

Teacher Resource

Palm Oil Ban

Focus Questions

1. What did the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story explain?
2. What tree does palm oil come from?
3. What type of products contain palm oil?
4. Complete this sentence. Palm oil can sometimes appear on food labels as _____ oil.
5. In which two countries are large areas of rainforest being cleared to make room for palm oil plantations? Find using Google Maps.
6. The clearing of rainforests is destroying the habitat for which animals?
 - a. Tigers
 - b. Elephants
 - c. Orangutans
 - d. All of the above.
7. How is the production of palm oil affecting Sumatran Orangutans?
8. What did Zoos Victoria recently announce about products they sell?
9. What did you learn watching the BTN story?
10. Illustrate an aspect of the *Palm Oil Ban* story.

Key Learning

Students will explore the impact of palm oil production on the habitat of orangutans.

Curriculum

Science – Year 5

Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment.

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.

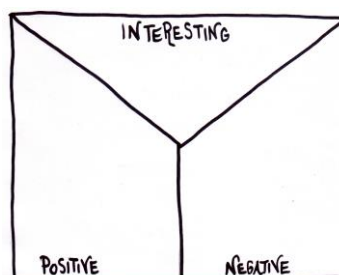
Activity

Note taking

Students take notes while watching the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story. After watching the story, students reflect on and organise the information into three categories.

What information was...?

- Positive
- Negative or
- Interesting



Activity

What do you think?

Students will respond to one or more of the following questions:

- What do you THINK about what you saw in the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story?
- What does this story make you WONDER?
- Think of three questions you have about the story. Remember that good questions are open-ended (have no right or wrong answer and can't be answered with a 'yes' or 'no').
- What did you learn from the BTN story? Leave your comment on the *Palm Oil Ban* story page. [How to add comments to BTN stories](#)



Activity

Glossary

Students will develop a glossary of words and terms that relate to palm oil and habitat loss in the context of the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story. Below are some words to get them started. Students will add words and meanings to their glossary as they come across unfamiliar words throughout your research. Students will then write their own sentence using each of the terms.

	Meaning	Sentence
Deforestation		
Endangered		
Global warming		
Habitat loss		
Palm oil		
Plantation		
Sustainable palm oil		

Activity

KWLH

Discuss the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story as a class. What questions were raised in the discussion and what are the gaps in their knowledge? The KWLH organiser provides students with a framework to explore their knowledge on this topic and consider what they would like to know and learn.

<i>What do I know?</i>	<i>What do I want to know?</i>	<i>What have I learnt?</i>	<i>How will I find out?</i>

Activity

Topics of inquiry

Students will develop their own question/s for inquiry, collecting and recording information from a wide variety of sources. Students may develop their own question for inquiry or select one or more of the questions below.

- Why is palm oil considered a problem?
- How is palm oil important to the economy 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? Look for products that contain sustainable palm oil and influence others in your community 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.
- Why are orangutans important? Think of creative ways to raise awareness about the issues raised in the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story.

Activity

Creature Feature

Students will research and write a *Creature Feature* about orangutans or another endangered species affected by the production of palm oil. Students can use the *Creature Feature* 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?
- Interesting features.

btn

Creature Feature

COMMON NAME:
SCIENTIFIC NAME:
TYPE:
SIZE:
WEIGHT:
CHARACTERISTICS:

THREATS TO SPECIES:

CONSERVATION STATUS (highlight):

Least concern	Near threatened	Vulnerable	Endangered	Critically endangered	Extinct in the wild	Extinct
LC	NT	VU	EN	CR	EW	EX

HABITAT:
BEHAVIOUR:
INTERESTING FEATURES:

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Activity

Haiku poetry

Write a haiku poem focusing on one or more of the themes explored in the BTN *Palm Oil Ban* story. Use [Read Write Think's Haiku Starter graphic organiser](#) which allows students to brainstorm a list of words about their chosen theme.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Haiku Starter

Haiku is a form of Japanese poetry. Typically, haikus are written about nature, but they can be about any topic. Haikus have a very specific syllable structure. The first line of every haiku has 5 syllables, the second line has 7 syllables, and the last line has 5 syllables.

Use the space below to brainstorm, plan, and write your own haiku.

Choose Your Topic:

Brainstorm Words

Brainstorm a list of words about your topic. Next to each word, write the number of syllables in the circle.

_____	○	_____	○	_____	○
_____	○	_____	○	_____	○
_____	○	_____	○	_____	○
_____	○	_____	○	_____	○
_____	○	_____	○	_____	○

(continued)

Haiku Starter (Continued)

Write Your Draft

Now that you have brainstormed some words about your topic, you can draft your haiku below. You do not have to use only the words from your brainstormed list, but each line will need to form either 5 or 7 syllables. Be creative!

Title: _____

Line 1 (5 syllables)

Line 2 (7 syllables)

Line 3 (5 syllables)

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Source: [Read Write Think](#)

Useful Websites

BTN – Palm Oil Problem

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/palm-oil-problem/10523458>

BTN – Palm Oil

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/palm-oil/10528254>

BTN – Saving Orangutans

<http://www.abc.net.au/btn/classroom/saving-orangutans/10532904>

WWF – Orangutan

<https://www.wwf.org.au/what-we-do/species/orangutan#gs.speBM4O4>

WWF – Palm Oil

<https://www.wwf.org.au/what-we-do/food/palm-oil>

CBBC Newsround – What is palm oil and why is thought to be bad?

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/39492207>

Creature Feature

COMMON NAME:

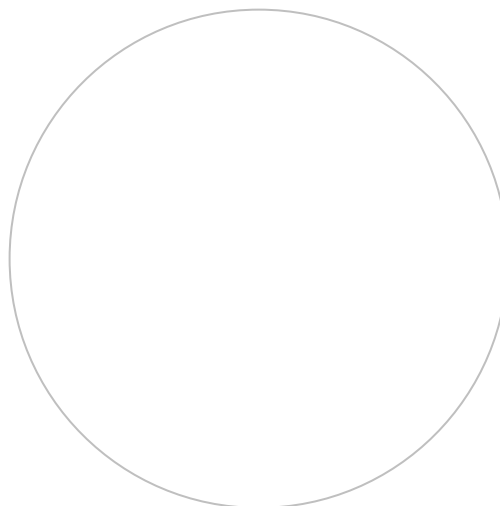
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Illustration/photo

THREATS TO SPECIES:

CONSERVATION STATUS (highlight):

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HABITAT:

BEHAVIOUR:

INTERESTING FEATURES: