

Orangutans

Orangutans are the largest tree-dwelling mammals. They spend most of their time in the canopy layers of the rainforest. They travel by climbing between branches.

Orangutans are the gardeners of the forest, playing a vital role in seed dispersal in their habitats.

There are 3 species of orangutans: the Bornean, the Sumatran and the recently confirmed new species (as of 2017) the Tapanuli.

They receive a mixture of sugars and fats from fruits, carbohydrates from fruits, leaves and other plant matter but they also eat insects, bark and cambium for other nutrients when fruits are scarce.

Critically endangered due to habitat loss and human activities, with an estimated 148,600 vanishing from Borneo's forest between 1999 and 2015. Orangutans are among the rarest primates on Earth.

The orange-red-brown colored fur of the orangutan is a result of sunlight reflecting off their fur. In the shade their tan skin absorbs the light so you only see the dark skin underneath.