



# A Day with Panda

Warm up

Can you name these animals? Which of these animals can you keep as a pet?



Miss Patil has a surprise for the children. Today, she is teaching them about the panda, her favourite animal. Miss Patil asks the children, 'Do you know how many kinds of pandas there are?'

Swati says, 'I think there are two kinds, Ma'am.'

'Yes, that's correct,' says Miss Patil. 'There are two kinds of pandas—the giant panda, which is black and white, and the red panda, also called the lesser panda.'

Just then, there is a knock on the door. Miss Patil opens it.

'Oh! What a lovely surprise! Children, please welcome Panda. He is a giant panda. He is here to answer all your questions.'

The children are very excited to see Panda. They want to feel his fur, but Miss Patil says, 'Questions first.'



'Where do you come from?' asks Robin.

Panda replies, 'We, giant pandas, are usually found in the forests of central China. My cousins, red pandas, are found not only in China but also in Myanmar, Nepal, and the Himalayan forests of India.'

'How big do you grow?' asks Amir.

'Very big! Male giant pandas grow to about 6 feet in height and weigh more than 110 kilos. Female giant pandas weigh lesser—at about 105 kilos.'

'What is your favourite food?' asks Smita.



giant panda



red panda

'Our favourite food is bamboo. We can eat bamboo for breakfast, lunch, and dinner. We eat its stem, leaves, and shoots. We have to eat large quantities of bamboo to get the nourishment we need. We can spend about 10 to 12 hours a day eating. But captive pandas, found in zoos, have a wide variety of food. They may eat cereals, milk, and garden vegetables.'

'Please tell us more about the red panda,' says Rohit.

'Our cousins, red pandas, are much smaller. They usually grow as big as a full-grown cat. They have long, bushy tails, reddish-brown fur on the back, and black fur on the belly. They too love to eat bamboo. But they also eat insects and fruits, and sometimes, small animals.'

Then Miss Patil tells the children, 'Did you know that the lives of the giant panda and the red panda are in danger? People are cutting down their natural home, the bamboo forests.'

'Really? That's very sad! We must save our forests to help them, Ma'am,' said Lisa.

'Yes Lisa, we must,' said Miss Patil.

### Value pick

Let's find the part of the story that tells us—

- why pandas are in danger,
- what we can do to save them.

bamboo  
nourishment

captive  
variety



food that keeps  
one healthy  
kept in a zoo  
many types of  
one thing



**Understand and answer**

**A. Fill in each blank with one or two words.**

1. The children are learning about \_\_\_\_\_.
2. The two types of pandas are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The red panda is also known as the \_\_\_\_\_.
4. The lives of the pandas are in \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Male giant pandas grow up to \_\_\_\_\_ in height and weigh more than \_\_\_\_\_.

*copy is not complete*

**B. Answer these questions.**

1. Where are giant pandas usually found?
2. Which kind of panda is found in India?
3. In which part of India can it be found?
4. Why do giant pandas eat for many hours each day?
5. What do captive pandas eat?

**Think and answer**

1. Why are the lives of pandas in danger?
2. How can we save pandas?

**Expand words**



Some words are usually spoken or written together because they form meaningful pairs. For example,

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| • What a <del>pretty</del> surprise! × | • What a <b>lovely</b> surprise! ✓    |
| • This is my <del>best</del> food. ×   | • This is my <b>favourite</b> food. ✓ |

**Choose the correct words to complete these sentences.**

1. Wild pandas live in \_\_\_\_\_ bamboo forests. (fat / thick)
2. The forest has big and \_\_\_\_\_ animals. (little / small)
3. Captive pandas have a \_\_\_\_\_ variety of food.  
(wider / broader)
4. Red pandas have long, \_\_\_\_\_ tails. (bushy / hairy)
5. It is \_\_\_\_\_ fun to learn more about different animals.  
(big / great)