

Overview – The *Asian Trek* education experience explores the animals of the Asian Rainforest and investigates their amazing adaptations and fight for survival in a changing environment. It also provides an excellent link to the cross curriculum priorities of ‘Sustainability’ and ‘Asia and Australia’s engagement with Asia’.

Lesson Logistics – This experience will take place in one of our outdoor education spaces and throughout the Asian Rainforest. It involves some small group work and exploring of exhibits led by teachers and/or adult helpers. Therefore this experience requires at least a 1:10 ratio of adult supervision. The delivery of *Asian Trek* can be modified if weather is inclement.

Duration – 45 mins

Conservation Message – There are many amazing animals in the Asian Rainforest. Human activities threaten their survival and in turn global biodiversity, but there are many things that we can do to contribute to saving wildlife.



Sumatran Tiger
Panthera tigris sumatrae

Links to the Australian Curriculum

Science:

| | Science Understanding : Biological Science | Science Inquiry Skills |
|--------|---|---|
| Year 4 | Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the environment to survive (ACSSU073) | With guidance, identify questions in familiar contexts that can be investigated scientifically and predict what might happen based on prior knowledge (ACSIS064). Communicate ideas, explanations and processes in a variety of ways (ACSIS110). |
| Year 5 | Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment (ACSSU043). | |
| Year 6 | The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of their environment (ACSSU094). | |

Geography:

| | Geographical Knowledge and Understanding |
|--------|--|
| Year 4 | The importance of environments to animals and people, and different views on how they can be protected (ACHGK022). The natural resources provided by the environment, and different views on how they could be used sustainably (ACHGK024). |
| Year 5 | The influence people have on the human characteristics of places and the management of spaces within them |

Cross Curriculum Priority – Asia and Australia’s Engagement with Asia:

| | Organising Ideas – Asia and It’s Diversity |
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| OI.2 | Interrelationships between humans and the diverse environments in Asia shape the region and have global implications. |

Links to the Australian Curriculum continued ...

Cross Curriculum Priority – Sustainability:

| | Organising ideas – Systems |
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| OI.2 | All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival. |
| OI.3 | Sustainable patterns of living rely on the interdependence of healthy social, economic and ecological systems. |

Before Your Zoo Visit

It would be very useful to consider the following topics prior to your *Asian Trek* education experience.

- Different animals found in the Asian Rainforest and their role in the food chain
- Features of a rainforest ecosystem
- Adaptations for survival in a rainforest – protection, obtaining food and locomotion
- The main threats to animals in Asia and which animals are at the greatest risk of extinction



Komodo Dragon
Varanus komodoensis

Be sure to visit the Perth Zoo website for the most up to date student activities to support your Education Experience. Follow the links to <https://perthzoo.wa.gov.au/schools/years-4-6>. Feel free to photocopy these for your visit to the Zoo. It is a great idea to bring along a camera for the day so you have images that you can use for activities when you return to school.

Back at School

The *Asian Trek* experience explores the biodiversity of the rainforest and the threats to this fragile ecosystem. To offer your students an opportunity to elaborate on their experience, you might like to explore the following with your class:

Animal Fact File – Create information packs about Asian animals and maybe even adopt a Perth Zoo animal as a class!

Creative Presentation – As an alternative to a written report, students could research Asian animals and present this information as a board game, TV game show or an Arts project.

Going, Going, Gone – Research which animals are at greatest risk of extinction from poaching and why they are targeted. Make posters for around the school to educate other students.

Action!

Using the Wildlife Conservation Action Fundraising Pack given out at the end of the Asian Trek lesson, help Perth Zoo to save Asian animals by getting the whole school involved in a worthwhile fundraising activity.

Find out more about or get involved directly with conservation projects in the wild such as the Australian Orangutan Project (www.orangutan.org.au). Alternatively consider some projects for your own 'backyard' such as planting some native trees or even develop a litter reduction strategy for your school.

