

# DO YOU KNOW YOUR ORANG-UTANS?



## BORNEAN ORANG-UTAN (*Pongo pygmaeus*)

Bornean orang-utans (*Pongo pygmaeus*) inhabit lowland tropical forests on the island of Borneo in South East Asia. They spend the majority of their time up in the trees and only venture to the ground occasionally. They are generally stockier than Sumatran orang-utans, with darker hair and a short beard. Males, at reaching sexual maturity, develop protruding cheek flanges, covered in reddish brown hairs. There are estimated only around 57,000 Bornean individuals remaining in the wild.

## SUMATRAN ORANG-UTAN (*Pongo abelii*)

Sumatran orang-utans (*Pongo abelii*) are found on the island of Sumatra in Indonesia. Sumatran individuals are slightly slimmer, have more pronounced beards and are lighter in colour than their Bornean counterparts. The males' cheek flanges lie flat against the face, and are thickly covered in white hairs. Sumatran orang-utans are faring even worse in the wild than the Bornean species, with only around 13,000 estimated individuals.

## At Monkey World:

Monkey World is home to both Bornean and Sumatran orang-utans. Monkey World is the European crèche for orphaned baby orang-utans, many of the orang-utans living at the park have come here to grow up with others of their own kind after their mums have rejected them or are otherwise unable to care for them. Here, they might be fostered by one of our adult females, learning how to be an orang-utan from them as they would in the wild!



Mimi  
Bornean  
orang-utan

**[WILDLIFE  
IN CRISIS]**



In July 2016, the conservation status of the Bornean orang-utan was updated to Critically Endangered, matching that of the Sumatran species. Hunting and destruction of suitable habitats to make room for crops like oil palm has caused massive declines in Bornean populations.

Orang-utans are also threatened by conflict with farmers and communities, the entertainment industry and the pet trade. Several of the adult female orang-utans at Monkey World have been rescued from the illegal pet trade in Taiwan, and we guess that Tuan was kept as an illegal pet until he escaped.

### What Can You Do to Help?

There are actions we can take at home to help stop orang-utans losing their habitats to deforestation...

- **Reducing and reusing** – Reducing your food waste and reusing scrap paper and wood will mean that less of the rainforest is cleared to make room for crops.
- **Avoiding palm oil** – Why not challenge yourself to give up products containing palm oil for a month or more and see just how much of your weekly shop you leave on the shelf?
- **Supporting Monkey World** – You can support our rescue work by adopting one of the orang-utans or other primates at the park. Visit the Adoption Centre today!

NOT EVALUATED    DATA DEFICIENT    LEAST CONCERNED    NEAR THREATENED    VULNERABLE    ENDANGERED    CRITICALLY ENDANGERED    EXTINCT IN THE WILD    EXTINCT

NE    DD    LC    NT    VU    EN    CR    EW    EX