

## National Geographic Kids Reader: Swing, Sloth!

### Notes for parents: reading this book with your child

- Before you share this book with your child, look at the front cover and talk about what the sloth looks like. Discuss any prior knowledge your child has about sloths, or rainforest creatures and ask them to suggest some creatures that might live there.
  - This book has lots of unfamiliar animal names. Read these to your child as you read together and help them to say the names aloud as you read and again using the map on page 22: *three-toed sloth, Borneo pygmy elephant, golden bamboo lemur, jaguar, mountain sipo snake, macaws, blue morpho butterfly, dusky leaf monkeys, gorilla, red-eyed tree frog, Fiji crested iguana, two-toed sloth.*
- Here are some ways you can help your child as they learn to read:
  - Read the book together, making it fun and exciting to find out about the creatures who live in the rainforest.
  - Help with unfamiliar words and practise saying the animal names aloud.
  - Encourage them to sound out words. Even if they can't sound out the whole word, they may be able to sound out part of it, and this may help them read the word.
  - Encourage them to use the pictures and think about what word would make sense.
  - If your child gets stuck, read the book together, so that they don't lose their confidence.
  - Give them lots of praise and encouragement as they tackle new words.
- Discuss how all the creatures might move, and play a game where your child pretends to be one of the creatures moving and you have to guess the creature.

**Pronunciation guide:** pygmy (*pig-me*) lemur (*lee-muh*)