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PALM OIL FACT CARDS

These cards contain facts for children about:

- Where in the world is palm oil grown
- What palm oil is used for
- The oil palm tree
- What farmers need to do to be classed as 'sustainable' palm oil producers

These cards are differentiated (starred with 1, 2, or 3 stars and also colour-coded) and have been designed to be used with different year groups, from approximately year 3 to 6 plus.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 4 *



It takes several years before an oil palm tree produces fruit. Once it does the fruit can be harvested all year. 5.9 litres of palm oil can be produced per hectare of land.



Oil palm fruits produce two types of oil. Palm kernel oil comes from the stone in the middle of the fruit and crude palm oil from the flesh of the fruit.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 1 *

The vegetable oil 'palm oil' is grown in the tropics around the world. Oil palm trees are an important money earner in Indonesia and Malaysia, so palm oil is sometimes called 'green gold'. Plantations can also be found in South America and West Africa.



To grow oil palm trees, you need:
1780–2280mm of rain a year
a 2 to 4 dry month period
21-24 °C average minimum temperature

PALM OIL FACT CARD 3 *



Oil palm trees can grow as tall as 20 metres and live for about 25 years.

The stem of the tree can grow to as much as 0.5m in diameter.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 2 *



Palm oil is a vegetable oil which can be found in food like crisps, crackers, chocolate and household products like shampoo and cosmetics.

The oil palm trees produces many more litres of oil per hectare than other plants such as coconut, olive and soyabean.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 5 *



For products to use the RSPO logo on their packaging, plantation owners need to show:

- no rainforest was removed to make way for their plantation
- no endangered wildlife was living on the original land

Plantation owners must:

- give workers proper wages and rights
- give free nursery and schooling for the workers children

Wildlife found in the plantation must be allowed to travel through the plantation to reach food in the natural surrounding habitat. Owners often help wildlife to do this by creating wildlife corridors.

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PALM OIL FACT CARD 1 **

Palm oil is the most widely used vegetable oil, oil palm trees are grown in the tropics around the world. It is a huge part of the economy in Indonesia and Malaysia. It is known as 'green gold'. Plantations are also now in West Africa and South America.



To grow oil palm trees, you need:
1780–2280mm of rain a year
a 2 to 4 dry month period
21–24 °C average minimum temperature

PALM OIL FACT CARD 2 **



Palm oil can be found in food like bread, pizza and cake and can also be found in toothpaste, soap, shampoo and a lot of different cosmetics.

Five times more palm oil is produced per hectare than any other type of vegetable oil.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 3 **



Oil palm trees are single stemmed trees which can grow as tall as 20 metres and live on average for 25 years.

They have a stem diameter as much as 0.5m.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 4 **



It takes several years before an oil palm tree produces fruit. Once it does the fruit can be harvested all year. 5.9 litres of palm oil can be produced per hectare of land.



Oil palm fruits produce two types of oil. Palm kernel oil comes from crushing the stone in the middle of the fruit and crude palm oil from squeezing the flesh of the fruit.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 5 **



For plantations to be certified as a sustainable palm oil plantation, plantation owners need to show:

- that no rainforest was deforested to make way for their plantation
- that no endangered wildlife living on the original land was affected by the plantation

Plantation owners must:

- give workers fair pay, fair hours and work breaks
- give free nursery and schooling for the workers children

Any wildlife found in the plantation area must be allowed to travel through the plantation to reach food and the natural habitat surrounding the plantation. Owners often do this by creating wildlife corridors.

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Five times more palm oil is produced per hectare than any other type of vegetable oil.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 3 ***



Oil palm trees are single stemmed trees which can grow from between 8 and 20 metres tall with an average lifespan of 25 years.

They have a stem diameter as much as 0.5m.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 4 ***



It takes several years before an oil palm tree produces fruit. Once it does the fruit can be harvested all year. 5.9 litres of palm oil can be produced per hectare of land.



Oil palm fruits produce two types of oil. Palm kernel oil comes from crushing the stone in the middle of the fruit and crude palm oil from squeezing the flesh of the fruit.

PALM OIL FACT CARD 5 ***



For plantations to be able to say they are certified as a sustainable palm oil plantation, plantation owners need to show:

- that no rainforest was deforested for that plantation in the first place
- that no significant wildlife on the original land was impacted by the plantation

Plantation owners must take good care of its workers giving them fair pay, fair hours and work breaks. Workers with families must also get free nursery and schooling for their children.

Any wildlife found in the plantation area must be cared for. Some plantations create an area of the site that connects to some natural habitat by planting natural trees within it so the wildlife can still move through the plantations. This is known as a wildlife corridor.