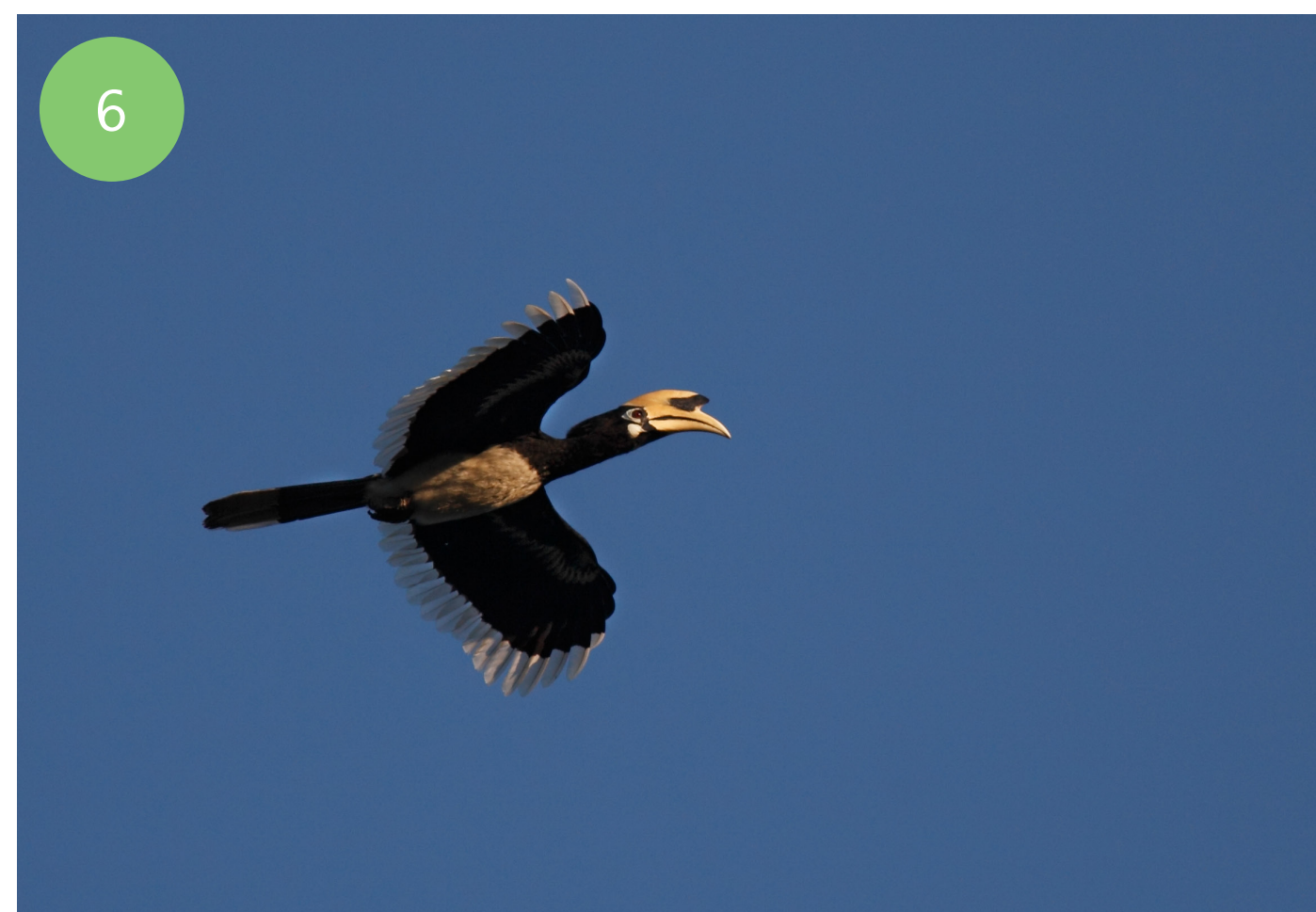


POST-FLEDGING

6



After the chick emerges, the parents help them find food and teach them how to survive. Young hornbills are seen with their parents for a few months and then can be seen flying on their own too.

NEST EXIT AND FLEDGING

5



Around June-July, the chick is big enough to fledge. The mother and chick may emerge together. But sometimes, the chick may emerge a day or two later. The nest exit dates in Pakke Tiger Reserve range from June 28 to July 27. In Pakke Tiger Reserve, the nesting cycle ranges between 76-110 days (an average of 94 days).

JUNE-JULY

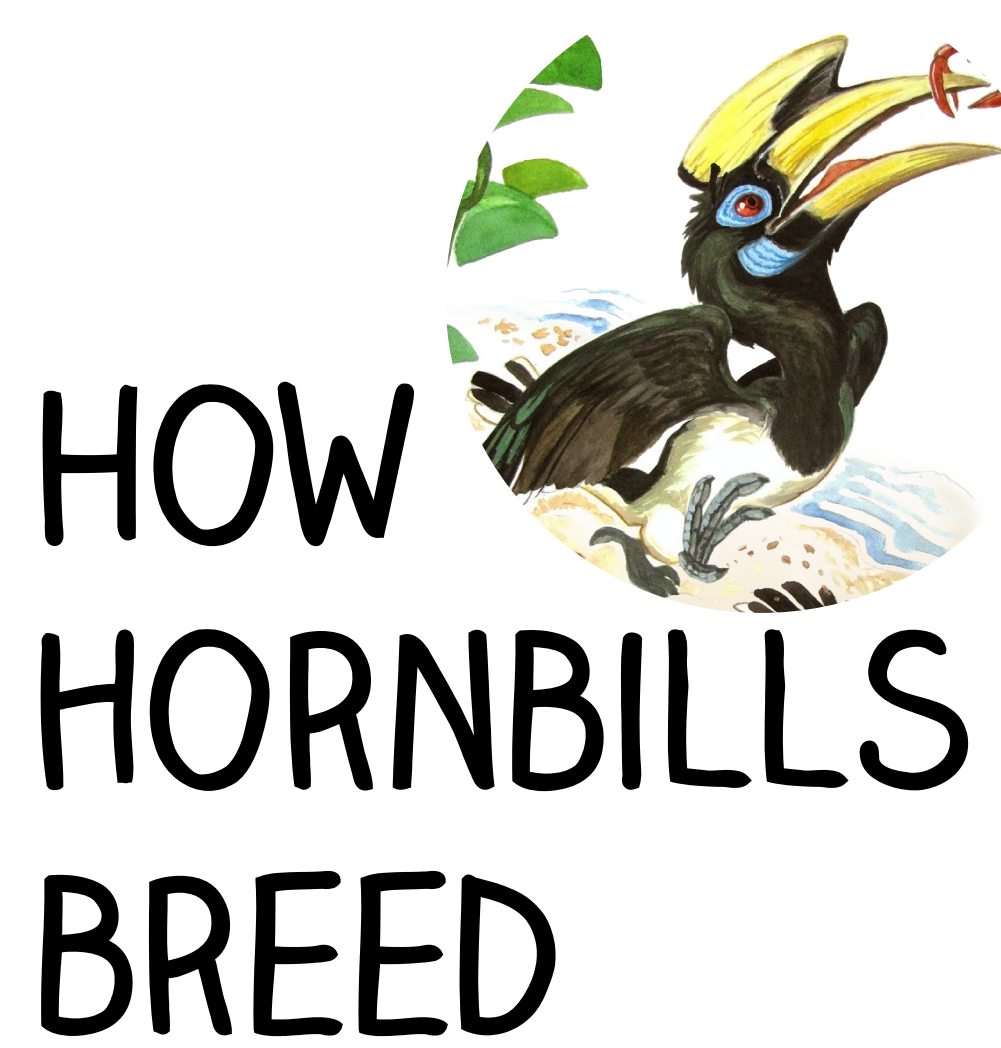


1

Watching hornbills during the breeding season is an incredible experience. There is much fascination and wonder.



ORIENTAL PIED HORNBILL



CHICK HATCHING AND DEVELOPMENT INSIDE NEST

4



For about 3 months, the male flies in search of food to feed the female and the chick by storing food in his throat pouch. He then delivers it to the female and chick through a slit in the sealing. The diet mostly consists of fruits, and a variety of insects.

APRIL-JUNE

NEST SEARCHING AND PRE-BREEDING COURTSHIP

2



During the courtship period, the male hornbill offers fruits to coax the female. If she accepts him, together, they look for a suitable cavity to nest in. Hornbills cannot make their own nest, so they depend on already existing cavities on large trees.

FEBRUARY-MARCH

NEST ENTRY AND SEALING BY FEMALE

3



Oriental Pied hornbills mainly use round cavities. Once they find that perfect nest, the female seals herself in with her droppings, leaving just a slit for the male to feed her and the chicks. Nest entry occurs in the 1st week of April.

APRIL