

# World Wildlife Day 2016 special issue || Mascots in NUS and Species of the Month 02/2016

3 March 2016 || TO NUS Community

Today is [World Wildlife Day](#), a day proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild animals and plants.

To commemorate this day, we have prepared this special e-mailer that includes:

- 1) An introduction to wildlife inspired mascots in NUS
- 2) The 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of SAVE/OES' regular Species of the Month

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Do you know that some mascots in NUS are inspired by wildlife?

What animals do they represent?

What threats are these represented animals facing?

Click on the photo below to find out more.



NUS Students Against Violation of the Earth (SAVE) and the Office of Environmental Sustainability present “Campus in a Tropical Rainforest”, an initiative that aims to create awareness of the biodiversity that surrounds us in NUS. In each issue, we will be featuring a species that can be spotted or found in NUS to help us get to know them better. So, if you happen to be travelling around NUS between classes, remember to stop and look around your surroundings, for you may be surprised to come across some of the other inhabitants of NUS.

NUS SAVE  
- presents -

# CAMPUS IN A TROPICAL RAINFOREST

Species of the Month  
Issue #2: February 2016



**Saga Tree / Red Sandalwood**  
*Adenanthera pavonina*  
Family Fabaceae

 **Appearance**  
The tree is able to grow up to 20m in height and its long compound leaves with 2 to 6 side stalks each have 9-15 pairs of leaflets. Its distinctive seeds are hard and bright red.

 **Growth Habitat**  
Prefers full exposure to the sun and requires only a moderate amount of water.

 **Pollinators & Dispersers**  
Pollinated by butterflies and dispersed by birds such as pigeons and barbets.

 **Fun Facts**

- A saga tree with a height of 24m and a girth of 4.8m is accorded Heritage Tree status. It is located at the Singapore Botanic Gardens near the Lady on a Hammock sculpture.
- The seeds of *Adenanthera pavonina* symbolises love in China and its name in Chinese “相思豆” conveys a meaning of “mutual yearning”.
- *Adenanthera* is the genus of flowering plants in the Fabaceae family.
- The seeds are known to have remarkably uniform weight such that 4 seeds can be weighted to be 1 gram.

Photo by: Cherry Goh



For more information and pictures on the Saga Tree and to check out the “Campus in a Tropical Rainforest” series, click on this link - [www.tiny.cc/CiTR](http://www.tiny.cc/CiTR)

Also, check out other sightings of NUS biodiversity on the Campus Creatures Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/campuscreatures/>

You can also join the community in spotting the flora and fauna in NUS by sharing your sightings with pictures on the Campus Creatures Facebook page and Instagram the photos with #NUSCiTR and #NUSbiodiversity.