



# Informational Text Matching

## Grade 2

### Red Panda

*Information gathered from the National Zoo*

Directions: Cut the cards apart and match them to each description.

#### **Description:**

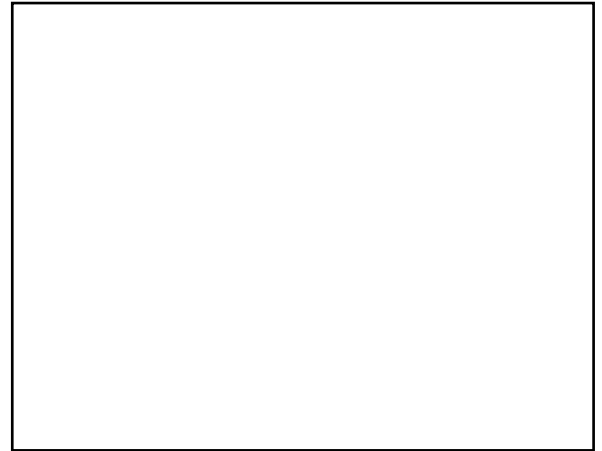
Red pandas are about 42 inches long, including their long, bushy tails. They weigh between seven and 14 pounds. Their red and white markings blend in with the red mosses and white lichens that grow on the trees in which they live. Their soft, dense fur covers their entire body—even the soles of their feet. Red pandas use their long, bushy tails to balance when they're in trees. They also cover themselves with their tails in winter.

#### **Distribution and Habitat:**

Red pandas live in the cool bamboo forests in Sichuan and Yunnan Provinces in China, in the Himalayas, and in Myanmar. They share part of their range with giant pandas.

## **Diet:**

Red pandas eat bamboo leaves as well as berries, blossoms, bird eggs, and small leaves of many plants. Their broad teeth and strong jaws allow them to chew bamboo's tough leaves and stalks. They also have a small, bony thumb on their wrists that helps them grip bamboo stalks. Giant pandas also have this bony thumb.



## **Reproduction:**

Red pandas have litters of one to four babies. Young stay in the nest for about 90 days. Then they remain close to their mother, and reach adult size at about 12 months. Adult red pandas spend most of their time alone.



## **Conservation:**

Red pandas are losing more of their habitat, or where they live, each day. There are fewer than 2,500 adult red pandas.



