

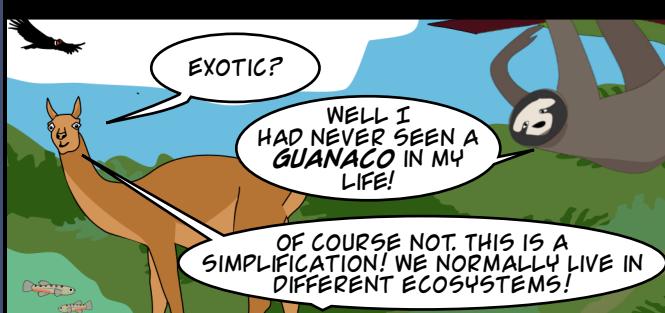
Looking for questions in the right places

a comic inspired by the talk by Miguel L. Allende

SOUTH AMERICA. A CONTINENT OF LANDS WITH BLUE SKIES, BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPES, DIFFERENT ECOSYSTEMS.

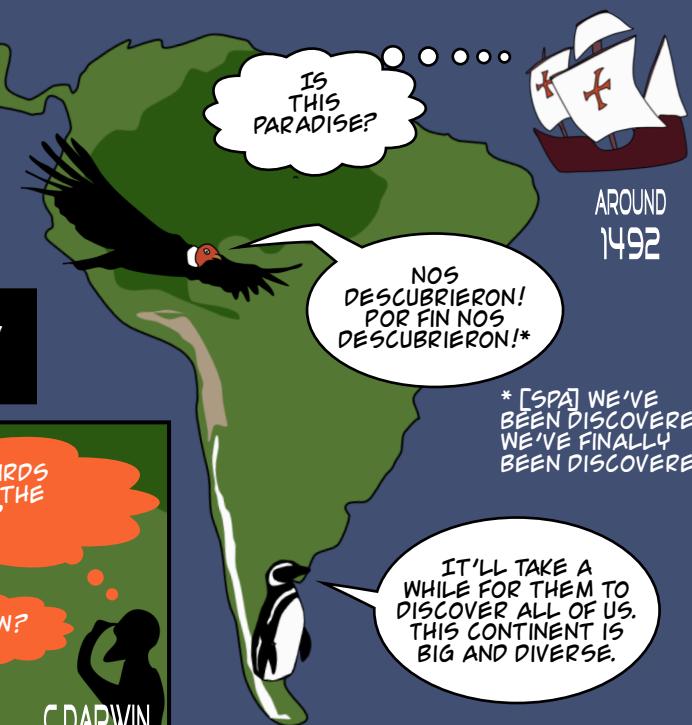


LANDS FILLED WITH EXOTIC ANIMALS.



EVERYTHING SEEMED VERY EXOTIC FOR THOSE THAT CAME FROM EUROPE AND "DISCOVERED" IT NOT SO LONG AGO.

EXPLORERS CAME TO THESE LANDS LOOKING FOR ADVENTURE, GOLD AND RICHNESS, BUT THEY WERE SOON FOLLOWED BY SCIENTISTS. AND THEY STARTED HAVING QUESTIONS.



HUNDREDS OF YEARS LATER, THERE ARE STILL SPECIES FASCINATING SCIENTISTS. LIKE THESE 2 FISH WHICH SEEM TO BE LIVING IN ALL THE WRONG PLACES.

FISH 1: ORESTIAS ASCOTANESIS



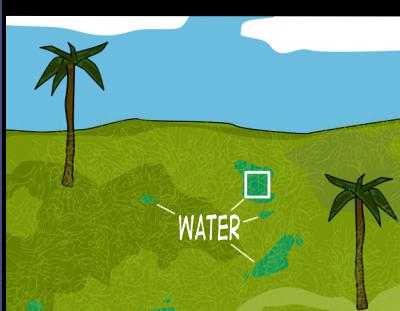
FISH 2: ASTROLEBIAS CHARUA



WE KNOW SOME THINGS ABOUT THE WHY: THAT LAND WAS NOT ALWAYS SO DRY; BUT LESS SO ABOUT THE HOW. SO LET'S FOCUS ON HIS URUGUAYAN COUSIN.

LIVING IN THE DESERT AS A FISH MIGHT SEEM ADVENTUROUS, BUT EQUALLY MYSTERIOUS IS THE HOME OF OUR SECOND FISH.

JULY: WINTER: LOTS OF RAIN & SHALLOW PONDS.



10-30 CM WATER



JANUARY: SUMMER: NO RAIN: DRY SEASON.



NO WATER?

NO FISH?

NO WATER. NO FISH. BUT FACT IS: THESE FISH STILL EXIST AND EVERY YEAR NEW ONES ARE FOUND THERE

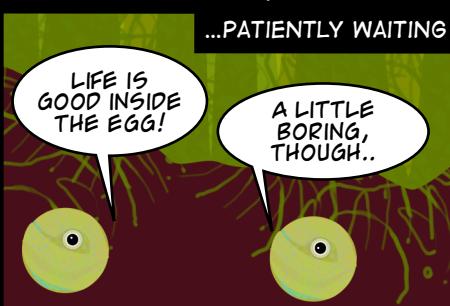
HOW DOES THAT WORK?

FISH CAN'T LEAVE WITHOUT WATER..



AND INSIDE THE EGGS, THERE ARE LITTLE FISH EMBRYOS IN THE MAKING...

...PATIENTLY WAITING FOR THE WATER TO COME BACK AND HATCH!



THEY HAVE A TRICK! THEY CAN PAUSE THEIR DEVELOPMENT. IT'S A PHENOMENON CALLED DIAPAUSE.

DIAPAUSE I

(DEVELOPMENT CAN STOP HERE)



SEEMS SAFE TO STOP HERE.

DIAPAUSE II

(DEVELOPMENT CAN STOP HERE)



— DEVELOPMENTAL TIME —

DIAPAUSE III

(DEVELOPMENT HAS TO STOP HERE)



AFTER THIS ONE, I CAN HATCH!

THEY ARE CONSTANTLY SCANNING THEIR ENVIRONMENT AND MAKING TINY DECISIONS.

IS IT COLD OR IS IT HOT?

IS THERE LIGHT OR IS IT STILL DARK?

ARE ADULT FISH AROUND?

I HAVE TO WAIT UNTIL THE CLEAR WATERS COME AGAIN TO HATCH.

HOW DO THEY SENSE ALL OF THIS?

WOW! CAN OTHER SPECIES DO THIS AS WELL?

SOUTH AMERICA. A GOOD PLACE TO LOOK FOR QUESTIONS.

AND TO TRY TO ANSWER THEM!!

THE ANSWER WILL BE IN MY GENES! I HAVE A HUGE GENOME!

BUT WHAT IS THE IMPORTANT PART?

EXACTLY. JUST KEEP ASKING!

THE END.

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