

familytrip magazine

Our adventure in the Amazon



The most well-traveled family in Brazil has just returned from their trip.

As they unpack their suitcases, memories also come flooding out, and Trip starts shaking his maraca, just as he learned in the Dessana village.





Fly separates the leaves and seeds she brought from the forest, placing them in glass jars labeled with their names and uses, just as she learned from the riverine people. Then, she takes out some annatto seeds from a little box and puts them into the wooden mortar she brought from a riverine community. Pounding the seeds, she extracts the red dye to touch up the paintings a young indigenous girl made on her body.










Gate is determined to hang his “carrigo,” a flute played by men while dancing in a circle, holding hands with a woman, on the wall of the living room. He wants to leave this reminder in a prominent place to never forget the lessons he learned on the day he was in the presence of an indigenous community.

And Destiny starts organizing Hope’s toys in the baskets she brought from a project of artisan women. However, Hope doesn’t want to let go of the wooden sloth she chose during the trip.


Nick begins to bark at the wooden snake that Trip insisted on bringing.

Exhausted, Destiny gives up organizing and asks everyone, “Let’s take a shower and go to bed? Tomorrow, Vida is coming to have coffee with us. She is curious to hear our stories!

When everyone wakes up, Fly is already around the breakfast table, arranging the tasty jams he brought from the Amazon.



Vida doesn't take long to arrive, and soon they are all at the table, competing to see who will be the next to share their adventures with the most beloved visitor of this house.



Trip takes a small bread roll to demonstrate the movement of the pink river dolphin in the waters and makes a little hole on top of the bread while narrating his discovery:

- Vida, did you know that it is through this small hole in their head that the pink river dolphins navigate in the darkness of the Rio Negro's waters?





Gate is excited about the history of the tucandeiras (giant Amazon ants):

- At first, Destiny was horrified to learn that the young are made to wear straw gloves filled with these carnivorous ants in coming-of-age rituals. But later, we were surprised by the explanation of a riverside mother who told us how much this ritual strengthens the boys for life in the jungle. And that, without this strengthening, they would not survive the challenges of this place.

Destiny speaks thoughtfully about how this “clash” of cultures makes us more compassionate and tolerant:

- Without the mother’s explanation, I would still be full of prejudices. But after hearing her, I stopped to think if I was preparing my children to live in the current world, with its challenges...

Vida is completely enchanted by the body paintings on Fly:

- These drawings are so beautiful, but do you know if they have any meaning? Fly even gets up from the table to show.

- Yes, I do. They represent the Milky Way and the rainbow. Can I paint your face like that too?

Destiny and Gate burst into laughter. Destiny remarks, “Darling, how will Vida work at the office painted like that tomorrow?” But Vida has a solution: “I can paint the Milky Way on my feet! That way, I’ll imagine I can travel throughout the entire universe!

- Vida, you don’t exist! Gate comments affectionately.

As Fly paints Vida’s feet, she asks the couple what the highlight of the trip was for them.

Gate eagerly responds, saying that the meeting of the waters deeply moved him:

- Seeing the vastness of the Amazon, the Negro and Solimões rivers side by side made me feel the desire to flow with nature and take care of it so that others can experience its strength and beauty!



- For me, the highlight was encountering the samaúma, this mother tree that draws water with its roots to irrigate kilometers around, nourishing other plants and trees! Destiny confesses, still filled with the sensation she had there in the forest.

At that moment, Trip, who had left the table some time ago, reappears wearing his father's white jacket and hat, and says dramatically:

- Who will accompany me to the town's dance?

Everyone starts laughing, and Fly warns:

- Be careful, Vida! Here comes the charming dolphin wanting to take you to the depths of the waters!

Laughter ensues. Even Hope enjoys the situation, and Nick starts barking.

That's how it is every time this family comes back from an adventure!





Claudine Blanco

An entrepreneur in the area of tourism for over 20 years, Claudine conceived and created the Way family: the traveling mascots of the Family Trip Magazine. She has worked with Cecília Schucman and Nicolli Bedicks to bring these characters to life and to fulfill her dream of helping
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Cecília Schucman

Writer, educator and actress, Cecília loves to learn about other cultures, whether traveling or listening to stories! She enjoys explaining everything that she knows to children in schools or on adventures to the most diverse

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Image production: Studio 58

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