

Animals We Love:

ORANGUTANS

Recommended for preschoolers

Let's learn more about orangutans:

- Orangutans are apes. They do not have a tail (unlike monkeys).
- They live in the rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra. They are the largest tree-dwelling mammal.
- They have special feet with long toes for grasping branches, and long limbs that can stretch out far so that they can move easily through the treetops.
- Orangutan babies stay with mum for 7 to 8 years to learn survival skills. Play is important as a way to learn these skills.



Use the See-Think-Wonder Thinking Routine* to start a conversation with your child

*Adapted from Project Zero, Harvard Graduate School of Education

SEE

- Name all the things you see in this picture.
- How many orangutans can you spot?
- Count the number of eyes you see.

THINK

- What do you think the baby is doing with its arms around its mother's neck?
- How do you think orangutans move around in the trees?

WONDER

- I wonder what these orangutans would do next.

Bonus Activity:

Take snapshots of your family with poses inspired by the orangutans.

Use these activities to start a conversation with your child

This is not a Sack

- Watch the video and observe Merlin the orangutan playing with the gunny sack. What is Merlin doing with the gunny sack? How else can this gunny sack be used?
- Use a pillowcase in place of a gunny sack. Take turns to come up with creative uses of the sack, expressing your ideas in words/actions, e.g. This is not a sack; this is a bag.

You may want to play a game of charades instead of sharing just verbal answers.



Mirror Play

- Visit [Singapore Zoo's web page on orangutans](#) and pick your favourite orangutan. What makes it your favourite? What features do you observe? Describe the colour, size, shape and texture of that orangutan to the person beside you.
- Imagine you were your favourite orangutan. Imitate its action and share your photos on our instagram. How do you think it is feeling? What do you think it is thinking?



Try out this activity when you visit us!



An Orangutan's Home



2 or more
players



Natural loose parts
(e.g. leaves, twigs, pebbles)

STEP 1: Observe the orangutans in their exhibit. What features do you notice about the exhibit (e.g. trees, wooden structures)?

STEP 2: Each person to collect three different natural loose parts.
Note: Only collect items found on the ground. Please do not pluck leaves or branches from plants

STEP 3: Using the natural loose parts, replicate the orangutan exhibit. Take turns to add as many details as you can to your creations (e.g. trees, wooden structures, twines).

STEP 4: Remember to return the loose parts back to nature!