

Extinction Explorers

Introduction

Using the factsheets and any available secondary resources introduce pupils to one or more of the featured endangered species.

Develop pupils' understanding of why some animals are endangered and support them to consider why it is important to save these animals from extinction.

Development

Talk about where your chosen endangered species live.

Using a globe or world map indicate where in the world these places are and discuss the environmental features that are required to sustain life in that area.

Using the reflection points in assembly, endangered species factsheets and secondary sources of information, including news articles and the internet, pull out and list the key factors which make certain animals endangered.

Group activity

In groups pupils use the Extinction Evidence sheet to collect information from the available sources and structure their enquiry into why their chosen animal is endangered.

Pupils use their evidence to consider ways in which they can help protect their endangered species without negatively affecting the people who share the animals' habitats.

Pupils devise a plan for a conservation campaign.

Plenary

Pupils share their evidence and present their ideas for a campaign to save their endangered species. Discuss and evaluate ideas as a class. Remember to evaluate:

- how well pupils worked as a group,
- the relevance of evidence collected, and
- the quality of the campaign ideas suggested.

Extinction Evidence

Layout guide: Placed into boxes for pupils to work from and fill in.

Endangered Species:

Home Country:

Natural Habitat:

Food:

Threats:

Key questions to consider:

1. 'What is the animal's natural habitat like?'
2. 'Why is this place like it is?'
3. 'What makes this place a good place for your animal to live?'
4. 'What makes this place a bad place for your animal to live?'
5. 'How is this place changing?'
6. 'What could you change to make life better for your animal?'
7. 'Does your idea make life worse for the people or other animals that share your animal's habitat?'