

Hindhede Nature Park Activity Worksheet

(by www.myonlinetour.com)

There are many storyboards along the trail. Answers to questions can be found on storyboard...

1. Dairy Farm Quarry

Quarrying operations ceased in the early 1970s and it was land filled. What now runs through the quarry?

2. Granite Quarries

There are three main granite quarries in the immediate vicinity of Bukit Timah Nature Reserve. They are Hindhede, Singapore and Dairy Farm Quarries. Quarrying is a rather destructive activity, why?



3. Cheng Tng

Ever wondered what the fuzzy sponge-like jelly floating in your bowl of Cheng Tng is? (Cheng Tng is a sweet, brownish Chinese dessert). From which plant did the jelly come from? When soaked in water, the fruits expand into the fuzzy brown jelly.

4. Palaquium gutta

Gutta percha refers to the sap of *Palaquium gutta*, which helps to seal off wounds and protect the plant from bacteria and fungal infections. In the past, it was used to make rubber stands in the core of golf balls. What is its most important function?

5. Gaharu

A pound of Gaharu wood is worth more than its weight in silver. The Gaharu oil is used in perfume, incense and traditional medicine.



Storyboard at Hindhede Nature Park.

Over-harvesting and illegal trade has resulted in the near extinction of this species in the wild. How is this tree species been protected?

6. Indigenous Species

What are indigenous species?

7. Singapore Rhododendron

The fruits stain the mouth when eaten, while the edible young leaves are astringent. According to Malay folk medicine, what is the plant used for?



8. Rumbah Tikus

Its purple-hued flowers and hardness make it a good ornamental plant. According to *Orang Asli* folklore, what can this plant do?



9. Common Wattle

The sickle-shaped 'leaves' that you see are modified stalks called phyllodes. These phyllodes are flattened leaf stalks adapted to look like and function as leaves. The heartwood of this tree makes attractive furniture and is suitable for construction work and carving. A natural dye extracted from the bark is used in the batik textile industry in Indonesia. Its flowers are the source for what?

10. Simpoh Air

This plant is known to live for how long? The mature plant produces bright yellow flowers, which are not scented and do not contain nectar. They last but one day, opening before sunrise and by late afternoon the petals start to fall. It is equally vigorous in producing new leaves, which are harvested to wrap food such as *tempeh* (a Malay delicacy of fermented bean cakes).

11. Paraserianthus falcataria

The world's fastest growing tree species, *Paraserianthus falcataria* has been reported to grow up to 2.5 cm a day! This rapid growth results in very soft wood. What is the wood used for?

12. Granite quarry

Granite quarry activities began even before the Second World War. It involved the use of dynamite charges embedded into the granite to blast it into granite chips for use in the construction industry. At its peak in 1970, there were how many granite quarries in Singapore and employing how many workers?

13. Brazil Nut

The white flesh of the Brazil nut contains 70% fat or oil and 17% protein. The extracted oil is used for what?