

# THE RIVER

## ADVENTURE

&  
OF KAI KAI JIA JIA



WRITTEN BY EMILY LIM  
ILLUSTRATED BY SCRAWL STUDIOS

River  
Safari

## About Kai Kai, Jia Jia and their neighbours

About 6,000 animals including the manatees, giant river otters and giant freshwater stingrays live in River Safari with Kai Kai and Jia Jia, the Giant Pandas.

We hope that you will learn more about the animals in River Safari and help to protect their wild cousins in their fast-disappearing homes around the world.

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## ADVENTURE

OF KAI KAI & JIA JIA



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"Our new neighbours have just moved in," Kai Kai said.



"Let's go welcome them!" Jia Jia said.



They rowed their boat down the Amazon River.



"No one seems to be home," Kai Kai said.



Someone appeared from underwater.  
"Welcome! Who are you?"



"We're the Giant Pandas from Yangtze River," Jia Jia said.  
"And you are..."



"I'm Eva, the Manatee. Some know me as 'sea cow' but my closest relatives are the elephants."



"We are part of the bear family," Kai Kai said.  
"And we don't swim."



"We eat bamboo most of the time," Jia Jia added.  
"Would you like to have some?"



"Thank you," Eva said. "I usually eat water plants but I shall try a bit."



“We are going to say `hello’ to a few more neighbours,”  
Kai Kai said. “Would you like to join us?”



"Yes!" said Eva. She followed Kai Kai and Jia Jia's boat happily.



Further down the Amazon River, they heard singing:



*"Under the river, flooded over  
In wet season, our home goes under  
So we move to higher ground  
Our new home till the waters go down"*



"Welcome, neighbours!" Jia Jia said, "Can we help?"



"Our home is flooded," Carlos, the Giant River Otter, said.  
"I can't swim yet!" Baby Otter said.



Eva pushed Baby Otter onto dry ground.  
Jia Jia dried him with her blanket.



And Kai Kai poured hot Chinese tea for everyone.



"Thank you for your warm welcome!" Carlos said.



"Come visit us at Giant Panda Forest soon!" Kai Kai and Jia Jia said.



Jia Jia became very quiet on the way home.  
"Are you okay?" Kai Kai asked.



"I don't feel well," Jia Jia said.

"Let's go to the doctor on the way back," Kai Kai said.



Then, Jia Jia saw an unusual sight.  
“Is that a UFO?” she whispered.



Kai Kai laughed. "It's just part of the Mekong River boat pier. Let's rest here for a while."



Kai Kai tied their boat at the pier and Jia Jia climbed out.



“Do you mind?” a voice boomed.  
“Who’s that?” Jia Jia said.



"Di, the Giant Freshwater Stingray," a voice replied.  
"You are standing on me."  
Jia Jia blushed. "I'm so sorry!"



"That's okay," Di said. "No one expects a fish out of water, especially one like me! I usually bury myself in the river bottom."



"We are just on our way to the doctor as Jia Jia is not feeling well," Kai Kai said.

"Let me pull your boat there," Di said.



At the clinic, Dr. Serena examined Jia Jia carefully.  
Finally, she grinned.  
“Why are you smiling?” Kai Kai asked.



"Congratulations! You are going to have a baby!"  
Dr. Serena said.



Kai Kai and Jia Jia cheered. "We can't wait to welcome Baby Panda into our family!"







## About Manatees, Stingrays and Otters

Manatees may appear clumsy but they are very graceful swimmers. There used to be many manatees but their numbers have decreased because of hunting, accidents caused by boat propellers and drowning in fishing nets.

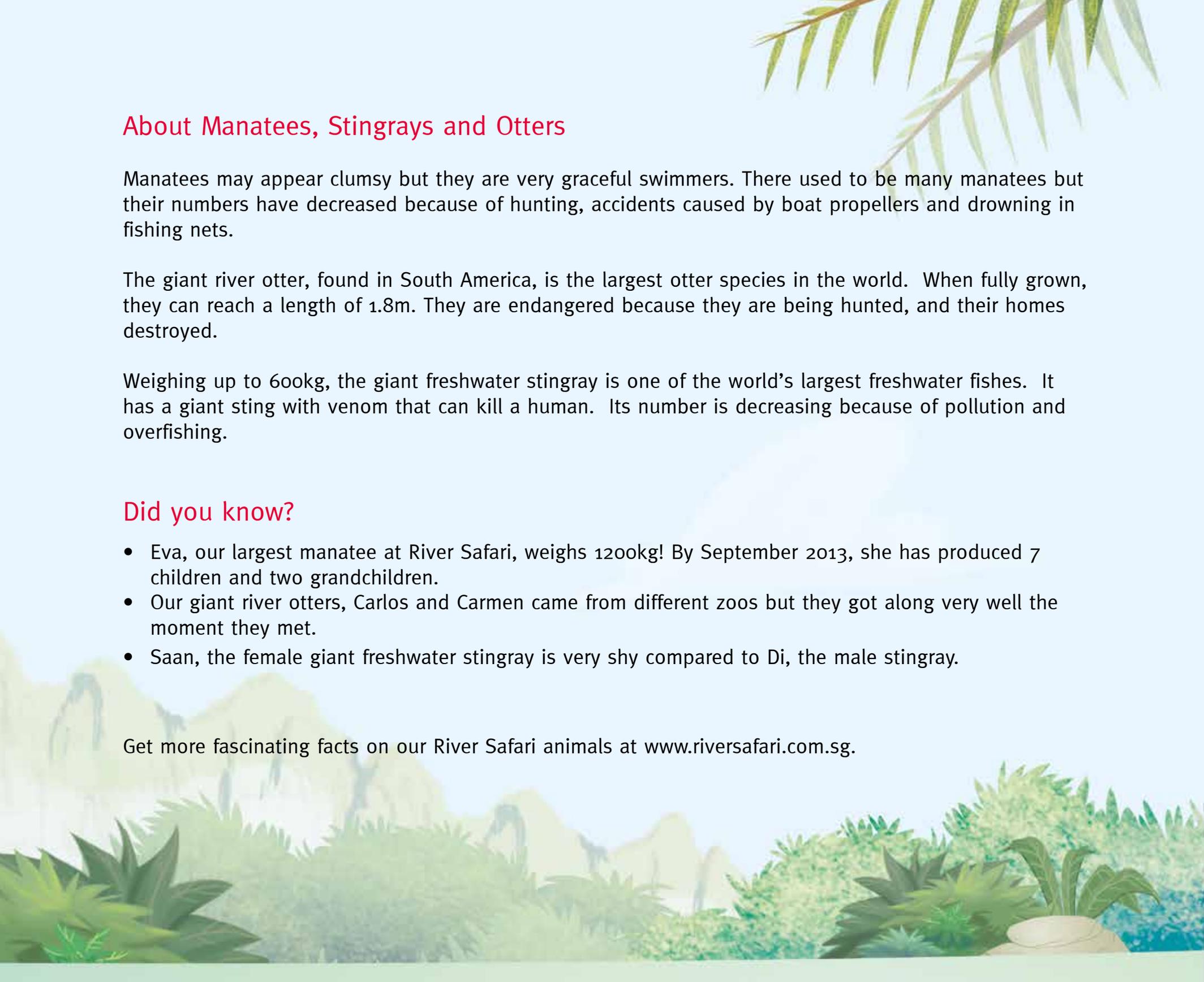
The giant river otter, found in South America, is the largest otter species in the world. When fully grown, they can reach a length of 1.8m. They are endangered because they are being hunted, and their homes destroyed.

Weighing up to 600kg, the giant freshwater stingray is one of the world's largest freshwater fishes. It has a giant sting with venom that can kill a human. Its number is decreasing because of pollution and overfishing.

### Did you know?

- Eva, our largest manatee at River Safari, weighs 1200kg! By September 2013, she has produced 7 children and two grandchildren.
- Our giant river otters, Carlos and Carmen came from different zoos but they got along very well the moment they met.
- Saan, the female giant freshwater stingray is very shy compared to Di, the male stingray.

Get more fascinating facts on our River Safari animals at [www.riversafari.com.sg](http://www.riversafari.com.sg).



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Singapore Zoological Gardens  
80 Mandai Lake Road  
Singapore 729826

Website: [www.zoo.com.sg](http://www.zoo.com.sg)  
Email: [infocounter.zoo@wrs.com.sg](mailto:infocounter.zoo@wrs.com.sg)

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Award-winning author Emily Lim is born and bred in Singapore. Since welcoming her ‘baby panda’ into her family, she doesn’t bury herself in books as much.

Scrawl Studios is an animation company based in sunny Singapore filled mostly with people who draw, colour, talk, laugh, joke, daydream and make cartoons all day.

KAI KAI AND JIA JIA ARE EXCITED TO HEAR OF ALL THE ANIMALS MOVING INTO THEIR NEIGHBOURHOOD. AS THEY GO AROUND WELCOMING THEIR NEW FRIENDS, THEY RECEIVE NEWS OF THE MOST EXCITING ADDITION TO RIVER SAFARI. FIND OUT WHO THAT MIGHT BE!



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