

Four Amazing Plants

Amazing plants grow in different parts of the world. Now we will find out about four of these amazing plants.

The *Rafflesia* (rah-flee-zee-uh):

A plant with the largest flower in the world

Borneo is the name of an island in the Pacific Ocean.

A giant flower lives in the jungles there.

It is the *Rafflesia*, or monster flower.

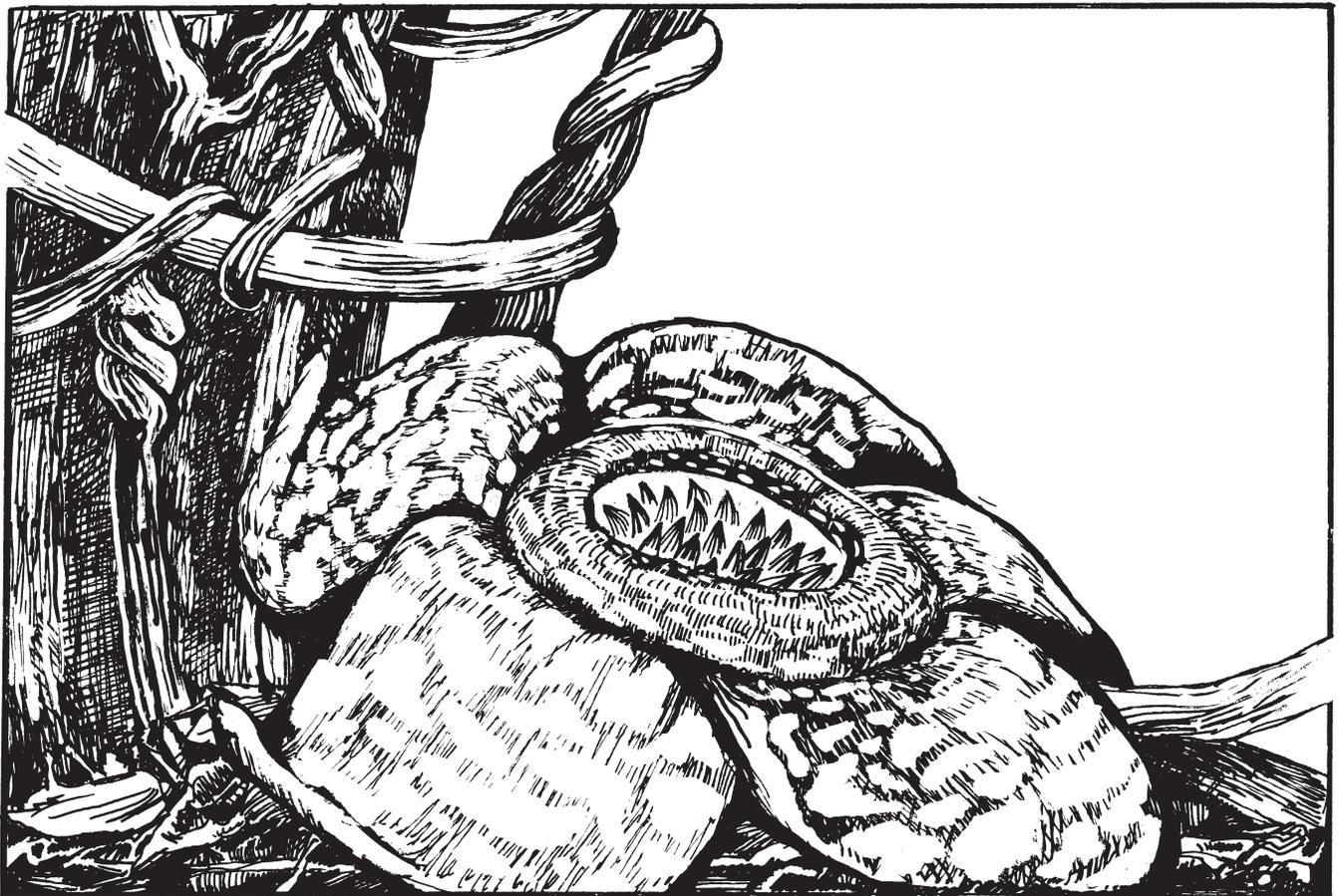
The flower can grow to be 1 to 1½ m, or 3 to 4 feet, wide.

It is a beautiful pinkish-red color with orange markings.

The flower is the only part of the plant that lives above the ground.

The rest of the plant lives underground.

Put yourself in the picture: Draw yourself smelling the monster flower. But hold your nose! It smells very bad.



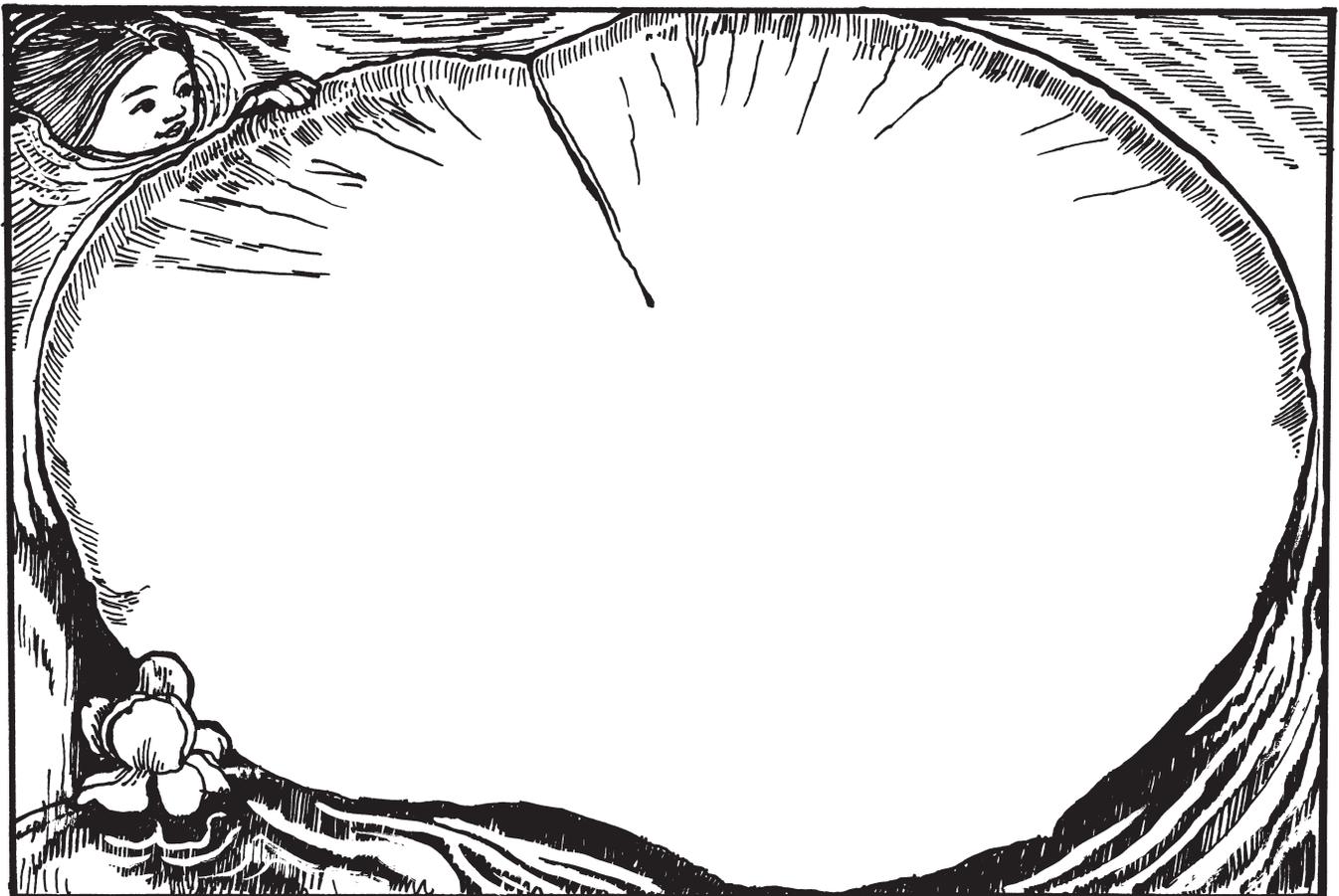
The Giant Water Lily:

The largest water plant in the world

The giant water lily lives in still waters of the Amazon River in South America. This plant's roots and most of its stem are under water. But the leaves and flowers of the giant water lily float on top of the water. Its floating leaves can be big enough for you to lie on. But not strong enough to hold you.

Put yourself in the picture:

Lie on the giant water lily leaf.



The Saguaro (sah-gwah-row) Cactus:

The largest cactus in the world

A tall green plant grows in the deserts of Arizona, California, and Mexico.

This plant is called the saguaro cactus.

It can grow to be 50 feet (about 15 m) tall.

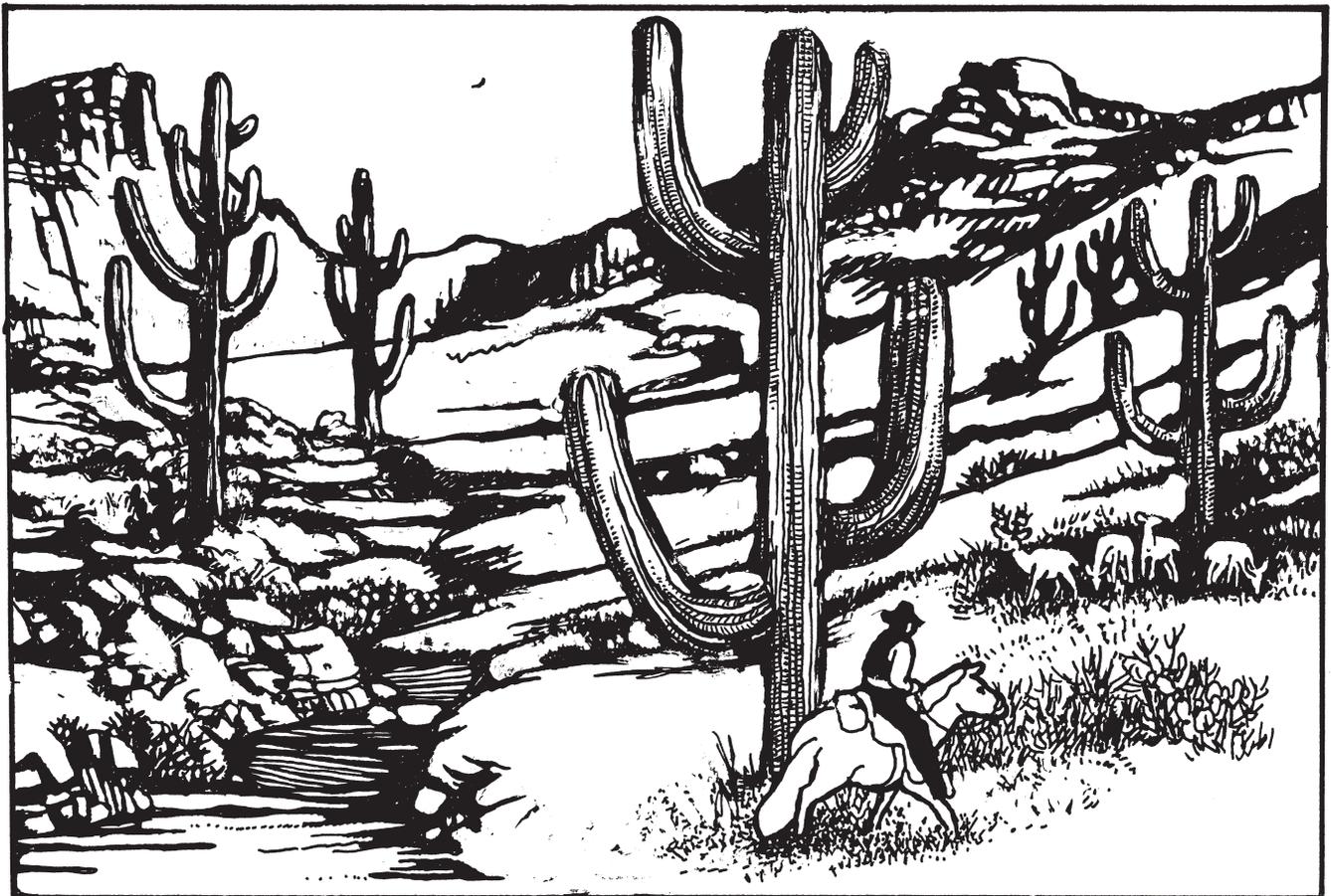
That makes it the largest cactus in the world.

It does not rain much in the desert. When it does rain, this is what the cactus does: its body stretches to hold extra water.

Put yourself in the picture:

Draw yourself next to the big saguaro cactus.

Where will the top of your head be?



The Venus Flytrap:

A plant that eats animals

A plant that eats flies? Yes, it is true.

The Venus flytrap lives in North Carolina and South Carolina. It has leaves that snap shut to trap insects inside. This is how it happens.

Each leaf of the Venus flytrap has six hairs on it.

When a fly lands on a leaf

and touches a hair once, nothing happens.

But what if the fly touches a hair twice?

Or two hairs at the same time? SNAP, the leaves shut!

The fly is trapped.

Put yourself in the picture:

Feed the Venus flytrap. It eats mostly insects.



My Family's Favorite Fruit

Name _____

Date _____

Everyone eats fruit, and fruit is part of a plant.
What is your family's favorite fruit to eat?
Find out and color in a box for each person's favorite fruit.

8													
7													
6													
5													
4													
3													
2													
1													
	Apple	Banana	Orange	Grapes	Strawberry	Peach	Watermelon	Other					

Fruit

Circle the fruit your family likes most.