

The Rainforest Education Pack





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CONTENTS

LESSON PLANS

Key Stage 1:

Art and Design
(texture and colour)
"In the Rainforest"

Science (senses)
"Orangutan for the Day"

Key Stage 2:

English (factual writing)
"World of the Orangutan"

Science (life processes
and living things)
"Rainforest for Life"

TEACHING RESOURCES

Orangutan facts
Orangutan story
Forest shapes to
colour Orangutan face
mask Senses
worksheet Orangutan
leaflet Rainforest &
orangutan key words
Rainforest worksheet
Orangutan hand-print
Class debate Poster

Dear Educator

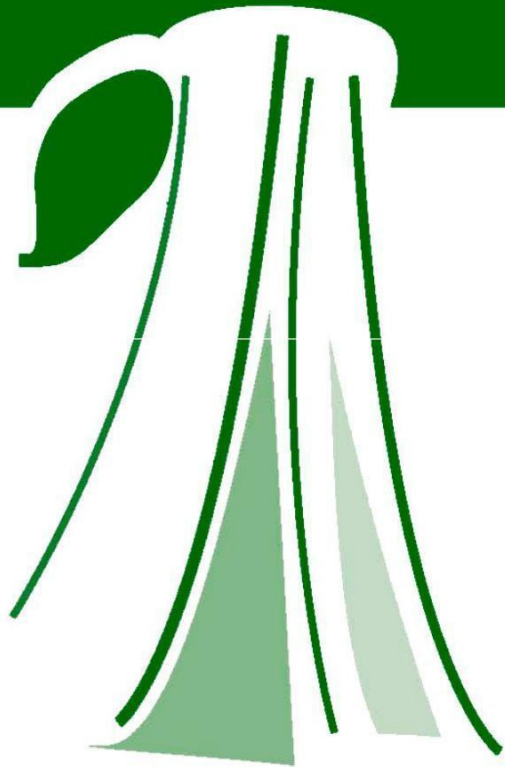
Welcome to Orangutan Foundation's Rainforest Education Pack. The pack aims to provide primary school children with an insightful introduction to, and understanding the importance of, rainforests and wildlife within the rainforest, focusing towards orangutans – the south east Asian rainforest's umbrella species.

For further information on Orangutan Foundation, visit www.orangutan.org.uk or e-mail: info@orangutan.org.uk

We hope you and your group enjoy this pack.

The Orangutan Foundation





In the Rainforest

Aims

To understand what a habitat is.

Objective

The class will create a tactile collage or rainforest corner together.

Resources in the pack:

“A day in the life of an Orangutan”

Forest shapes to cut out & colour for a collage.

Poster.

Resources from you:

Lots of scrap paper and material to make the collage or rainforest corner which includes as many different textures as possible i.e. sweet wrappers, coloured foil, corrugated card, wool, bits of felt, coloured plastic and straw.

Cushions, mats and soft toys could also be used if you wanted children to make their own “sleeping nests” at the end of the activity.

Time scale

1.5 hours in total

KEY STAGE 1

Art and Design
(texture and colour)



Story

Show the class the poster of the rainforest scene. Read the story “A Day in the Life of an Orangutan” and then ask the pupils to imagine what it is like to live in the rainforest. You could ask the class to write a story with the same title.

Making a collage

Ask the pupils to talk about the things an orangutan might need to have in its habitat e.g. trees to live in, fruit to eat, branches to make nests and other animals to share the forest with. Using different materials, make a collage of the rainforest. You may wish to refer to the poster of the rainforest and cut out the forest shapes. The collage could be made in one corner of the room with streamers and ribbons as vines for a more 3D effect.

Nest-building

Ask the pupils to make nests to curl up in like an orangutan at the end of the day using cushions, mats and soft toys.



Science (Senses)

Orangutan for the day

KEY STAGE 1

Aims

To understand what a habitat is.

Objective

The class will create a tactile collage or rainforest corner together.

Resources in the Pack

“A Day in the Life of an Orangutan”
Forest shapes to draw around or to cut out and colour for the collage. Poster.
Face-mask.
Senses worksheet.

Resources from you

Lots of scrap paper and material to make the collage or rainforest corner which should include as many different textures as possible such as shiny sweet wrappers, coloured foil, corrugated card, wool, left over bits of felt, coloured plastic and some straw. Provide cushions, mats and soft toys should you wish for children to make their own “sleeping nests” at the end of the activity.

Time scale

1.5 hours in total



Exploring senses

Referring to the poster, tell the class that orangutans have senses just like us; they can see, hear, smell, touch and taste. The orangutans' rainforest habitat consists of many elements which tie into each of their senses.

Put together household objects that can be used to replicate some of those elements then you can discuss them with your class. Ask the class to then complete the senses worksheet.



Smell

Put into jars different things that originate from tropical regions, we recommend coffee, cinnamon, vanilla and ginger. Ask the pupils to sniff the jars and describe the smell.



Taste

A fun and messy activity that is great for getting children to taste different fruit they may not be used to. Chop the fruit up into small pieces and put them onto plates for the children to describe the taste. The majority of the orangutan's diet consists of fruit (so they do not eat chips, sausages or chocolate bars like humans!). They love fruit and spend most of their day going from feeding place to feeding place eating fruit. **Touch**



If you are lucky enough to have trees in the school playground this is a great opportunity for small groups of pupils to go out and touch tree bark and leaves and describe what they feel like. Alternatively, wood and leaves can be brought into the classroom for this exercise and, if you have some furry material for them to touch, they can describe what an orangutan would feel like.



Making an orangutan face-mask

Photocopy the mask template onto thin card. The pupils can then cut out the mask and colour it in. Some help may be needed to cut out the eye holes. Elastic or ribbon will be needed to tie the mask onto the face. The pupils can wear the mask when participating in some of the other activities to inspire them further.



Making a rain-box

Ask the class to put a small handful of rice into a paper cup then tape another cup on top of it. When the pupils shake the 'rain-boxes' vigorously it will sound like a storm and if the boxes are turned over gently, it will sound like a light shower. Putting scrunched up pieces of paper into the cups will slow down the rice and make the rain boxes sound more authentic.

Forest Sounds

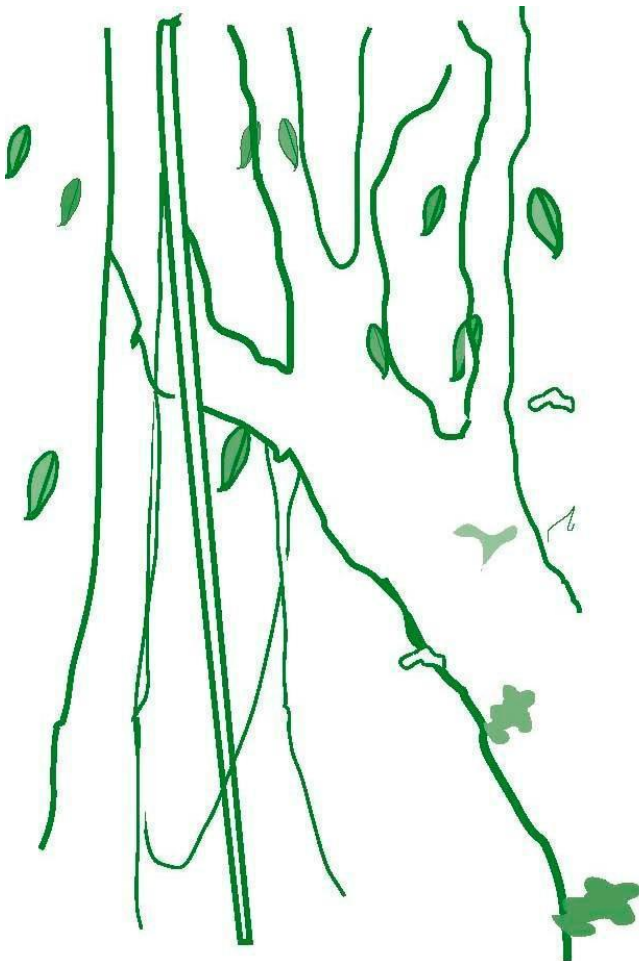
Ask the class to sit in a circle. Each child then has to make a different rainforest sound such as birds tweeting and squawking, insects humming, monkeys chattering, orangutans long-calling, rain dripping and rain-boxes shaking. Point at the first child and ask them to start making their noise and then the next child until the whole circle is making their sounds. Go round the circle again but this time when you point at a child they will stop making their noise until it is quiet again. Afterwards, ask the class to write or talk about what it sounds like in the rainforest.



World of the Orangutan



KEY STAGE 2



Aims

To learn about orangutan behaviour and its habitat as well as the threats orangutans are facing.

Objectives

Write stories, complete the leaflet and create a display about the rainforest and orangutans by referring to the Teaching Resource, the library and the internet.

Resources

A leaflet layout for the class to complete.
Rainforest and orangutan key words.
Orangutan fact sheets.
Poster.

Resources from you

Library with access to books on rainforests & orangutans.
Access to the internet.
Paper & coloured pencils.

Time scale

1 hour per activity.
3 hours in total.

English
(Factual writing)



World of the Orangutan

Orangutan leaflet

- i. Photocopy and hand out the blank leaflet. Explain that Orangutan Foundation needs leaflets to raise the awareness orangutans and the rainforest but, unfortunately, the awareness leaflet has not been completed in time. Can the pupils help us by filling in the rest? Pictures of the rainforest and orangutans can be stuck onto the front cover for the children to colour.
- ii. Hand out the fact sheet if you feel the pupils will need help answering the questions. Refer to the Teaching Resources for the answers.
- iii. Display the poster and the 'Rainforest and Orangutan Key Words' then hand out the leaflet. Ask the pupils to write their own story about being an orangutan in the rainforest. Suggest drawing pictures to accompany their story.
- iv. Split the class into different groups and give each group a photocopy of the orangutan fact sheet. Children can also use the internet or books on rainforests and orangutans for this activity. Ask each group to find the answers to the following questions and complete the activities:



Which countries do orangutans live in?

Copy or draw a map and write about where in the world countries are.



What do orangutans look like?

Describe their features and draw pictures.



What type of habitat do orangutans live in?

Describe it and draw pictures.



What do orangutans eat and where do they get their food?

Make a menu with pictures and descriptions.



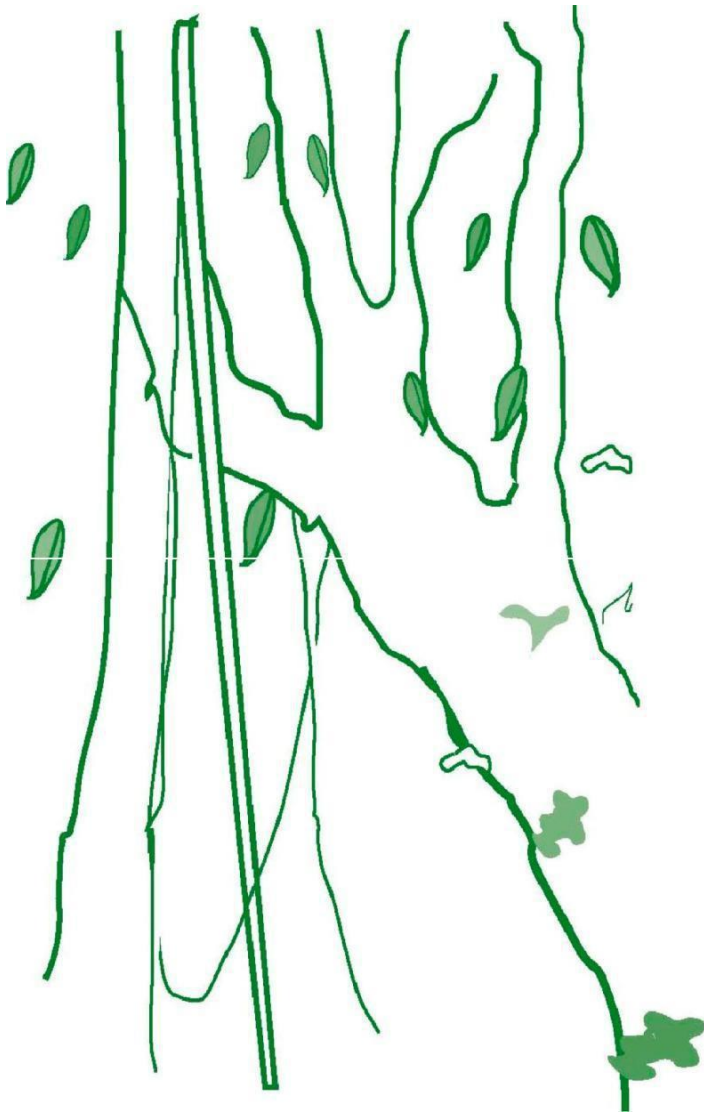
Why are orangutans in danger?

Make a poster about the threats facing orangutans. Make a display of each groups' work along a classroom wall or corridor.

Rainforest for Life

KEY STAGE 2

Science (Living processes & living things)



Aims

To develop an understanding of how dependent the orangutan is on its rainforest habitat and how important the orangutan is for the rainforest.

Objectives

To complete the Forest Web of Life worksheets.
Debate the different points of view on deforestation.
To consider how the childrens' hands and orangutans' hands are adapted to suit different lifestyles but also look at how similar they are.

Resources in the Pack

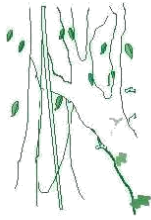
The Forest Web of Life worksheet and answersheet.
Orangutan hand-print.
Debate cards.

Resources from you

Coloured pencils to draw links on the Forest Web of Life worksheet.
Paper and pencil so the class can draw around their hands to compare with the orangutan's hand.

Time scale

30 min per activity
1.5 hours in total.



Forest Web of Life

Give the children the Forest Web of Life worksheet to draw lines linking the different organisms together. Orangutans, for example, would be linked to trees because they need trees to live in and to get food from. Once all the links are drawn on the sheet there should be a large “web of life” showing how everything is dependent on everything else. Ask the pupils what will happen if one of the pieces goes missing. You can do this by crossing out one organism then rubbing out the lines linked to that organism, then all the lines linked to those organisms and so on. Check against the answer-sheet.

Orangutan hand-print

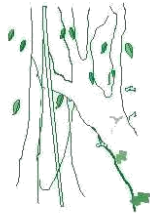
This is an opportunity for the pupils to consider how their hands are adapted to their way of life and how an orangutan is adapted to a life in the forest. Give out the photocopies of the orangutan hand print and ask the pupils to draw around one of their hands on a separate piece of paper. Ask the class to note the differences and similarities underneath the hand-print. Refer to the points below for discussion with the class.



Like us, line patterns are unique to them. No two hands are the same.



Ask the class to compare the differences in length between their thumbs and fingers and those of the orangutan. Like us, orangutans have long fingers. Delicate fingers are ideal for complicated tasks like nest building for the orangutans and writing for humans. Orangutans bend their fingers into a ‘hook’ shape to grasp branches as they move through the forest.



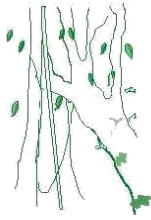
Activities

- Orangutans have short thumbs so they do not interfere in being able to swing from tree to tree. Their thumbs are also 'opposable' which enable them to hold and manipulate objects. Demonstrate to the class how our thumbs help with lots of activities. Suggest the next time they eat a sandwich or hold a knife and fork to think how difficult it would be without an opposable thumb.
- In addition to opposable thumbs, orangutans have opposable big toes so their feet are also able to grasp objects. Ask the class to try to pick things up with their feet and note how difficult it is without an opposable big toe!

Class debate:





"Should we save the rainforest?"

Taking the viewpoints of different industries and points of view, the class are going to debate whether we should save the rainforest. Photocopy the sheet and cut out the speech bubbles containing the different viewpoints. Split the class into groups and allocate each group with a different viewpoint. Each group should talk about their viewpoint in terms of deforestation and what it means. After a 10 minute discussion, ask a spokesperson from each group to read out their group's viewpoint in more depth. After all the viewpoints have been discussed, ask the class to vote to decide if we should save the rainforest.



Actions for children

After learning about the plight orangutans face the children may be keen to help. Here are some of the ways some children have helped protect orangutans.

-  **Keep informed** – look on the web and become aware of orangutan stories in the news. Compile a scrap book that the children can update when they find stories or photos.
-  **Recycle paper**, remind the class the less paper we use means more trees remain standing for the orangutans.
-  Ask children to check the packaging of shopping items at home and list those that contain palm-oil. One in ten shopping products contain palm-oil as it can be found in soap, shampoo, toothpaste, lipstick, crisps, ready meals and many more.
-  **Fundraise** for example by doing sponsored walks, cake sales or holding a non-uniform day, particularly popular with children! Maybe the class would like to adopt their own orangutan with the proceeds? More information on fundraising, adoption or any of the topics above can be found on www.orangutan.org.uk

