

Primary Worksheets: Red Panda



The red panda, also known as the 'lesser pandas' or 'firefoxes', is a mammal that is actually not related to the giant panda. They share a similar name and love for bamboo, but they are more closely related to weasels, racoons, and skunks.

The red panda is well known for its round face, red and black fur, and a bushy ringed tail. They are about the same size as a house cat, with their bodies growing up to around 60cm in length and their tails growing up to around 50cm in length.



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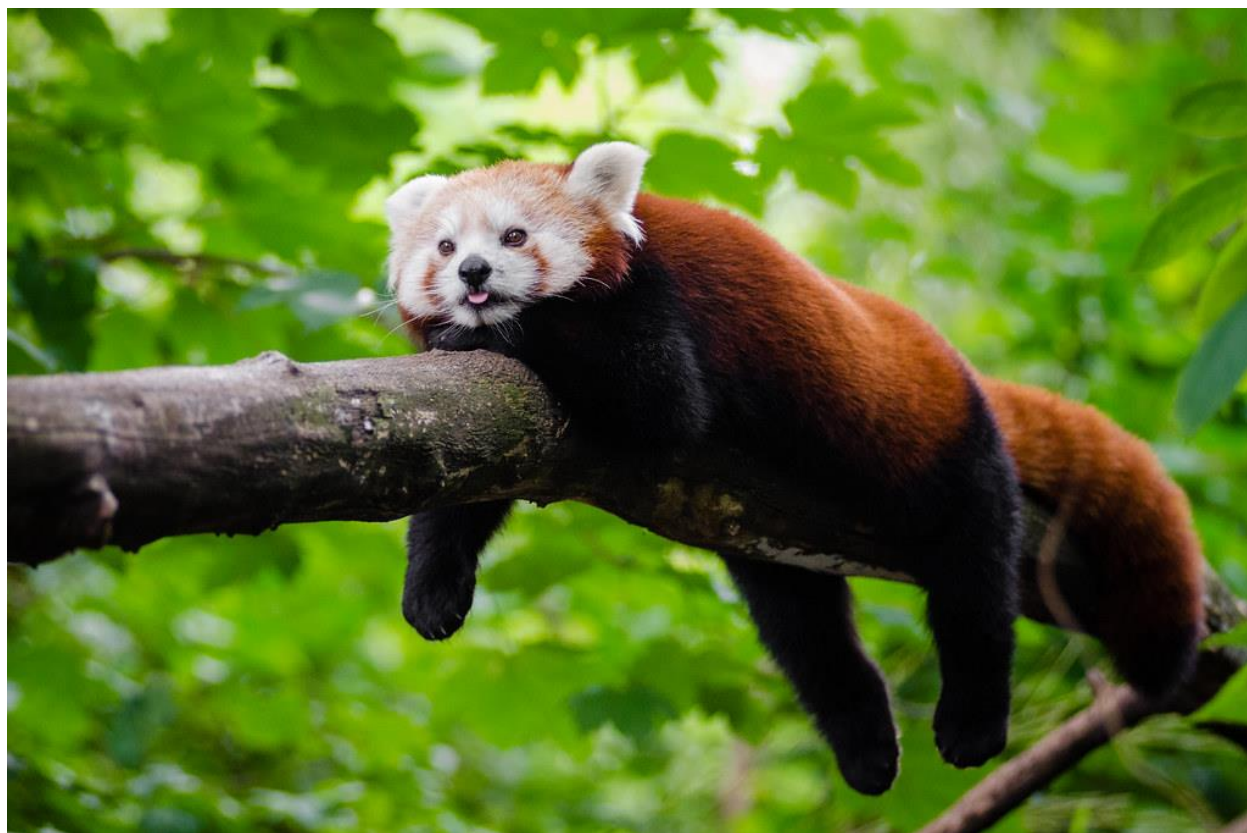
Just like the giant panda, red pandas are one of few animals that consume bamboo as their main source of nutrition. They must eat around 1 to 2kg of bamboo per day to get enough nutrition.

They like to nibble on bamboo leaves and fresh shoots, as opposed to the stalks that giant pandas like! Red Pandas need to eat so many bamboo because they can only digest 24% of it.

They can also eat grass, fruits, eggs, insects, and small animals. Despite eating a lot of bamboo, they are considered to be carnivores.



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Red pandas spend most of their day resting or sleeping. They are mainly active in the early morning and late afternoon. Like a cat, they will wrap themselves up in their bushy and go into a deep sleep.

They spend most of their time in trees. Red Pandas have sharp claws that allow them to climb up and down tree trunks with ease. Their long tail allows them to keep their balance.

They are normally solitary animals who can live up to around 8-10 years.



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Red pandas give birth to cubs in a nest made out of twigs and leaves. Cubs are born with thick grey fur. The mother moves them around to different locations by carrying them with her mouth.

Red pandas are usually quiet but can produce a range of sounds. When threatened, they scratch and release a foul odor from their scent glands at the base of their tail.

Their coats blend in well with their habitat, making them camouflaged from predators. They are considered to be endangered because of the loss of their habitat. There are only around 10,000 adult red pandas left. Some say that there are only 2,500 left in their native habitat.



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Answer the questions.

What is a red panda?

What do they look like?

What do they like to eat?



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Answer the questions.

What do they like to do?

What they do if threatened?

Why are they endangered?

