

Story:

A Day in the Life of an Orangutan



Teachers note:

This is a short story that can be used as a way to introduce the idea of orangutans to children.

Orangutans live in the rainforests of Borneo and Sumatra.

Close your eyes and imagine you are in the rainforest.

It is warm and wet and all around you there are large trees.

Look up to the tops of the green trees.

There is something orange up there, someone orange!

It is Indah the orangutan and her mother.

They live together up in the trees in the forest.

Each day Indah and her mother go for an adventure.

They swing through the branches that are brown and rough.

They look for something tasty to eat.


Look over there!

They have found something tasty in this tree.

Beautiful flowers to nibble, tasty new leaves to munch and delicious fruit to gobble.

"Crunch, crunch, yum, yum.

Lots of fruit in my tum!"



Listen, "Pitter, patter, pitter, patter", it's raining in the forest.

Indah and her mother pick big, green shiny leaves to use as umbrellas and shelter from the rain.

After the rain stops they have a nibble on the leaves.

Indah and her mother love leaf salad.

Indah in getting bored of looking for food, it's time to play.

Indah practices climbing along a big branch, then a smaller one and an even smaller one.

"Watch out Indah, that branch looks too small to carry you!"

The branch begins to crack.

Indah's mother watches carefully.

She stretches out one of her long orange arms and grabs Indah.

As Indah gets older she will learn all the ways of the forest.

After such an exciting day, Indah is tired.

When Indah gets tired she holds onto her mother's long, orange woolly hair to hitch a ride. Indah's hair is short and soft.

Indah and her mother look for a good place to make their nest for the night.

High up in the trees they make their nest with big, soft and comfortable leaves and branches.

Indah settles down for the night, and goes to sleep.

"Good night Indah"

Tomorrow you will have another adventure in the forest.