

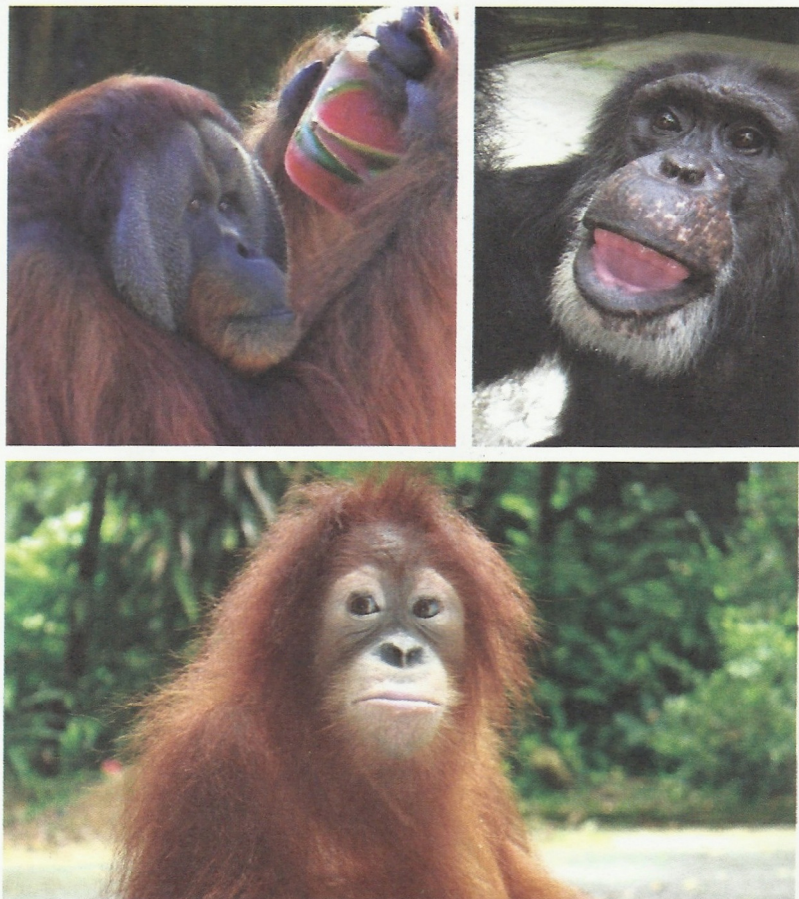
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# Hamilton Zoo and Zoo Negara Team Up



Hamilton Zoo cooperates with Zoo Negara this March at the Ape Centre of Zoo Negara.

Hamilton Zoo and Zoo Negara will be embarking on an upgrading exercise to improve the current chimpanzee enclosure at the Zoo Negara Ape Centre this March. The Ape Centre of Zoo Negara houses 7 chimpanzees and 11 orang-utans. Let us introduce some of their residents:

Tsunami, a Sumatran orang-utan, was born the day after the 2004 Tsunami. She acts very cute to attract attention but is actually very naughty! If you see her blanket dropped outside her cage, beware when you pick it up for her... when you do, she will grab your hair, jewellery, glasses etc.

Katie is an 8-year old Bornean Orang-utan who squeaks to get attention. She loves to play and could be a great baseball player. If you throw her a banana, she may well throw it right back, with a deadly aim too!

Joe the chimpanzee came from London Zoo when he was only one. Today, at 46, he is a lovely old gentleman who takes great pleasure in grooming others. He

will even indicate which part of you needs grooming by pointing to that body part till you come close enough for him to start the grooming session.

The big daddy at the ape centre is Sulong, the father of Tsunami, her brother Chokey and sisters Ana and Indah. This giant Sumatran orang-utan weighs an incredible 150kgs! He is very smart and has once used a piece of bamboo to lock the access door to the exhibit, preventing the keeper from opening it!

These chimpanzees and orang-utans need constant activities to stimulate their intelligence and natural behavior. Some of these stimuli are created by us and come in the form of specially created toys or food puzzles that are put around the enclosure or handed to them to figure out. This is also the key reason for the cooperation between Hamilton Zoo and Zoo Negara. They aim to create a better environment for the chimpanzees at the same time see if they can bring small groups of them together as a larger breeding social group.

We invite you and your friends to join us on 27 March 2010. You will first work

alongside a zoo keeper behind the scenes and then guided on making these toys before observing how the orang-utans or chimpanzees figure them out. Due to limited space and safety concerns, children under the age of 14 are not encouraged unless accompanied by a parent. Please call 03-7724 2272 for details, prices and safety procedures.

The Great orang-utan Project (GOP) is a conservation project that focuses on the gentle and intelligent ape but also works with all its wildlife friends living in the jungles of Borneo. The project is run by Way Out Experiences, a Malaysian social enterprise with representatives or agents in New Zealand, Australia, United Kingdom and Denmark.

The GOP sites include Zoo Taiping & Night Safari, Zoo Negara, Matang in Sarawak, and the Corridor of Life along the Kinabatangan River in Sabah. Volunteers join us from all over the world from 4 days to 4 weeks, contributing directly towards conservation while experiencing the adventure of a lifetime.