

Make a Difference for Wild Orangutans

KIDS!

Learn about Orangutans...

Orangutans:

- Orangutans depend on the rainforest for their home and their food. They are the only great ape in Asia and are the largest arboreal mammal in the world.
- All three species, Sumatran, Bornean and Tapanuli orangutans are critically endangered.
- The biggest threat to orangutans is NON-sustainable palm oil farming.
- Extinction for these great apes could be just around the corner without our help!



What is palm oil?

- A type of vegetable oil. You probably eat and use palm oil every day because it is found in many foods and bath products.
- Oil palms come from West Africa, but can grow in other tropical climates. Most oil palms are currently grown on the islands of Borneo and Sumatra. (The only place in the world orangutans live!)
- Palm oil is not part of the rainforest; it's an introduced crop that grows in plantations. A LOT of rainforest is being cut down to plant more oil palms.
- Palm oil plants can produce 10 times as much vegetable oil as soy or other plants farmed in the same amount of space. So it can be a good crop but ONLY IF it is grown sustainably.

The **WAY** palm oil is grown makes all the difference.

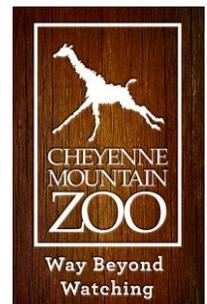
- There is a group called the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm oil (RSPO). They make sure that palm oil is grown in a sustainable way that does not hurt the rainforest or the people and animals that live there.
- When palm oil is grown in a non-sustainable way, rainforest that is home to orangutans, and many other animals, is often cut down.

Native people in Borneo and Sumatra

- Millions of farmers and their families work on oil palm farms and this allows them to provide basic essentials such as food, clean water, housing, and medical care. It also allows many of the smallholder (small-scale) farmers to send their children to school.
- Sometimes palm oil plantations take land away from indigenous populations and leave them with nowhere to live and no way to find food. When palm oil is grown in a sustainable way, people and animals do not lose their homes.

What can you do to help?

- Turn this page over to find out! Or go to www.cmzoo.org/palmoil



Make a Difference for Wild Orangutans

KIDS! Check out these **5** ways you can



Ask **1** parent to download WAZA's PalmOil Scan app and to use it when they go to the grocery store.

Write to **2** companies rated "Excellent" in the app to tell them "thank you" for protecting rainforests, orangutans, and native people in Indonesia and Malaysia who depend on the rainforest to live.

Recycle **3** types of paper products like paper, cardboard, and paperboard (like cereal boxes) every day to reuse paper that already came from trees.

Find **4** companies using palm oil that are rated as "No Commitment" and write to them asking them to join the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO) and to make a promise to use ONLY certified sustainable palm oil (CSPO) that is deforestation free.



Tell **5** or more friends about how you are helping orangutans and ask them to do the above four steps!

Find sample letters on Cheyenne Mountain Zoo's website!

Together we can all make a difference for wild orangutans!

Learn More!

cmzoo.org/palmoil

