



Gift from the earth, the mother of living things

In tropical rainforests represented by the Amazon, a vast amount of leaves fall from lush evergreen trees. The fallen leaves accumulated on the floor of tropical rainforest are decomposed by microorganisms over a long period of time. In this decomposition process, humic acid and other various organic matters leach from the leaves into the rain water and seep into the ground. This is how tropical blackwater rivers are formed. Rio Negro in the Amazon and its tributaries are representative blackwater rivers, which nurture an enormous number of living organisms. Having features of rich humic acid and other organic matters, very low pH and hardness levels as well as clear black tea color, the blackwater has been influencing the fish ecology and promoting their unique evolution according to respective environment.

Teachings from Nature



Colorful body of Cardinal tetra is an evolution to survive in blackwater. ©Takashi Amano