

# OSAFE: Rainforest Tabling Activity Packet

This packet is designed to support volunteers and staff in creating an engaging, educational, and flexible tabling experience at your zoo. It includes a mix of hands-on and passive activities that can be tailored to your zoo's animals, biofacts, and seasonal themes.

## Tips & Tricks to Make It Relevant at your Zoo:

- Theme It Up | Try aligning your table with seasonal or awareness events like:
  - Halloween (spooky animal facts)
  - Valentine's Day (animal courtship behaviors)
  - Mother's Day (animal parenting)
  - Rainforest Day or Orangutan Day (habitat conservation)
- Use What You Have: Tailor your activities to the animals currently at your zoo and the biofacts available (e.g., feathers, skulls, fur, etc.).
- Depending on staffing or volunteers you have available pull different activities that might be more passive for larger groups to participate at the same time.

## Suggested Materials for Every Tabling Event:

General Supplies	Extra (Fun but Not Needed)
Clipboard	Prize Wheel
Painters Tape	Prizes
Scissors	Tablecloth
Ruler	Fliers/ Promotional Materials
Pens/ Pencils/ Sharpies	Biofacts
Clicker (to count guests)	
Hand Sanitizer	

## Build a Rainforest

**Message:** Rainforests are ecosystems that provide shelter, food, and space for countless animals, each with their own unique niche. Help us build a beautiful rainforest mural with our Zoo community and write a conservation action you can do in (your state.)

**Materials:** butcher paper, di-cut leaves and animals, markers/coloring pencils, glue sticks, bowls, sharpies

**Description:** Create a collaborative rainforest mural with conservation actions!

**Set Up:**

1. On a table put butcher paper and divide into 4 layers (forest floor, understory, canopy, emergent layer.) Have a few tree trunks and a water feature if you would like to start the rainforest.
2. Have a bowl with glue sticks and markers/colored pencils set to the side for guests to use.
3. Have di-cuts prepped that can include leaves, animals, vines, etc.
4. On the leaves you can have guests write their conservation action they will do at home

**Evaluation:** Count the conservation actions and potentially code the action impact.

## Prize Wheel

**Message:** Many of the animals at our Zoo have wild cousins that live in the rainforest! Each one has a unique story and role in their ecosystem. Spin the wheel to test your animal knowledge and learn more about the amazing individuals that call our Zoo home.

**Materials:** prize wheel, photos of rainforest animals, prizes, trading cards, blow up globe or world map, trivia questions and answers

**Description:** Participants spin a prize wheel to discover a rainforest animal at your Zoo!

**Set Up:**

1. Create a prize wheel with animals at your Zoo that have wild cousins that call a rainforest their home.
2. When guests spin the wheel, they will then have to answer a trivia question. Depending on the guests' age, choose the most appropriate question or your best guess.
3. Pass out the prize (pencils, pens, small animal figurines, etc.) You can also make trading cards of the same animal that they land on that they can win with the specific animal's name and birthdate and a conservation fact to make it personal to your Zoo.

**Trivia Questions & Answers:**

The trivia questions are sorted by difficulty and come in both open-ended and multiple-choice formats. Feel free to mix, match, or adapt them based on your audience and the needs of your program.

- **Easy**

- What color is an orangutan's fur?
  - Answer: **Orange**
- What type of plant do orangutans live in?
  - Answer: **Trees**
- Are orangutans apes or monkeys?
  - Answer: **Apes**
- Where do orangutans live?
  - A) Rainforest
  - B) Savannah
  - C) Desert
  - D) Arctic
  - Answer: **A) Rainforest**
- What do Orangutans like to eat?
  - A) Ants
  - B) Fruit
  - C) Meat
  - D) Pizza
  - Answer: **B) Fruit**
- How do orangutans like to move?
  - A) Hopping
  - B) Running
  - C) Swinging
  - D) Trotting
  - Answer: **C) Running**

- **Medium**

- On which two islands do wild orangutans live?
  - A) Borneo and Alpaca
  - B) Seychelles and Madagascar
  - C) Sumatra and Sundara
  - D) Borneo and Sumatra
  - Answer: **D) Borneo and Sumatra**
- How many years do orangutan babies stay with their mothers?
  - Answer: **6 to 8 years**
- What crop grown in rainforests is the biggest threat to orangutans?
  - A) Corn
  - B) Sugar Cane
  - C) Coffee
  - D) Palm Oil
  - Answer: **D) Palm oil**
- What does the word "orangutan" mean in Malay?
  - A) Orange climber
  - B) Animal who Swings
  - C) Person of the Forest
  - D) Friend of the Garden
  - Answer: **C) Person of the forest**
- What is the main thing orangutans eat in the wild?
  - Answer: **Fruit**
- What type of rainforest do orangutans live in?

- a) Temperate rainforest
  - b) Tropical rainforest
  - c) Forbidden rainforest
  - d) Apo-Cethroean rainforest
  - Answer: **B) Tropical rainforest**
- **Hard**
  - How many species of orangutans are there?
    - Answer: **Three**
  - What is the name of the rarest species of orangutan?
    - Answer: **Tapanuli orangutan**
  - What is the scientific genus for all orangutans?
    - Answer: **Pongo**
  - How many inches of rain does Borneo receive each year?
    - Answer: **Around 100 to 150 inches**
  - What is the average lifespan of a wild orangutan?
    - Answer: **30 to 40 years**
  - How do orangutans help the rainforest ecosystem?
    - Answer: **They spread seeds through their feces, helping new trees grow**

### Orangutan Trading Card Template

- An optional prize for the trivia activity can be an orangutan trading card. A template for these trading cards is linked below.

### Evaluation:

1. How many trivia questions do the guests answer correctly.
2. Asking if the guests learned anything new and have them name it.

## Letters From A Scientist

**Message:** These letters bring the voices of orangutan conservationists directly to learners through personal letters. Each letter shares unique insights, experiences, and messages of hope from those working on the frontlines of orangutan conservation. The goal is to foster empathy, inspire action, and create meaningful connections between learners and the people dedicated to protecting orangutans and their habitats.

**Materials:** Printed letters from orangutan conservationists, formatted for easy distribution to guests and students as take-home resources or on-grounds engagement tools.

**Canva Link:** [HERE](#)

# Rainforest Biofacts

**Message:** Animals that live in rainforests have many different adaptations or superpowers to survive in their habitat or home. Look at the biofacts and see if you can match them with the photos on the table. *(This could also be a time you could talk about how wildlife trafficking is, depending on the age of the guest.)*

**Materials:** biofacts (whatever you have available) and print matching animal photos.

**Description:** Connect biofacts with photos of what the animal looks like focusing on the animals' adaptations that help them live in the rainforest.

## Set Up:

1. Have a table and biofacts laid out.
2. Put photos of animals scattered around the table.
  - a. Prepare a few fun facts about each animal.

## Examples:

- Tortoise shell - used as armor
- Orangutan handprint - super strength
- Primate armspan - flight
- Feather or fur that camouflages - invisibility
- Primate skull- super vision (eyes in front for depth perception) OR super intelligence (big brain)
- Picture of orangutan cheek flanges/chest pouch- sonic boom

**Evaluation:** Have guests connect habitat loss and the adaptation that is affected, i.e. an animal that climbs trees with claws and there are no trees.

## Canva Links:

- [Conservation Action Ideas](#)
- [Create A Rainforest](#)
- [Orangutan Trading Card](#)