

# Hello from the Mammal Team - January 1st, 2017

The Forman School 2016-2017 Mammal Team Rainforest project is to gain awareness in Central America, especially in the Costa Rican rainforest. The team of Mee Mee Filan '17 and Charuprabha Gaur '17 will collect field data of endangered species to understand the relationship the rainforest has with its animals. The Costa Rica rainforest creates the perfect environment for all types of species, starts the repeating path and cycle of life.

The adaptation of survival of the rainforests exotic species is mainly due to the environmental forces. The main focus of the team this year is to focus on the mammals that live in the decreasing habitat due to global warming, which is pushing species further north due to temperature changes. Going back to the same location year after year to study the same species, forming patterns of speciation within species. When a species environment changes they revolve around it, so the species changes the reproduction of organisms which then gets passed on to next generations, leading to speciation. Comparing the species that have been collected in the same locations would make comparing and finding any mutations or adaptations of species to the area. Coevolution of selective pressure will be strongest when there is a close ecological relationship of evolving in response to the other selective environment that is constantly changing.

Research population inventory to see what's in a specific area. Track ideally the Baird's Tapir, Common Grey Four Eyed Opossum, Watson Tree Rat, Vesper Rat, Dusky Rice Rats, Coatimundi, and the Vested Anteater that were also trapped by the mammals team last year. To track and trap the mammals of the rainforest, all method varies within the different branches of the animal with different types of equipment.

Researching tracks helps identify what types of species live in a certain area. Finding how much movement a certain species does each day makes patterns of their movements and reaction to the changing environments. Knowing where each animal travels in the rainforest can show the mass patterns of mammals in the rainforest. If you're interested in the work we are doing, follow us along while we get prepared for our January journey into the Costa Rican Rainforest!

---

## Mammals Team: Methods and Equipment List - February 27th, 2017

Please [click here](#) for the Methods and Equipment List.