

Animals We Love:

GIANT PANDAS

Recommended for primary school children

Let's learn more about giant pandas:

1 River Wonders is home to giant pandas, Kai Kai and Jia Jia. Kai Kai is nicknamed 'Onion Head' for the small tuft of fur on his head. Jia Jia has a narrow black band on her back.



Kai Kai

2 Giant pandas are one of the eight bear species. Unlike other bears, they live on a plant diet - bamboo to be exact. They even have enlarged wrist bone in each paw that acts as a 'thumb' to hold bamboo while eating. They eat eggs, carrion, bamboo rats and fish occasionally.



Jia Jia

3 Giant pandas cannot digest bamboo well. They have to eat a lot of bamboo (15 to 20kg) to get the nutrients they need, and they poo a lot - about 40 times a day.

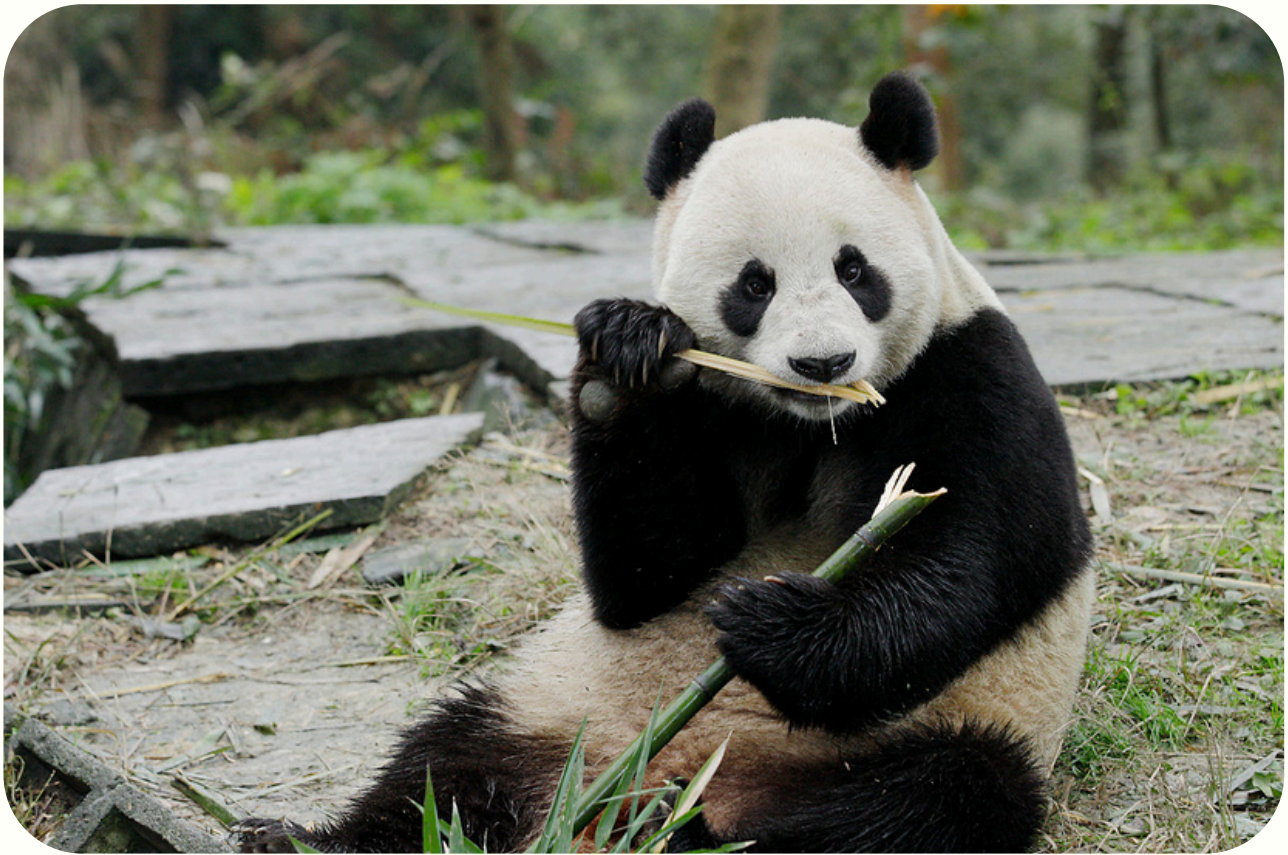
4 Giant pandas can weigh up to 130kg but at birth, cubs are very tiny compared to their mum. They weigh only about 100g and are about 15cm long.



5 Giant pandas excellent tree climbers and they can swim. They are solitary animals. Mature pandas meet only during the breeding season.

Use the See-Think-Wonder Thinking Routine* to start a conversation with your child

*Adapted from Project Zero, Harvard Graduate School of Education



SEE

- Take turns to list every detail in this photograph.
- [Visit River Wonder's webpage on red pandas.](#) How are the red panda and the giant panda similar?
- What are the differences you can spot between the red panda and the giant panda?

THINK

- What do you think the giant panda might use its sharp claws for?
- What other animals do you think also eat bamboo?

WONDER

- I wonder how giant pandas 'talk' to one another.

Activity Time!

Memory Game

 2 or more players

 Markers and drawing paper

STEP 1: Watch the [video](#) on giant pandas and pause the clip at 0:10 seconds. Observe the image of its habitat for 20 seconds and remember as many details as you can.

STEP 2: Without referring to the image, draw it out based on your memory. Compare your drawing with the ones drawn by your family members.

STEP 3: Exchange drawings with your family members. Look at the image again and fill in the missing details.



Panda Postcard

 1 or more players

 Colourful pens and postcard

STEP 1: Watch this [video](#) to find out what a panda keeper does on an average day.

STEP 2: Write a postcard to a friend to share what you found interesting about a panda keeper's job.

STEP 3: Read your postcard aloud to your family members before mailing it out.

