

Palm Oil

What is Palm Oil?

Palm oil is made from the fruit of palm trees. It is used in many different foods and products, such as:

- some ice creams
- some chocolates
- some shampoos
- some lipsticks



Palm Oil in the News

Many people believe that using palm oil has caused lots of the world's rainforests to be destroyed. Large areas of rainforest are being burnt to make room for these palm trees.

This means that animals in the rainforest, such as orangutans, tigers and elephants, are having their homes destroyed.

Other people think that the rainforest being destroyed has less to do with palm oil and more to do with other issues. They argue that palm oil creates jobs for people in isolated rural areas.



Questions

1. Where does palm oil come from? Tick **one**.

- ☐ bananas
- ☐ chocolate
- ☐ palm trees
- ☐ oak trees

2. Which of these products use palm oil? Tick **one**.

- ☐ some cars
- ☐ some televisions
- ☐ some toys
- ☐ some shampoos

3. What kind of land has been destroyed to make room for palm trees? Tick **one**.

- ☐ mountains
- ☐ rainforests
- ☐ rivers
- ☐ deserts

4. What kinds of animals are having their homes destroyed? Tick **one**.

- ☐ dogs, cats and mice
- ☐ orangutans, tigers and elephants
- ☐ wolves, snakes and monkeys
- ☐ deer, foxes and rabbits

5. Complete the sentence:

Some people argue that palm oil creates jobs for... Tick **one**.

- ☐ orangutans
- ☐ people in isolated rural areas
- ☐ people who work in factories
- ☐ elephants

Answers

1. Where does palm oil come from? Tick **one**.

- ☐ bananas
- ☐ chocolate
- ☒ **palm trees**
- ☐ oak trees

2. Which of these products use palm oil? Tick **one**.

- ☐ some cars
- ☐ some televisions
- ☐ some toys
- ☒ **some shampoos**

3. What kind of land has been destroyed to make room for palm trees? Tick **one**.

- ☐ mountains
- ☒ **rainforests**
- ☐ rivers
- ☐ deserts

4. What kinds of animals are having their homes destroyed? Tick **one**.

- ☐ dogs, cats and mice
- ☒ **orangutans, tigers and elephants**
- ☐ wolves, snakes and monkeys
- ☐ deer, foxes and rabbits

5. Complete the sentence:

Some people argue that palm oil creates jobs for... Tick **one**.

- ☐ orangutans
- ☒ **people in isolated rural areas**
- ☐ people who work in factories
- ☐ elephants

Palm Oil

You might have heard a lot about palm oil recently in the news. But what is palm oil? Why is it an issue?

What is Palm Oil?

Palm oil is made from the fruit of palm trees. Lots of fruit grows on each palm tree so it is easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly. It is used in many different foods and products, such as:

- some ice creams
- some chocolates
- some shampoos
- some lipsticks



Palm Oil in the News

Many people believe that using palm oil has caused lots of the world's rainforests to be destroyed. Large areas of rainforest are being burnt to make room for these palm trees. This means that animals in the rainforest, such as orangutans as well as some breeds of tigers and elephants, are having their homes destroyed.

Other people think that the rainforest being destroyed has less to do with palm oil and more to do with other issues. They argue that palm oil creates jobs for people in isolated rural areas.

As palm oil is used in so many products, many of them widely used, the problem over whether to use palm oil will not be easily solved.



Questions

1. Where does palm oil come from? Tick **one**.

- ☐ bananas
- ☐ chocolate
- ☐ palm trees
- ☐ oak trees

2. Name two products that contain palm oil.

3. Why is it easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly? Tick **one**.

- ☐ because the trees grow tall
- ☐ because of the warm weather
- ☐ because the fruit grows quickly
- ☐ because lots of fruit grows on each tree

4. Which animals are having their homes destroyed? Tick **one**.

- ☐ dogs, cats and mice
- ☐ orangutans, tigers and elephants
- ☐ wolves, snakes and monkeys
- ☐ deer, foxes and rabbits

5. Complete the sentence:

Some people argue that palm oil creates jobs for...

Answers

1. Where does palm oil come from? Tick **one**.

- ☐ bananas
- ☐ chocolate
- ☒ **palm trees**
- ☐ oak trees

2. Name two products that contain palm oil.

Accept any two of the following: some ice creams, some chocolates, some shampoos, some lipsticks.

3. Why is it easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly? Tick **one**.

- ☐ because the trees grow tall
- ☐ because of the warm weather
- ☐ because the fruit grows quickly
- ☒ **because lots of fruit grows on each tree**

4. Which animals are having their homes destroyed? Tick **one**.

- ☐ dogs, cats and mice
- ☒ **orangutans, tigers and elephants**
- ☐ wolves, snakes and monkeys
- ☐ deer, foxes and rabbits

5. Complete the sentence:

Some people argue that palm oil creates jobs for...

People in isolated rural areas.

Palm Oil

You might have heard a lot about palm oil recently in the news. But what is palm oil? Why is it an issue?

What is Palm Oil?

Palm oil is made from the fruit of palm trees. Lots of fruit grows on each palm tree so it is easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly. It is used in many different foods and products.

Palm Oil in the News

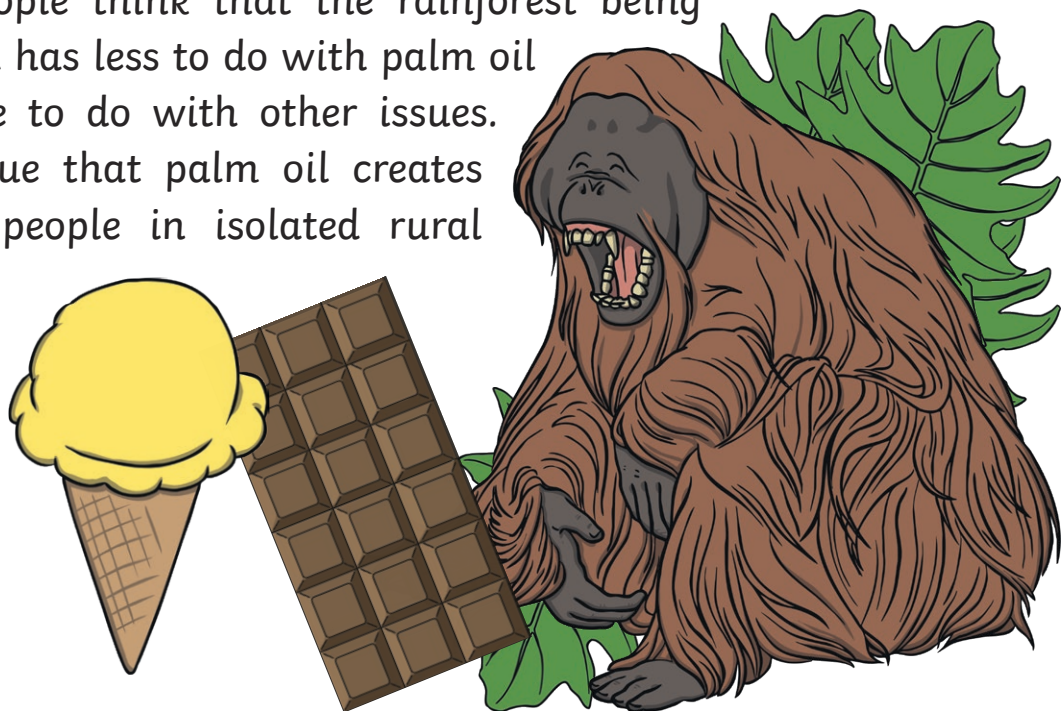
Many people believe that using palm oil has caused lots of the world's rainforests to be destroyed. According to the charity Greenpeace, an area the size of a football pitch is cut down every 25

seconds in Indonesia. This means that **endangered** animals in the rainforest, such as orangutans as well as some breeds of tigers and elephants, are having their **habitats** destroyed.

Other people think that the rainforest being destroyed has less to do with palm oil and more to do with other issues. They argue that palm oil creates jobs for people in isolated rural areas.

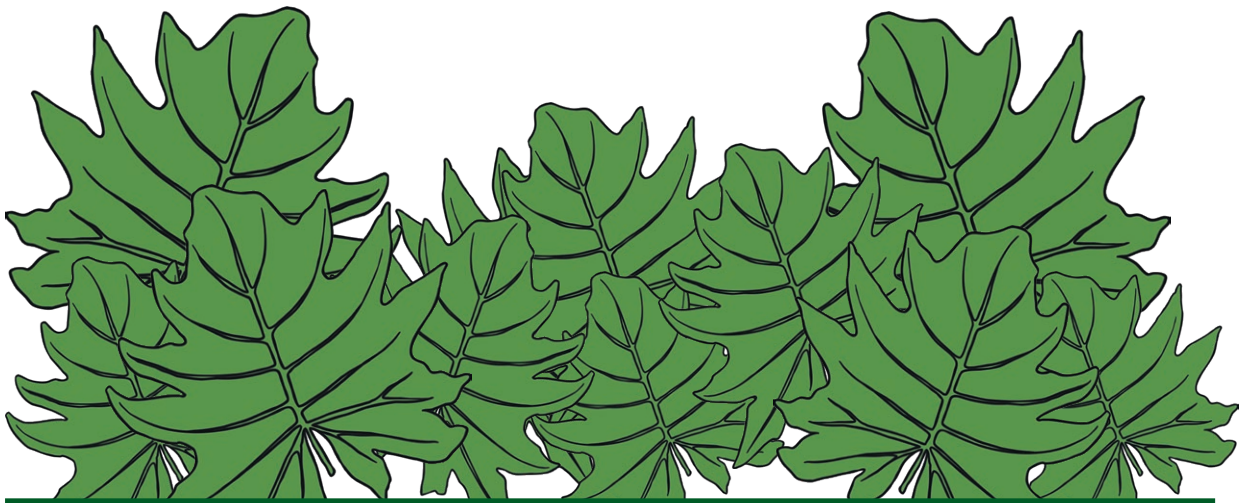
Products that Contain Palm Oil

- some ice creams
- some chocolates
- some shampoos
- some lipsticks



Is There a Solution?

As palm oil is used in so many products, many of them widely used, the argument over whether to use palm oil will not be easily solved. One solution that has been suggested is the use of **sustainable** palm oil, making sure that the palm trees are grown in a way that doesn't hurt the rainforest.



Glossary

endangered – Animals that are at risk of going extinct.

habitats – The natural home of an animal where it can find shelter, food and somewhere to raise its young.

sustainable – Something that is able to be kept at the same level without using up or destroying the area.

Questions

1. Where does palm oil come from?

2. Name two products that contain palm oil.

3. Why is it easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly? Tick **one**.

- ☐ because the trees grow tall
- ☐ because of the warm weather
- ☐ because the fruit grows quickly
- ☐ because lots of fruit grows on each tree

4. Which animals are having their habitats destroyed? Tick **one**.

- ☐ dogs, cats and mice
- ☐ orangutans, tigers and elephants
- ☐ wolves, snakes and monkeys
- ☐ deer, foxes and rabbits

5. **Find** and **copy** one word which means **at risk of going extinct**.

6. Why is a habitat important for an animal? Explain your answer.

Answers

1. Where does palm oil come from?
palm trees
2. Name two products that contain palm oil.
Accept any two of the following: some ice creams, some chocolates, some shampoos, some lipsticks.
3. Why is it easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly? Tick **one**.
 - ☐ because the trees grow tall
 - ☐ because of the warm weather
 - ☒ **because the fruit grows quickly**
 - ☐ because lots of fruit grows on each tree
4. Which animals are having their habitats destroyed? Tick **one**.
 - ☐ dogs, cats and mice
 - ☒ **orangutans, tigers and elephants**
 - ☐ wolves, snakes and monkeys
 - ☐ deer, foxes and rabbits
5. **Find and copy** one word which means **at risk of going extinct**.
endangered
6. Why is a habitat important for an animal? Explain your answer.
A habitat is important to an animal as it is where they find food, find shelter and have a place to raise their young. Without a habitat, animals would find it very hard to find food and shelter and therefore find it hard to survive.