



Charlie



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Over the months Charlie's skills in moving through the forest have continued to develop. There has also been a noticeable change in his personality as he has grown. Charlie is becoming a calm and gentle orangutan. He now prefers to explore the forest rather than participate in the raucous playing of the past.

Charlie has an impressive concentration span. During daily release he can often be found busy in his forest operation for the day. This will begin with him selecting a spot on the forest floor to play in, clearing the space, and then creating a border with various sticks and twigs. Once his quiet spot is complete, he will begin the day's investigation of digging, peeling bark, or accumulating piles of mud and twigs. Charlie can continue to happily play like this, with his bottom lip pursed in a mixture of concentration and amusement for hours! Other times, Charlie will lower himself down beside a fallen tree into the perfect small spot for a den. Here he can sit contently, fully surrounded by leaves, roots and branches and immerse himself in his current forest task.

Though Charlie enjoys and seeks times of solitude, he is in no way an orangutan incapable of social interaction. Charlie continues to be popular amongst his peers and especially enjoys joining Karti as she plays in puddles on the forest floor. Moreover, Charlie has continued to build upon his unique and special bond with caregiver Ibu Mena. He can often be seen lying next to her relaxed and content as she multitasks, speaking to him softly but also keeping an eye on the many other youngsters climbing through the canopy.

Charlie is building up an impressive skill set that will be useful for both foraging and nest building. It is important that he also continues to develop confidence to explore higher in the trees if he is one day to successfully return to the forest. Nevertheless, his caring, attentive and gentle personality makes him a popular friend to many orangutans and a charming companion to many people.

Orangutan Foundation International Australia Foster Program

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