**Lisa the Lemur**

What happens when people cut down trees in the rainforest? Find out by listening to a song about a family of lemurs.

(Video link: <https://learnenglishkids.britishcouncil.org/en/songs/the-ballad-lisa-the-lemur>)

**Teacher’s Notes / Lesson Plan**

* The main activity is based on a rhyming ballad (a song which tells a story) about the plight of an endangered species, the lemurs of Madagascar. It fits into the module“*Magic of Nature*”*.*
* Language items/structures:
* Simple past tense to describe activities or events in a story
* Simple present tense to express needs
* Vocabulary items: e.g. rainforest, cave, flat, hive, mountainside, sea, tree, zoo

**Warm-up**

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| **Duration** | 5 minutes |
| **Aims** | * To arouse students’ interest * To activate students’ prior knowledge |
| **Teaching Steps** | 1. Introduce the word *lemur* in a fun way (e.g. anagram, hangman, backwards spelling). 2. Elicit some basic information about lemurs (e.g. what they look like, where they live). 3. Ask whether students have seen a lemur before. (*There are ring-tailed lemurs in Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens. They also appear in the film ‘Madagascar’*). |

**Main Activity**

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| **Duration** | 15 minutes |
| **Aim** | * To develop students’ ability to listen for the gist or main ideas in a song |
| **Teaching Steps** | 1. Explain that lemurs are an endangered species and asks students to guess why. 2. Play the video to find out (*because people are cutting down the trees they live in*). 3. Distribute the worksheet to students. The two activities check students’ understanding of the song and the vocabulary items. 4. Play the video and have students finish Part 1. Then play it again and ask students to complete the sequencing activity in Part 2. 5. Have students compare their answers with a partner.   Answers:  Part A: Lisa (tree); fish (sea); people (flat); bees (hive); goats (mountainside); bears (cave)  Part B: a man cut down Lisa’s tree; Lisa’s family moved to a new tree; the man chopped down the new tree; Lisa and family went into town; the park was closed; the zoo was full   1. Check the answers. Play the video again if necessary. |

**Extension/Consolidation Activity**

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| **Duration** | 5 minutes |
| **Aims** | * To encourage students to apply new knowledge to their own situation * To develop students’ ability to give a personal response to a topic |
| **Teaching Steps** | Lead a short discussion about either:  1. How students would feel if they lost their homes, or  2. How students in Hong Kong can help endangered animals. |