



In Search of the Blue Morpho

READER'S THEATER

Presented by Louisa Higgins & Karen Riley

It was the wet season (DRIP, DRIP, DRIP). Fledgling eco-explorers Edith and Eduardo could feel the new hiking boots that their mom had just bought getting wetter and wetter (ICK!). Edith's boots were purple, while Eduardo's boots were green, just like the colors they saw in the trees and on the ground. They sloshed through the forest and squished through the mud as the rain continued to fall (DRIP, DRIP, DRIP). They were not discouraged though, because they were on a quest to find the most magnificent butterfly of the Amazon, the Blue Morpho (BEAUTIFULLY BLUE!). One of the giant butterflies in the world, the Blue Morpho (BEAUTIFULLY BLUE!), was known to have a wing span of up to eight inches long. But Edith and Eduardo had to be extra careful as they searched, because the Blue Morpho (BEAUTIFULLY BLUE!) spent most of its life on the forest floor. They walked for hours, and every time they saw a flit of blue no bigger than a kid-sized shoe, something would happen. (WHAT HAPPENED?) When they got close to a butterfly, a Howler Monkey would howl like a dog (AWOOOOO), or a scarlet macaw would screech (CAW RACK ACK), or the tiny Poison Dart Frog would hop out in front (HIPPIITY HOPPITY HOP). All these animals wanted to protect the Blue Morpho (BEAUTIFULLY BLUE!) because these butterflies were essential to the rainforest, and few were left. ALL the animals needed to be protected. Before Edith and Eduardo could go any farther, a three-toed sloth named Tina slowly (LIKE SYRUP) made her way down a tree and explained that all the animals needed to stay in the rainforest for the rainforest to thrive. These animals were not trophies or pets. "Of course!" Edith said. Eduardo agreed, too (DUH!!). "We just want to take a photo that we can share with our class," Eduardo explained. The eco-explorers wanted to help. Tina nodded, then smiled and slowly (LIKE SYRUP) pointed toward the biggest, most vibrantly colored Blue Morpho (BEAUTIFULLY BLUE!). She whistled (WHISTLE) to the other animals, letting them know that Edith and Eduardo were rainforest friends. Edith pulled out her phone and took a fantastic photo of the Blue Morpho (BEAUTIFULLY BLUE!) to share with the world. And the rain continued (DRIP, DRIP, DRIP). THE END

