Palm Oil

You might have heard a lot about palm oil recently in the news. But what is palm oil? Why is it an issue?

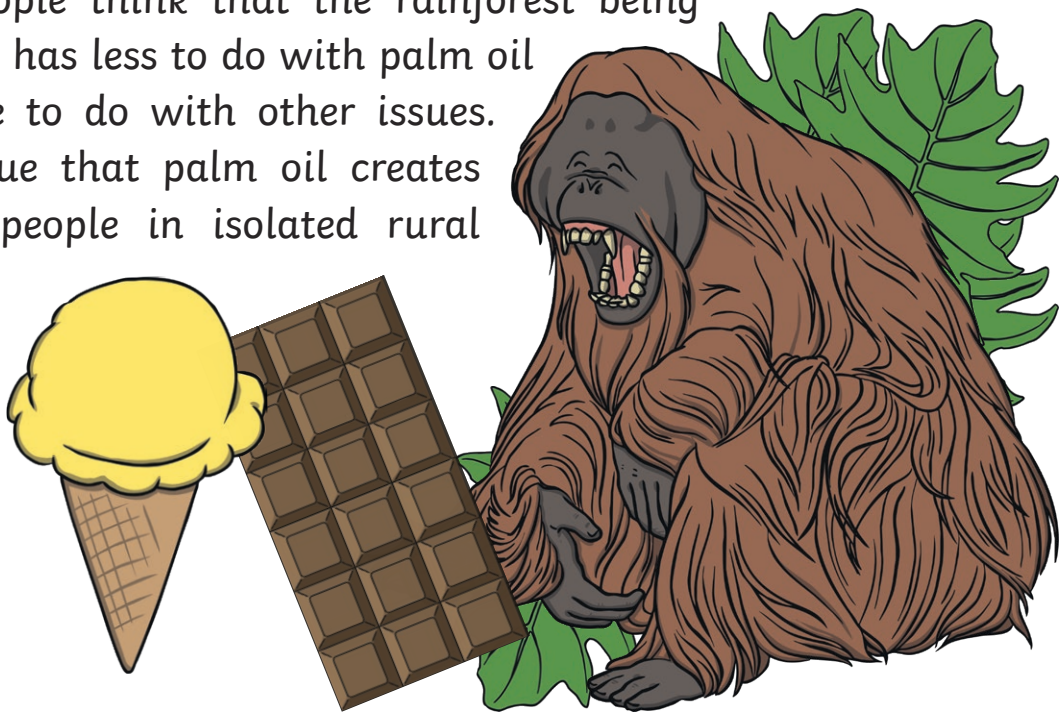
What is Palm Oil?

Palm oil is made from the fruit of palm trees. Lots of fruit grows on each palm tree so it is easy to make a lot of palm oil quickly. It is used in many different foods and products.

Palm Oil in the News

Many people believe that using palm oil has caused lots of the world's rainforests to be destroyed. According to the charity Greenpeace, an area the size of a football pitch is cut down every 25 seconds in Indonesia. This means that **endangered** animals in the rainforest, such as orangutans as well as some breeds of tigers and elephants, are having their **habitats** destroyed.

Products that Contain Palm Oil

- some ice creams
- some chocolates
- some shampoos
- some lipsticks

Other people think that the rainforest being destroyed has less to do with palm oil and more to do with other issues. They argue that palm oil creates jobs for people in isolated rural areas.