

Threats to Red panda



RED PANDA



THE FIRST PANDA



Foreword

This is a helpful guide about the red panda for school students. This covers red panda's introduction, habitats, diet, breeding habits, threats upon them along with ways/solutions to tackle those threats.

This guide can be used to educate young school students about red pandas.

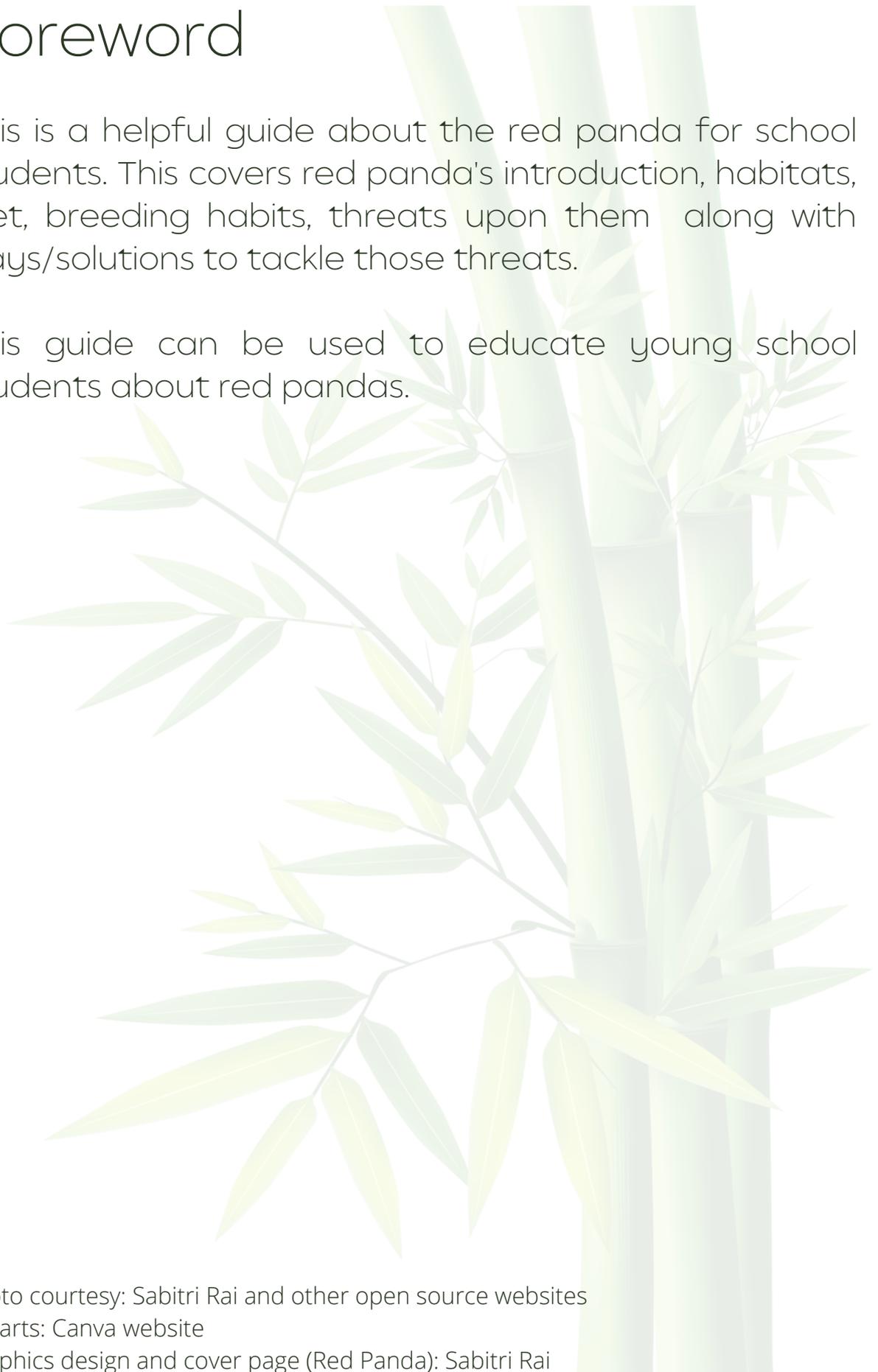


Photo courtesy: Sabitri Rai and other open source websites

Cliparts: Canva website

Graphics design and cover page (Red Panda): Sabitri Rai

Facts about Red Panda



Red panda

- is crepuscular, arboreal and has a solitary in nature
- is shy and non-aggressive animal (but there has been cases of red panda being aggressive toward their keepers)
- has an average life expectancy of 8-14 years in captivity & 7 years in the wild
- has head & body length of 50-60 cm
- tail length: 30-50 cm
- weigh-in nearly as a house cat

Distribution

Red pandas are found in

- Nepal,
- India,
- Bhutan,
- Myanmar and
- China.

- Habitats of red panda: Temperate broadleaved mountain forests with bamboo at elevations of 1800-4000 m.



Map data provided by [IUCN](#).

Breeding facts of Red panda

Red panda usually

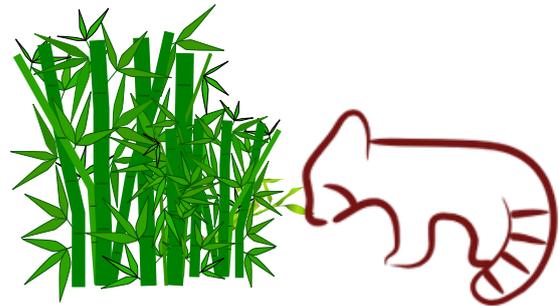
- breeds once a year
- breeds at winter season and gives birth in summer
- gives birth to one to four young cubs.
- gives birth at hollow trees or at rock crevices



What does the red panda eat?

1

Red panda's main diet is bamboo. Bamboo consists 95% of its diet..



2



Red panda loves to eat different delicious wild berries that are found in the forests.

3

Occasionally, red pandas are reported of eating small eggs, birds and insects.



Red panda loves to...



Eat bamboo

Everyday red panda eats nearly 2 kg of bamboo shoots and leaves.



Sleep & rest

Red panda spends nearly 12 hours sleeping and resting in a day.



Play

Red panda also loves to play .

Is red panda is related to?

① the Giant panda?



Red panda

Giant panda

NO. Red pandas are not related to the Giant panda. They were thought to be related with the Giant Panda due to vegetarian diet i.e., bamboo, fruits.

② raccoons, weasels and skunks?



Raccoon



Red panda

YES. Later researches and studies found out that red panda is closely related with raccoons, weasels, skunks than the Giant panda. For example, raccoon & red panda. They have similar size and shape of head. Both have dark eyepatches and ringtail.



Weasel



Skunks

Is the red panda one species or two?



Ailurus (fulgens) styani



Ailurus (fulgens) fulgens

- Two species, Chinese red panda and Himalayan red panda
- Chinese red panda are larger and usually has darker bright face and tail rings
- Himalayan red panda has lighter face and tail rings
- Chinese red pandas are found in China (and Tibet), India's eastern Arunachal Pradesh and Myanmar
- Himalayan red pandas are found in Nepal, India (Sikkim, West Bengal, western Arunachal Pradesh) and Bhutan

Red panda & nickname

Red panda has fire-coloured red coat of fur which earned its name as the firefox. The Firefox internet browser was named after this charismatic species.

In Nepal, locally it is called known as "habre". The term panda was derived from nepalese word "Nigalo ponya", meaning bamboo eater.



Firefox

Threats to red panda.....



There are many threats that impact this shy animals. To name few threats they are as follows,

1. Deforestation
2. Unsustainable bamboo harvesting
3. Wildfire
4. Road construction
5. Cattle grazing
6. Feral dogs
7. Illegal wildlife trade & snares
8. Lack of awareness

Local threats..



Illegal wildlife trade



Trapping red panda



Unsustainable harvesting of bamboo



Free-roaming dogs



Cattle grazing



Timber/Firewood collection

Solutions for red panda's conservation



Habitat conservation



Education



Awareness & advocacy



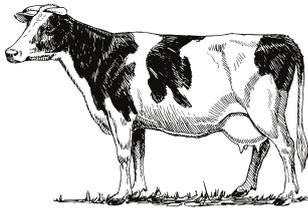
Researches/studies



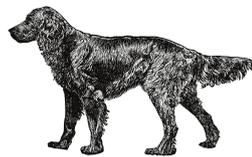
Prints (newspaper, magazine, journals)



Laws & enforcement



Monitoring cattle grazing



Rabies vaccination to free-roaming dogs



Fundraising or allocation



Sharing of conservation solutions



Collaboration



Greenhood Nepal is a science-driven, non-profit conservation organisation focused on the human dimensions of nature conservation. Our mission is to conserve threatened wildlife and habitats in ways that respect local communities, embrace science-led action, and empower others to safeguard nature.

