# LEARN AT CHESTER ZOO

# FEED THE HORNBILL GAME

## The aim of the game

It's nesting time for the hornbills. Can you help them? The chicks are hungry and want their food.

Every breeding season the adults they make a nest in the hollow of a large, old tree trunk.

To keep them safe the adult birds build a temporary wall around the entrance of the hollow with mud. They have to find fruit and insects in the rainforest to bring back to the nest. They push the food through the holes to feed their chicks. Sounds simple doesn't it! Why don't you have a try?



#### You will need

- Pair of tweezers or small kitchen tongs.
- Variety of items from your kitchen, e.g. sweet, crisps, raisins. Select a variety of shapes and sizes for more fun. You could always make some out of playdough or modelling clay.
- Old tissue box, you may need to adjust the size of the opening using tape. (About 1 to 2 cm wide to 4 cm long works well but you can change this to suit you and the children)
- A timer

### How to play

Using only tweezers or tongs to act as your hornbill beak, pick up one item at a time and place them into the opening slit of your box.

Who is fastest? Can you improve your time?

#### Challenge

Are you observant like a hornbill? Take turns with a partner to hide some of the "food items" around the room. Now you have to find them as well as fit them into the slot! Who is the quickest to spot the food around the room?

Can you paint or decorate your, "nest box" to look like a tree trunk?

