

12.01.21 – Independent learning task. Return to Miss Fraher 3d. Can provide straightforward explanations for the purpose of the language, structure and presentation of the text

Bornean Orangutans

Endangered

The Bornean Orangutan is now critically endangered. Their populations are in decline thanks to rapid deforestation and devastation of their habitats, as well as illegal hunting. Many experts believe orangutans could be extinct in the wild in less than 50 years.

Features

Bornean Orangutans are unique to the island of Borneo. The word orangutan translates to 'man of the forest' in the Malay language. Orangutans reside in the rain forest and their bodies are well-designed for climbing trees, with extended arms and powerful hands and feet for gripping the branches.

Way of life

Orangutans are the only great ape to travel predominantly through trees, spending nearly their entire existence in trees, swinging through the canopies and constructing nests for sleep. Orangutans are *arboreal* as large predators (such as tigers and leopards) patrol the forest floor.

Food

Fruit, such as lychees, mangoes and figs, makes up sixty per cent of an orangutan's diet. Orangutans also eat leaves and shoots, insects, soil, tree bark and occasionally eggs and small vertebrates.

Pets

People often think that orangutans are cute and cuddly and would make good pets. They would be wrong. Orangutans quickly outgrow being dependent, cuddly infants and grow into dangerous and unmanageable, very strong adults.

What can you do to help orangutans?

- **Join a cause.** There are many organisations that help to protect orangutans and their habitats.
- **Avoid Products that contain palm oil.** Palm oil plantations are a major source of deforestation, causing orangutans to lose their homes.
- **Go Green.** Recycle and buy recycled products. Measure your [carbon footprint](#) and learn other ways to [conserve](#) our planet.
- **Buy FSC-certified products.** Look for the [Forest Stewardship Council](#) (FSC) label on wood and paper products. This ensures the product you purchase comes from sustainable forestry.



1. What do you think the purpose of this text is?

2. Why have the words '*critically endangered*' been used to describe orangutans?

3. Why are the headings useful?

4. Why has '*What can you do to help orangutans?*' been put in a text box?

5. List the **technical vocabulary** that has been used about orangutans.
