

Orangutan Hand Chalk Drawing Activities

Materials

- Chalk
- Sidewalk or Driveway
- Printed Hand Outline
- Scissors
- Your Imagination!

Directions

1. Print out the page that contains the orangutan handprint
2. Cut out the orangutan hand
3. Trace the orangutan hand picture with chalk onto the sidewalk
4. Place your hand inside the orangutan hand chalk drawing and trace around your hand with the chalk



Your hand is much smaller than the hand of an orangutan! Orangutans are arboreal, which means that they live in the trees. The fingers of an orangutan are very long and curved, allowing them to tightly grip on to branches high up in the rainforest. An orangutan uses its thumb to grasp onto the branch.

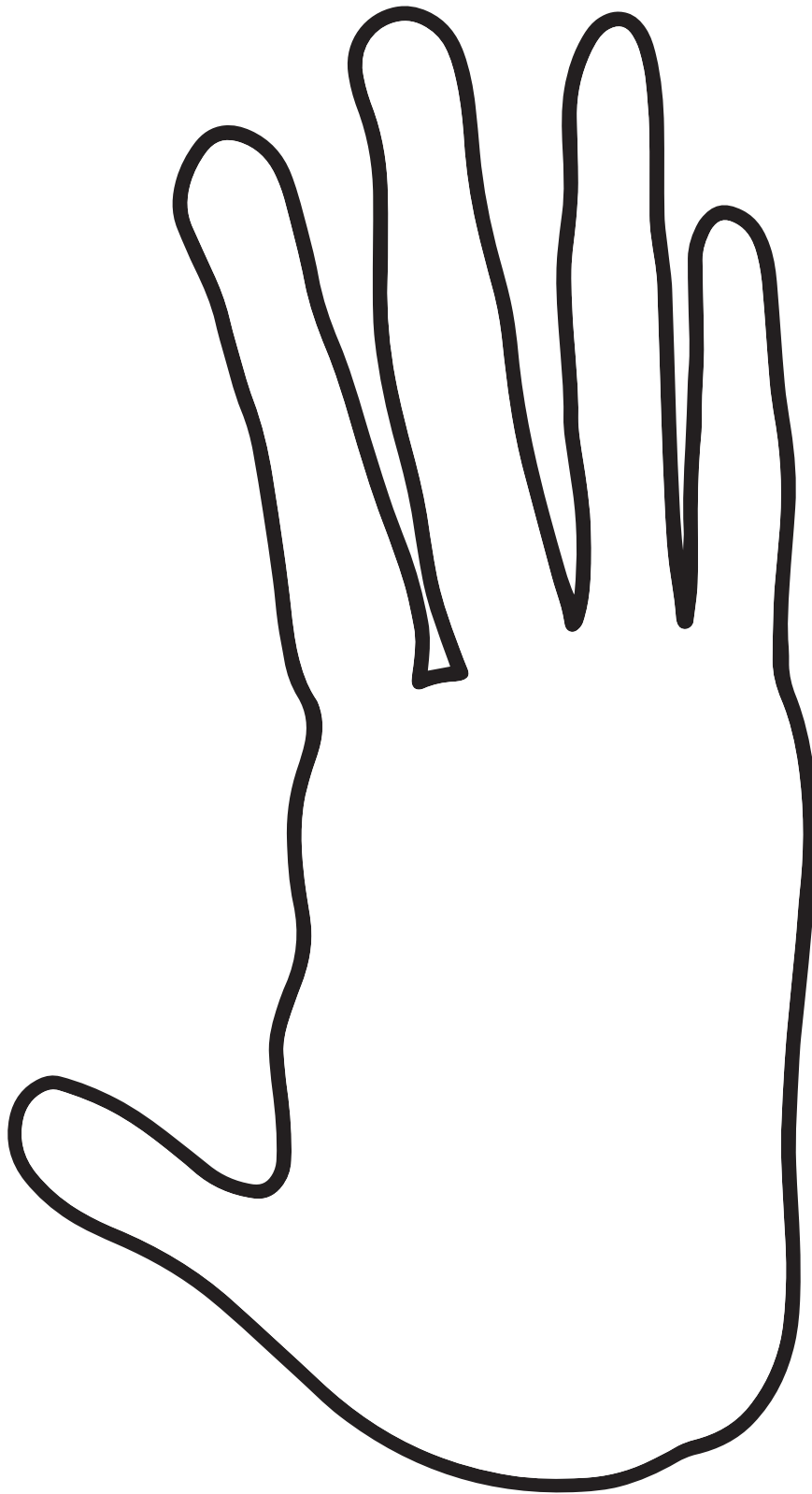
How do your thumbs compare to the orangutan thumb?

What do you use your thumb for?

Try to pick up a piece of chalk without using your thumb. Can you do it?



Our thumb helps us to hold onto things tightly in our hands, and orangutans use their thumbs the same way! Orangutans even have unique fingerprints, just like we do.



Orangutans in the Rainforest

1. Lay down on your back on your sidewalk or driveway.
2. Have someone trace around your whole body.
3. Now, your outline is the orangutan! What color is the orangutan's hair? Draw red orangutan hair to your body outline.
4. Is the orangutan an adult male? Draw big cheek pads on his face.
5. Where does the orangutan live? Draw a tree that your orangutan drawing would live in.
6. What does the orangutan eat? Draw fruits that the orangutan might eat.



Orangutans are great apes, just like humans. We both have hair, fingernails and thumbs for grasping. And neither of us has a tail!

You can help orangutans in the wild by making smart decisions when shopping. Look for products that contain sustainable palm oil in their ingredients, and purchase only sustainably sourced wood products.



Arm Span

Directions:

1. Trace or copy the orangutan hand picture with chalk onto the sidewalk in a place where there is plenty of room.
2. Now measure 8 feet across from that hand picture and draw another orangutan hand.
3. Lay down in the middle of the space between the orangutan hands, with your arms stretched out.
4. Have a friend trace around both of your hands as your arms are stretched out.

Compare your arm span to the arm span of a large orangutan.

Are your arms as long as an orangutan? What are some ways orangutans might use their arms?

Orangutans live high up in the trees in the rainforest. Their long arms help with climbing tree branches, reaching for fruits in the trees and for swinging from branch to branch.