

ISABELA NARDI

ADVENTURES IN PINDORAMA

EXTRA: MEET THE CHARACTERS



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Hi, my name is Isabela!



The author of “Adventures in Pindorama”.

After I published Adventures in Pindorama (which, if you haven't read it, you must read because it's super cool), many people, especially foreigners and parents of young children, missed having content that explained the characters that appear in the book.

Who is Saci? Who is Iara? What is an Arara?

Well, your problems are over. In this booklet, you will learn really cool information about the origins of the characters that appear in my book. I hope you enjoy it! And read the book - it's available in Portuguese, English, and Spanish, in text, audio, and video.

Happy reading!

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Canary

The Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*), or Canary is native to South America, found in Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, and other South American countries.

This finch is very well-known in Brazil: it is found in more than 20 Brazilian states.

Despite its beautiful melodious song, the Saffron Finch can also be territorial and combative.

In Adventures in Pindorama, the Saffron Finch is represented by Canary, one of the guards who watches over the entrance to Pindorama.



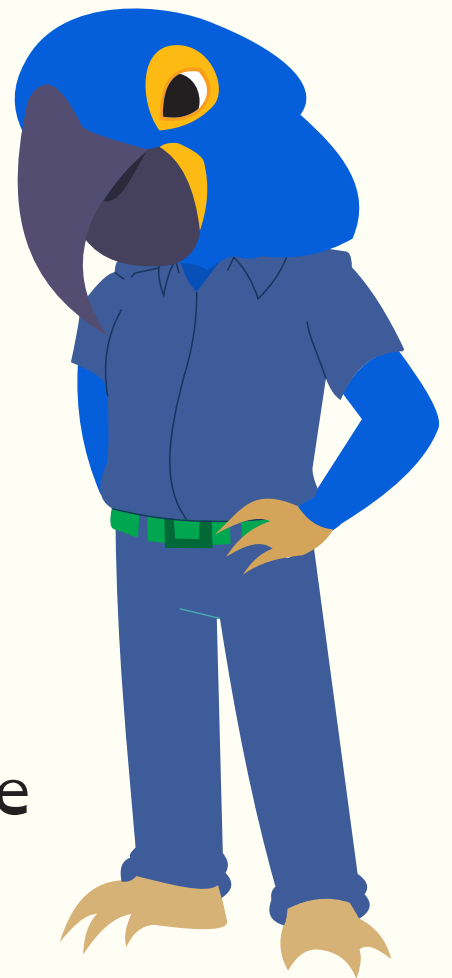
Macaw

The Hyacinth Macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthinus*) is found mainly in Brazil.

It is considered gigantic compared to other macaws and is regarded as the largest representative of its family in the world.

Unfortunately, the Hyacinth Macaw is endangered. In Brazil, there are conservation initiatives to prevent its extinction.

In Adventures in Pindorama, the Hyacinth Macaw is represented by Macaw, one of the guards who watches over the entrance to Pindorama.



Curupira

The Curupira is the guardian of the forests.

He is a boy with hair as red as fire, bright green eyes, and tanned skin.

What stands out most about the Curupira are his feet, which are turned backwards! His feet point backward to confuse anyone trying to follow him in the forest.

He protects the animals and trees, and loves playing tricks on those who don't respect nature.

In Adventures in Pindorama, the Curupira is a friend of Saci and helps the girl find the mermaid Iara!



Saci

The Saci is a black boy with only one leg, and he wears a red cap that gives him magical powers.

He likes to play small pranks on animals and people, such as putting salt in coffee, braiding horse manes, and other tricks.

When he finds someone walking alone at night, he likes to scare them with whistles that no one knows where they come from.



In Adventures in Pindorama, Saci is a friend of Curupira and helps the girl find the mermaid Iara.

He knew where the mermaid was but would only tell the girl if she could answer a challenge.

lara

The mermaid lara was once a beautiful indigenous girl who drowned in a river and was saved by the Moon, which transformed her into a mermaid.

After being transformed into a mermaid, lara became the protector of Brazilian rivers.

In addition to transforming her into a mermaid, the Moon also granted lara a magical power: her hypnotic song.

lara uses her hypnotic song on evil men who sail through her waters, causing them to drown.

In Adventures in Pindorama, lara helps the girl return home.



The Frog

This little frog that appears in Adventures in Pindorama is based on two Brazilian nursery rhymes:

"The frog doesn't wash his foot
He doesn't wash it because he doesn't
want to
He lives there in the lagoon
And doesn't wash his foot
But what a stinky foot!"

"Cururu frog
At the river's edge
When the frog sings,
oh sister
It's because he's cold

The frog's wife
Must be inside
Making lace,
oh sister
For the wedding"



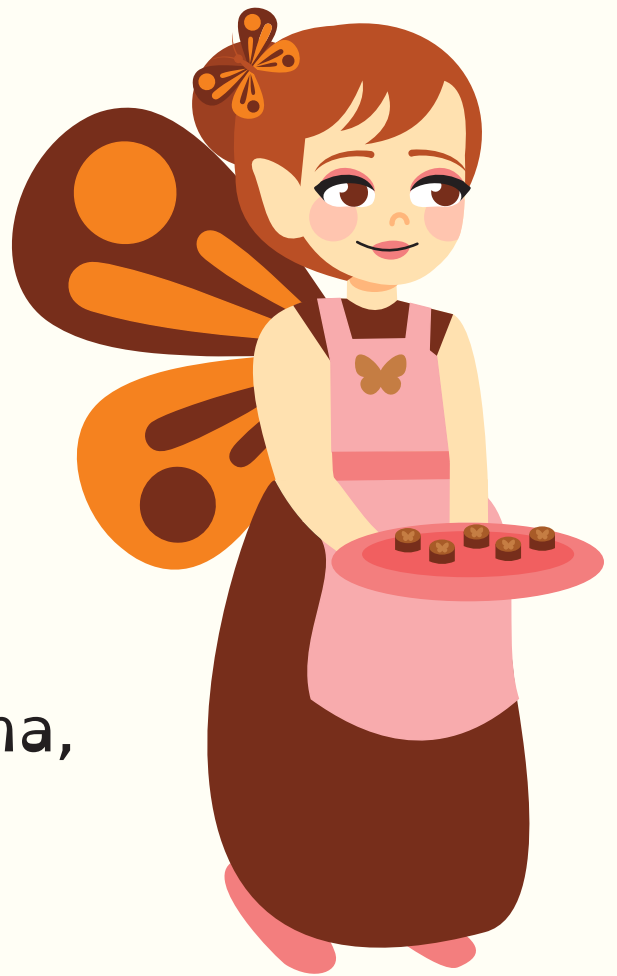
Chocofly

Chocofly is based on a Brazilian nursery rhyme:

"The little butterfly is in the kitchen
Making chocolate
for her godmother
Poti-poti

Wooden leg
Glass eye
And woodpecker's nose
Tap-tap"

In Adventures in Pindorama,
the girl saves Chocofly
from the evil Cuca.



Cuca

The Cuca is an evil witch who resembles an alligator.

Every thousand years, the Cuca lays an egg, from which the new Cuca is born. As soon as the new Cuca grows up, the old one transforms into a bird with a sad song, and the new Cuca takes its place.

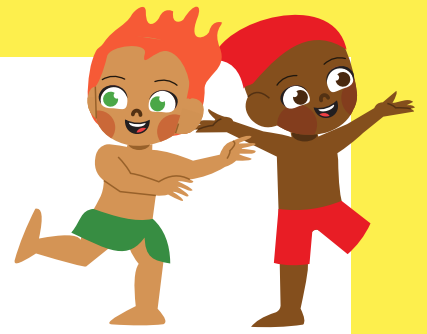
She also appears in this Brazilian lullaby:

"Sleep, baby
Or the Cuca will come
to get you
Daddy went to the farm
Mommy went to work"

In Adventures in Pindorama, the evil Cuca kidnaps Chocofly.



Read Adventures in Pindorama!



This booklet is a bonus material for the book **Adventures in Pindorama: Learning and Playing with Brazilian Folklore and Logical Reasoning**

by Isabela Nardi. Learn more about the author's work on her Instagram: [@isabelanardi.art](https://www.instagram.com/isabelanardi.art), or send her an email: nardisabela@gmail.com

