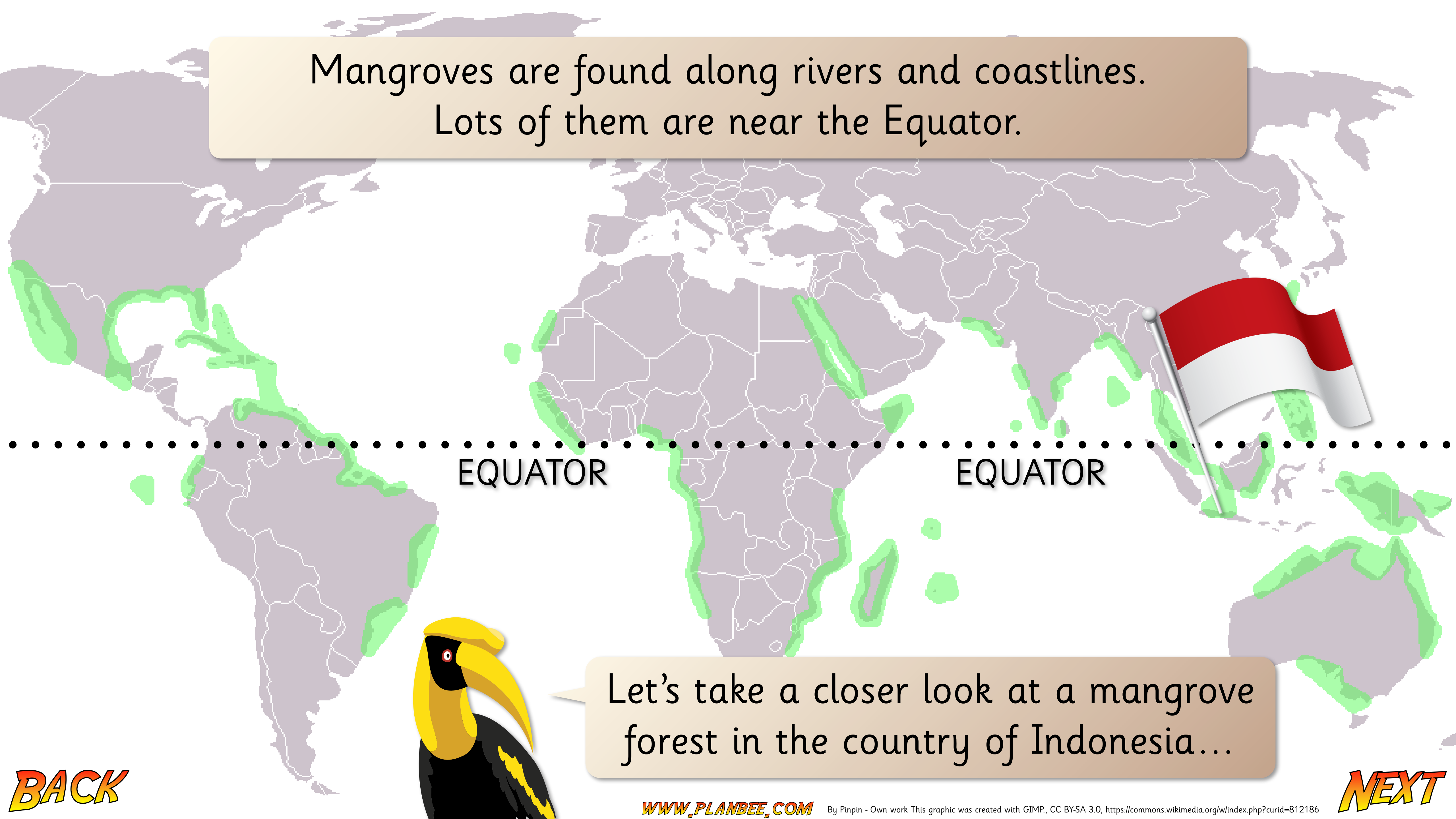
This map shows where in the world mangroves are found.
What do you notice?



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Mangroves are found along rivers and coastlines.
Lots of them are near the Equator.



EQUATOR

EQUATOR

Let's take a closer look at a mangrove forest in the country of Indonesia...



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Mangrove forests in Indonesia grow along the coastlines. The mangrove trees grow above and below the surface of the seawater! They stand on tall, tangled roots which grow up from the seabed.

Other water plants grow on the roots. Coral grows around them, too. Tropical fish swim around this dense, tangled underwater jungle.





Lots of young fish, jellyfish and sharks live in the mangroves. It's safer there than out in the open sea.



Why do you think the mangrove is safer than the open sea for young sea creatures?



Above the water, colourful crabs, beetles and venomous snakes climb and slither through the branches of the mangrove trees.



The mangrove forest is constantly changing, day and night. Some areas are only underwater some of time. Why do you think this is?

These mangroves in Indonesia are tidal. Twice a day, the tide goes out. The mangrove trees are left standing above the mud on their tall roots. When the tide comes in, it brings more sand and mud back into the forest.



In the branches of the mangrove's trees



These strange looking proboscis monkeys swing through the branches, and flying foxes (a species of bat) roost in the treetops.

How do you think
people might move through
the mangroves?

Is it even possible to travel
through them?





Moving through mangroves is tricky! Some people wade through the sticky mud at low tide. At high tide, small canoes can be used. Some areas have wooden walkways, so visitors can explore the jungle.



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Explain something interesting you've learned about mangroves. You could use these words to help you.



canopy

treetop

seabed

branches

roots

tide

Equator

seawater

coastline