

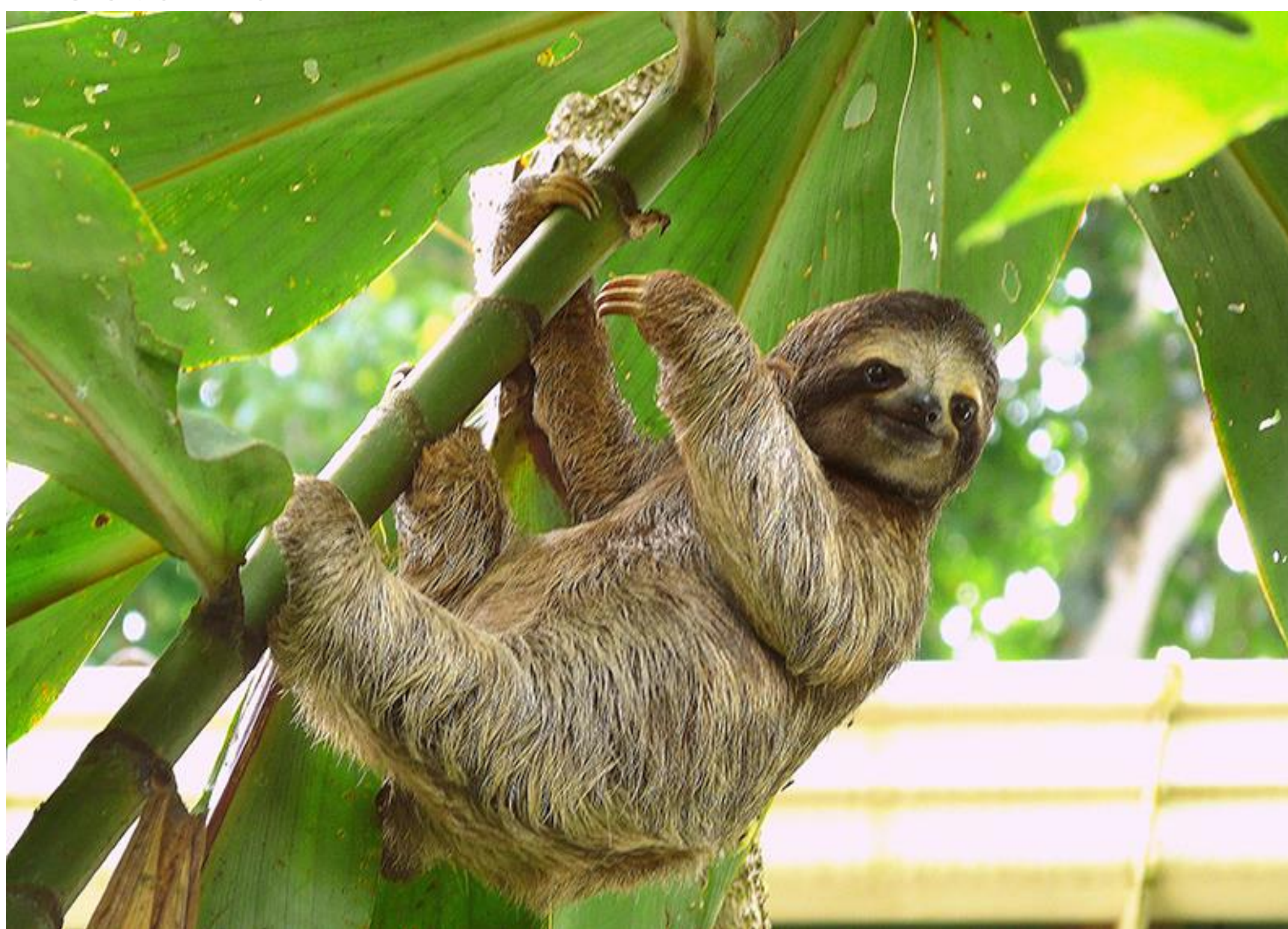
Habitat: Neotropical forest obligate in central and South America. Endangered due to high habitat degradation by humans. Found in Brazil, French Guiana, Guyana, Suriname, and Venezuela.

General information:

Order: Pilosa
Suborder: Xenarthra (sloths, armadillos, and anteaters)
Family: *Bradypodidae*
Nocturnal



Most of the sloth's life is spent suspended and upside down. They can minimize energy consumption when suspended by utilizing the activation of their flexor muscle mass to use less energy, while only fully activating them when actually climbing. Their slow movements also allow for precise positioning while conserving as much energy as possible. Can be so slow that they grow algae and moss, little is known on this but its thought to help camouflage them in.

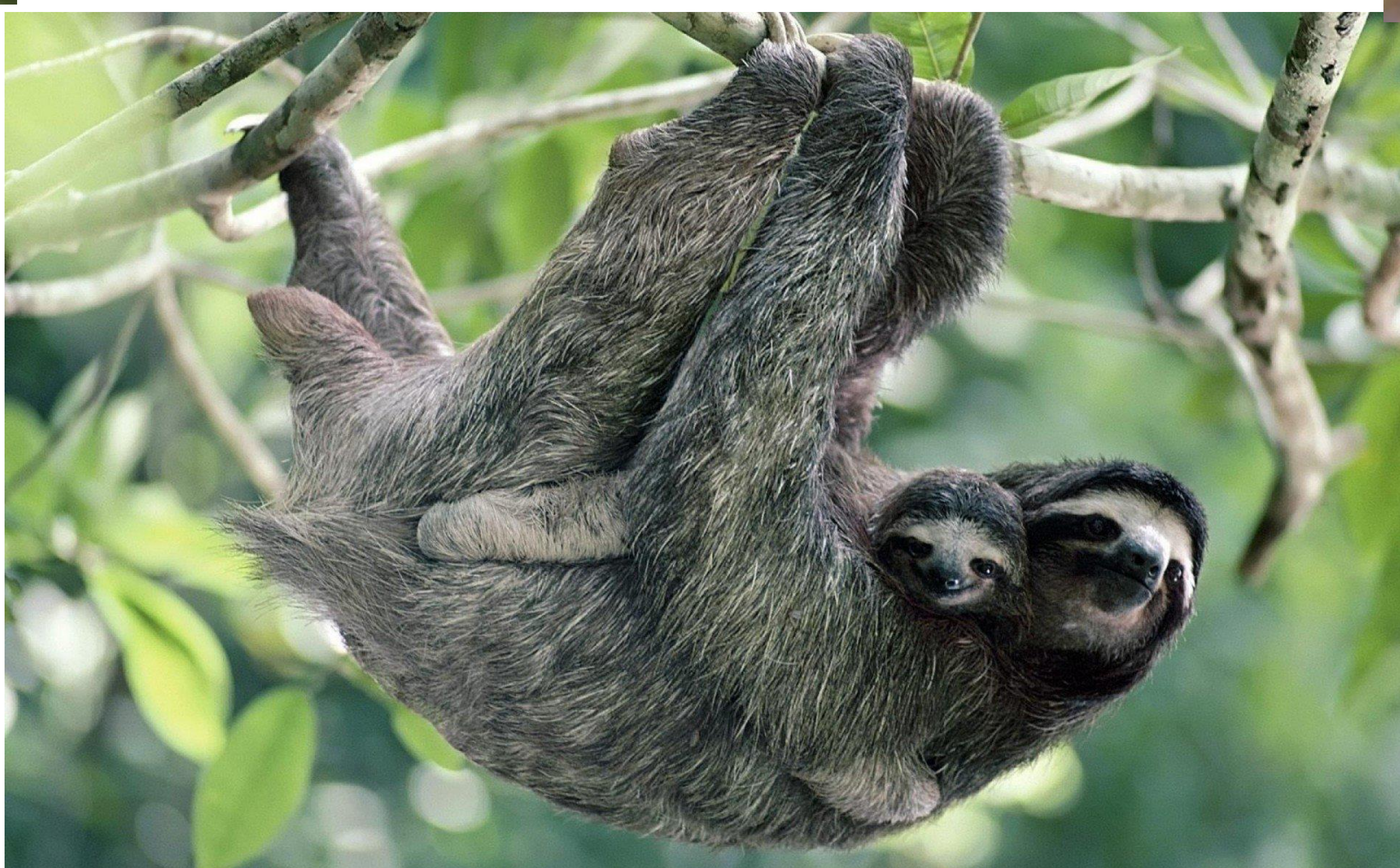


Three-Toed Sloths

By Alex Lugar



In their early stages of life, young three-toed sloths will hang on their mother's belly and allow her to carry them around while finding leaves. Often they are observed flexing their claws and grabbing at passing branches, likely learning how to climb from their mother



Lowest metabolism of all mammals that don't hibernate. Partly due to their plant-based diet. Because of this, sloths need to sleep for 15-18 hours a day and are active during the night. The rest of their time is spent grooming themselves or looking for food in forest canopy's