



Teacher Resource

# Palm Oil Ban

## Focus Questions

Discuss the BTN story as a class and record the main points of the discussion. Students will then respond to the following:

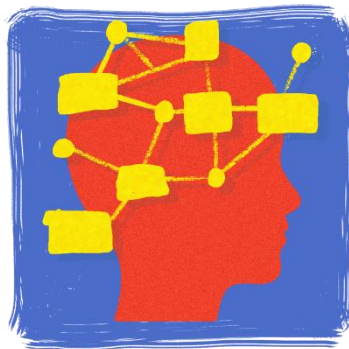
1. What part of the palm tree does palm oil come from?
2. What types of products contain palm oil? Give examples.
3. Palm oil can sometimes appear on food labels as what?
4. Why is Indonesia banning the export of palm oil?
5. What is sustainable palm oil?

## Activity: Class Discussion

Discuss the BTN Palm Oil Ban story as a class. Create a class mind map with PALM OIL in the middle. Use the following questions to guide discussion: Ask students to record what they know about palm oil.

What questions do they have? In small groups, ask students to brainstorm responses to the following questions:

- What do you know about palm oil?
- What impact does palm oil have on the environment?
- Give examples of products that contain palm oil.
- How are food products that contain palm oil labelled?
- What is sustainable palm oil?



## Activity: Glossary

Students will brainstorm a list of key words that relate to the BTN Palm Oil Ban story. Here are some words to get them started.

DEFORESTATION	PALM OIL	ENDANGERED
HABITAT LOSS	PLANTATION	SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL

### EPISODE 11

3rd May 2022

#### KEY LEARNING

Students will learn more about the impact palm oil production has on the habitat of orangutans. They will also investigate the use of palm oil in products and learn more about sustainable palm oil.

#### CURRICULUM

##### Science – Year 6

The growth and survival of living things are affected by physical conditions of their environment.

##### Science – Year 7

Interactions between organisms including the effects of human activities can be represented by food chains and food webs.

##### HASS – Year 6

The obligations citizens may consider they have beyond their own national borders as active and informed global citizens.

## Activity: Palm Oil Research

Discuss the information raised in the BTN Palm Oil Ban story. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in students' knowledge? The following KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on this topic.

What do I <u>k</u> now?	What do I <u>w</u> ant to know?	What have I <u>l</u> earnt?	<u>H</u> ow will I find out?

Students will develop their own question/s to research or choose one or more of the questions below. Encourage students to collect and record information from a wide variety of sources and present the information they find in an interesting way.

- Where is palm oil produced? Highlight the countries on a world map.
- Why is palm oil considered a problem?
- How is palm oil important to the economies of Indonesia and Malaysia?
- What species have been impacted by the production of palm oil? Research how one of these species has been impacted by the clearing of tropical rainforests to make way for palm oil plantations.
- What is sustainable palm oil and how is it produced? Look for products that contain sustainable palm oil. How can the community be encouraged to make sustainable choices at the supermarket?
- What does it mean to shop sustainably? How can you make a difference as a consumer?
- Why should we protect orangutans and other endangered species affected by deforestation? Write a persuasive piece of writing explaining your reasons.
- Is boycotting palm oil the answer? Investigate the pros and cons of boycotting palm oil.

## Activity: Orangutan Profile

Students will research and write a profile about orangutans, or another endangered species affected by the production of palm oil. Students can use the animal profile worksheet at the end of this activity to record their findings. Encourage students to use a range of sources to find their information.

Students will research the following for their project:

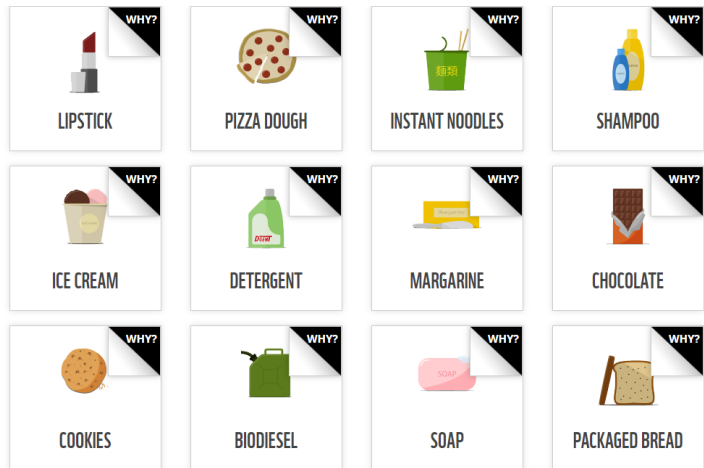
- Common and scientific name
- Appearance - what are some of their physical characteristics?
- Habitat - where do orangutans live? Describe their habitat.
- Conservation status
- Threats - what are some of the threats to the survival of orangutans? What is being done to protect their habitat?
- Unique features
- Interesting facts



## Activity: Peel back the label

Students will investigate the use of palm oil in grocery products. In this activity, students [peel back the label](#) and learn more about which products contain palm oil and why. Using information in the BTN story and their research, students respond to the following questions:

- Which products contain palm oil?  
List as many as you can.
- Many products that use palm oil aren't clearly labelled. Palm oil can appear under many names. Give some examples.
- Which products do you use that contain palm oil? Do an audit of your pantry and make a list.
- What are some solutions to the palm oil problem?



What is certified sustainable palm oil? Students use the following questions to guide their research:

- What is sustainability?
- What is sustainable palm oil?
- How is sustainable palm oil produced?
- Who would benefit from sustainable palm oil production?



## Useful Websites

- [Palm Oil Problem](#) - BTN
- [Palm Oil](#) - BTN
- [What is palm oil and why is it thought to be bad?](#) – Newsround
- [Palm Oil](#) - WWF

# ANIMAL PROFILE

Scientific Name

APPEARANCE

Common Name

ADAPTATIONS

Unique Features or Interesting Facts

HABITAT

THREATS