TROPICAL FOREST

Around half of all animal species on Earth live in tropical forests, and all of those are threatened by climate change. If the Amazon rainforest is affected, as many scientists believe it could be, thousands of animals like those pictured here would be in big trouble.

Silvery marmoset

Hyacinth macaws

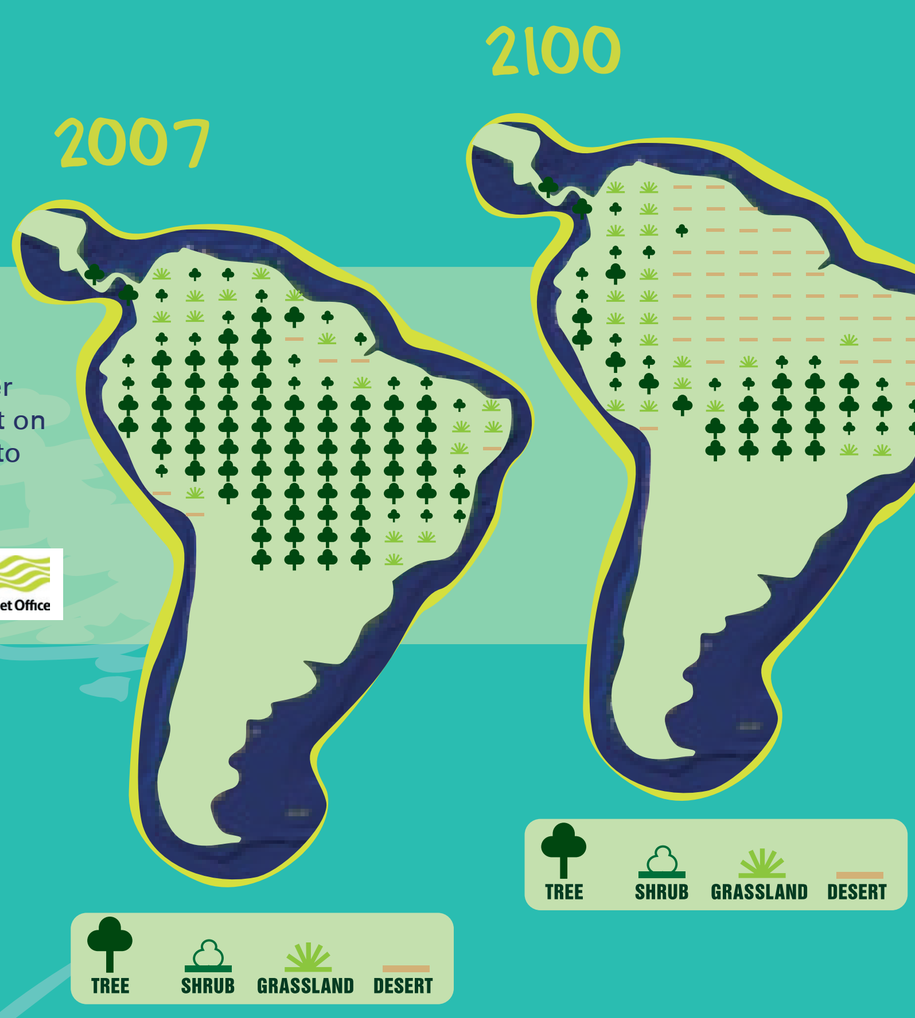
Howler monkey

The world's largest forest, the Amazon rainforest, relies on its rain. The climate model below shows that because of the forest's dependence on the delicate but massive river system, a change in rainfall could quickly begin turning the forest to desert. Even where the rainforest does not disappear completely, many species will face hard times as water, food and space become scarce. There is still time to stop this happening; reducing world-wide carbon dioxide emissions is the first step.

PREDICTION

This model has predicted that climate change may lead to a change in weather patterns, which will have a drying effect on large areas of the Amazon, exposing it to drought and forest fires.

Source: UK Met Office Hadley Centre



BIAZA
BRITISH & IRISH ASSOCIATION OF ZOOS & AQUARIUMS

ZSL
LIVING CONSERVATION

Find out more at zsl.org/climatechange