

Species of the Month 10/2016 || Lesser Dog-faced Fruit Bat


24 October 2016 || TO NUS Community

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 #10: October 2016




Lesser Dog-faced Fruit Bat
Cynopterus brachyotis
Family Pteropodidae

 **Appearance**


- The lesser dog-faced fruit bat has a forearm length of about 7cm and is yellowish brown with a brighter collar
- These bats have two pairs of lower incisors, large dark eyes and a long muzzle, giving it a dog-like face
- Adult males have orange collars, while females have yellow collars

 **Habitat**

Native to Singapore and Southeast Asia, these bats can be found in a variety of places, such as around fruiting trees or roosting in urban buildings

 **Diet**

- Mainly feeds on fruits and drinks nectar from fruiting trees such as palms, figs, guavas, bananas, and mangos
- Fruit bats play an important role in seed dispersal and pollination of many trees including the durian tree

 **Fun Facts**

- A female gives birth to one young which she carries with her all the time, even whilst in flight for about 45-50 days
- Their upside-down hanging posture is adapted to taking off quickly when threatened
- Fruit bats, unlike insectivorous bats, are not capable of laryngeal echolocation as it is too energetically expensive to retain. Instead, the lesser dog-faced fruit bat uses a combination of sound and sight for navigation
- Bats do not have feathers, but use their highly articulated and flexible wings to fly with greater manoeuvrability

Photo by: Kenneth Lee



For more information and pictures on the Lesser Dog-faced Fruit Bat and to check out the “Campus in a Tropical Rainforest” series, click on this link - 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.