

3. NO HIDING PLACE

Disappearing forests

Our planet is covered in huge forests that are home to thousands of species of mammals, birds and insects.

The animals that live in forests need the trees for food and shelter. If the forests disappear so do the animals, especially primates such as monkeys and apes.



Orangutans are the largest mammals that live in trees. In the past 20 years, 80% of the rainforest where they live has been destroyed by illegal logging. That is when trees are cut down to make timber for building homes, furniture and other goods.

Another big threat to orangutans and other wildlife is the destruction of the rainforest to plant trees for palm oil. Palm oil is used to increase the shelf life of goods, so they can be on sale longer in shops and supermarkets.

Name: Orangutan

Found: Sumatra

Habitat: Rainforest

How many left: 7300

Reason endangered: Forest clearance,
hunting for meat and pet trade



Every hour, an area of rainforest the size of 300 football pitches is destroyed for palm oil trees.

