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PLANTS and ANIMALS

## Endangered animal pictictionary

### Time:

20 minutes

### Who it's for:

10+

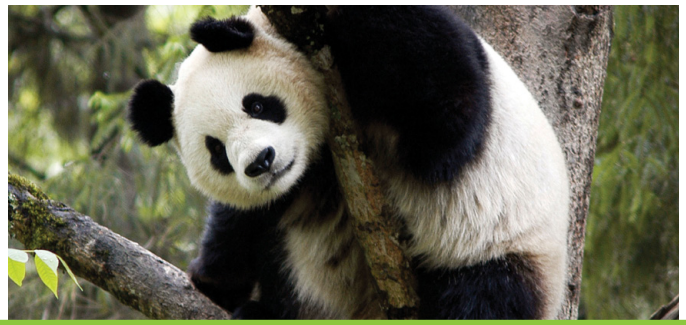
### You'll need:

- Whiteboard / flipchart
- Pens
- 'Endangered animals fact cards'

### What to do:

1. Ask for a volunteer to come to the front of the group. Show them one of the endangered animals fact cards and ask them to draw that animal.
2. The rest of the group must guess what animal they are drawing. The first person to guess correctly takes over drawing the next animal.
3. Before starting to draw the next animal discuss why the first animal might be endangered.
4. Write a five point list outlining some practical changes everyone can make to help protect endangered species.

# Giant panda



© Bernard De Witter / WWF-Canon

**POPULATION:**  
1,600 in the wild

**WEIGHT:**  
85-125kg

**HEIGHT:**  
Up to 170cm when standing

## APPEARANCE:

They are covered in black and white fur which is thought to help them blend into the shaded forest which they live in. They have a special extended wrist bone which they can use as a thumb to help hold bamboo.

## HABITAT:



Giant pandas live in bamboo forests high in the mountains of western China. They used to be found throughout the area but now they can only be found in six isolated mountain ranges in three provinces.

## FAST FACT

A newborn panda cub is up to 1/900th the size of its mother!

## FOOD:

### Finding food

The giant panda eats the leaves, stems and shoots of over 60 different species of bamboo.

© Claire Doole / WWF-Canon



### Diet

The bamboo which pandas eat contains very little nutritional value so they have to eat huge amounts to get enough energy. One giant panda can eat up to 60kg of bamboo in one day and spends about 12 hours a day feeding.

## KEY THREATS:

Much of the bamboo forests which the giant panda relies on for food has been destroyed by humans in order to create farmland, build roads or build dams to generate electricity. As pandas need to eat so much bamboo to survive, each panda needs a large area of forest to survive.

Also as humans continue to cut down the bamboo we create small separated forests which means that pandas can be left isolated from others, making it more difficult for them to mate and find food.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF works with the Chinese government to deliver a National Conservation Programme for pandas. This programme has helped to introduce protected reserves which cover nearly half of panda habitat. Three quarters of wild pandas now live in nature reserves.



# Sumatran tiger



© Freddy Mercay / WWF

## POPULATION:

Around 450 remain in the wild

## WEIGHT:

100-140kg(males)

## HEIGHT:

Up to 60cm

## LENGTH:

Up to 250cm

## APPEARANCE:

© David Lawson / WWF-UK



Covered in dark orange fur with black stripes and a white underbelly. The pattern of stripes is different on every tiger.

The Sumatran tiger has a ruff of longer hair around its neck.

## HABITAT:



This species can only be found in the wild on the Indonesian island of Sumatra where it lives in mountain and lowland forests and swamps.

## FOOD:

### Finding food

Tigers normally hunt alone using sight and sound as their main way to locate prey. They stalk their prey, waiting to get in to close proximity before killing with a bite to the back of the neck with their powerful jaws.

### Diet

Tigers are at the top of the food chain and prefer to eat large mammals

## KEY THREATS:

The biggest threat to the Sumatran tiger is habitat loss. A huge amount of the forest which they call home has been destroyed by logging or cleared for farm land or building settlements. Even the protected reserves are under threat from illegal logging.

As with other species of tigers another big threat is coming into conflict with humans. As their habitats are destroyed, and the amount of food reduces, tigers move into areas settled by humans and can start to take farm animals for food. Tigers can sometimes be killed by farmers or villagers trying to protect their livestock. Poaching is also a big problem with up to 40 Sumatran tigers killed per year for their skin and bones which are then sold.

The number of wild tigers has declined by 97% since the beginning of the last century.

**FAST  
FACT**

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF has worked with governments and other conservation organisations to declare the important Tesso Nilo area as a national park.

They are also helping to fight tiger poaching by teaching local police and law enforcement officials how to identify tiger parts for sale on the black market.



# Bornean orang-utan



© Michel Terretaz / WWF-Canon

**POPULATION:**  
55,000

**WEIGHT:**  
60-90kg

**HEIGHT:**  
Up to 137 cm

## APPEARANCE:

These large apes have reddish brown fur. They have long arms (up to 1.5 metres long) and short, weak legs. Some males have unusual facial disks and a sack in their throat allowing them to make loud calls.

## HABITAT:



They can only be found on the island of Borneo where they live in lowland forest. They particularly like to live in forests found in river valleys or flood basins.

**FAST  
FACT**

The orang-utan is also known as 'the man of the woods'.

## FOOD:

### Finding food

Orang-utans receive a lot of the water they need from the fruit they eat but also find extra water to drink from holes in trees.

### Diet

About 60% of their diet comes from fruit but they also eat young leaves, shoots, insects and tree bark.

## KEY THREATS:



© Rob Webster / WWF

Orang-utans in Borneo lost over 40,000km<sup>2</sup> of habitat between 1990-2004 – an area twice the size of Wales. Their habitat is often destroyed to clear land for oil palm plantations.

Orang-utans are often killed because they come into conflict with humans, particularly where they move in to oil palm plantations (because of their shrinking habitat) and destroy crops.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF has worked with the three governments which share Borneo to create an agreement to protect 22 million hectares of rainforest – known as the Heart of Borneo. This includes important habitat for orang-utans. They are also working with governments to help reduce the illegal trade in live orang-utans.



# Leatherback turtle



© Jürgen Freund / WWF-Canon

**POPULATION:**  
2,300

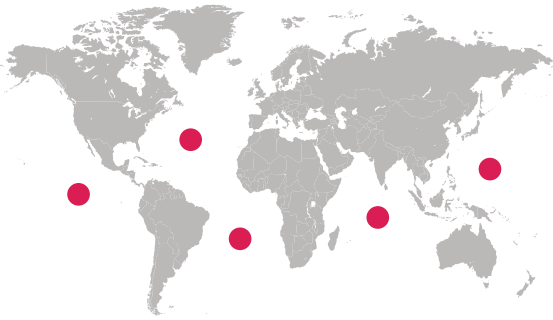
**WEIGHT:**  
Up to 1,000kg

**LENGTH:**  
Up to 160cm

## APPEARANCE:

The leatherback is the largest marine turtle and one of the largest living reptiles. They have a dark, leathery looking ridged shell with white spots.

## HABITAT:



Leatherbacks can be found in oceans throughout the world, except for the Arctic and Southern Oceans. Although they like to live in deep water, leatherbacks can travel huge distances in order to reach the right beach where they like to lay their eggs.

## FAST FACT

The longest recorded migration of a leatherback turtle was a massive 13,000 miles - one way!

## FOOD:

### Finding food

They can dive very deep in order to find food. They can dive to depths of up to 1,200 metres which is much deeper than any other marine mammal.

### Diet

They survive almost entirely on soft bodied animals like jellyfish and squid.

## KEY THREATS:

© Ronald Petocz / WWF-Canon



One of the big threats for leatherback turtles is fishing. Many turtles are caught by mistake by fishermen who are trying to catch other species. Long line fishing, where the boat drags a long line with lots of hooks, is a particular problem for leatherbacks.

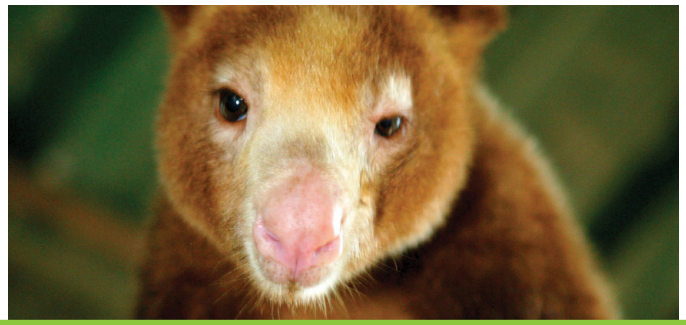
Poaching is also a serious threat with eggs often stolen from nests and sold as food or medicine. A report in 1983 stated that nearly 100% of the leatherback eggs in Thailand were stolen by poachers.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF is working to educate locals about the importance of protecting turtles and encouraging them to help protect their nests. They are also playing an active role in protecting nesting beaches and setting up sanctuaries and wildlife reserves. They are working with the fishing industry to introduce equipment which is safer for leatherback turtles, reducing the amount of turtles caught by mistake.



# Tree kangaroo



© Brent Stirton / Getty Images

## POPULATION:

There are 14 different subspecies, many of which are endangered

## WEIGHT:

Up to 14kg

## LENGTH:

41-77cm

## TAIL LENGTH:

40-87cm

## APPEARANCE:

Similar to a kangaroo but much smaller. Their arms and legs are roughly the same size (unlike a normal kangaroo which has much bigger legs). Different species have different colours and patterns on their fur.

## HABITAT:

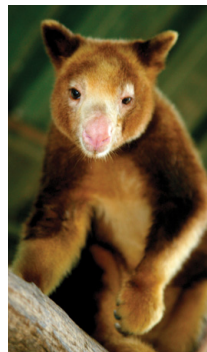


Tree kangaroos can be found on the island of New Guinea and parts of Australia where they live in tropical forests.

## FAST FACT

The golden mantled tree kangaroo is now extinct in 95% of its previous habitat.

## FOOD:



© Brent Stirton / Getty Images

### Finding food

Tree kangaroos use their long tail to balance while climbing through the trees to find food. Their two front teeth are perfect for cutting leaves.

### Diet

Tree kangaroos mainly eat fruit and nuts which they can find high in the trees. However they also sometimes eat eggs, small birds and even sap and bark.

## KEY THREATS:

Lots of the forest where tree kangaroos live is being cut down, either to sell the wood or to clear space to grow coffee, rice or wheat. This destruction of the forest means that the tree kangaroos' habitat is shrinking and it is becoming more difficult for them to survive. Tree kangaroos are also hunted for food by many indigenous communities.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF is helping to protect the forests which tree kangaroos call home by supporting certification schemes such as the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) which tell people whether wood has been taken from a sustainable source.



# Black rhinoceros



© naturepl.com / Tony Heald / WWF-Canon

**POPULATION:**  
Around 4,800

**WEIGHT:**  
800-1,300kg

## APPEARANCE:

The black rhino has a large horn at the front of the nose and a smaller horn just behind. Its skin can range from a dark yellow through to dark brown or grey.

## HABITAT:



The black rhino lives in southern Africa; it can mostly be found in grasslands but sometimes also lives in deserts or mountain forests. Over 96% of black rhinos are found in South Africa, Namibia, Kenya and Zimbabwe.

## FAST FACT

The rhino's horn is made from the same substance as human hair - keratin!

## FOOD:



© Martin Harvey / WWF-Canon

### Finding food

The black rhino has a special lip which it can use to grip on to food.

### Diet

Woody twigs and plants. They especially like to eat the acacia tree, even the thorns!

## KEY THREATS:

Rhinos used to be very common through all of southern Africa, but hunting meant that their numbers fell throughout the 20th century.

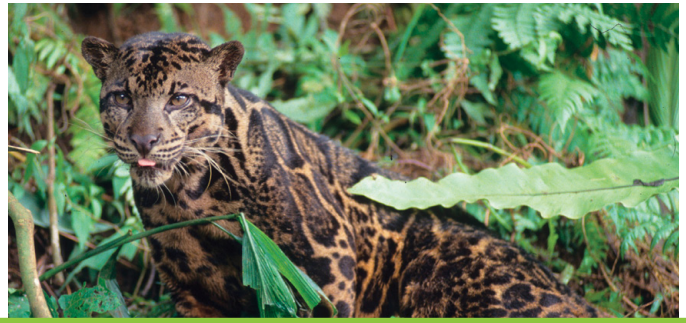
The main threat is now poaching with many rhinos killed for their horns which are ground and sold as medicine. A lot of poaching is now done by helicopter with gangs tracking and shooting the rhino from the air before landing. They use a chainsaw to remove the horn then fly away.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF is helping to set up more and better protected areas for rhinos and improve the management of existing areas. They are also helping to improve security to protect rhinos from poachers and helping authorities across the world to stop the trade in rhino horn and other illegal items.



# Clouded leopard



© Alain Compost / WWF-Canon

**POPULATION:**  
Fewer than 10,000

**WEIGHT:**  
Up to 25kg

**LENGTH:**  
60-90cm

## APPEARANCE:

Clouded leopards have yellow fur with dark cloud shaped spots and two black lines on their neck. They have short legs and a tail which can be as long as their body – this helps them to balance when climbing trees.

## HABITAT:



The clouded leopard is found across south-east Asia and the Himalayas. They spend most of their time in tropical rainforests but can also be found in mangrove swamps or dry tropical forests.

## FAST FACT

**Clouded leopard are expert climbers – they can climb while hanging upside-down under branches and even descend tree trunks head-first.**

## FOOD:



© David Lawson / WWF-UK

### Finding food

Although they are great climbers scientists think that clouded leopards do most of their hunting on the ground.

### Diet

Small mammals particularly deer, pigs and monkeys as well as smaller animals like squirrels or birds.

## KEY THREATS:

The destruction of forests to create oil palm plantations in south-east Asia is a big problem for clouded leopards as it means they have less and less space to live and hunt.

Poaching is also a big problem; the clouded leopards' teeth, bones and skin are sold as medicine in many Asian countries. Clouded leopard meat has even appeared on the menu in expensive restaurants in Asian countries.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF is working throughout the clouded leopard's habitat to stop people cutting down its forest home. They are also working to stop poaching and the demand for leopard parts.





# Blue whale



**POPULATION:**  
Up to 4,500

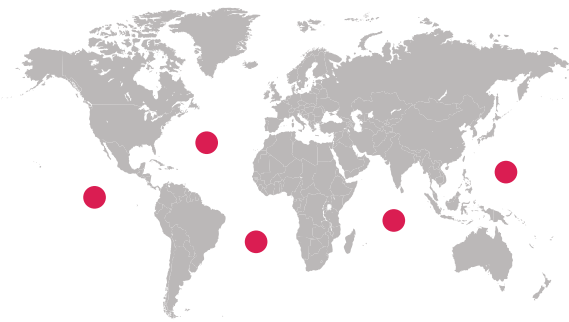
**WEIGHT:**  
100-120 tonnes

**LENGTH:**  
Around 26 metres

## APPEARANCE:

This huge whale has blue grey skin with a light grey or yellow underside.

## HABITAT:



Blue whales can be found in all oceans but they prefer deeper, colder waters. They normally travel to warmer waters to breed and give birth.

**FAST  
FACT**

**The blue whale is the  
largest animal in the world!**

## FOOD:

### Finding food

Whales catch krill by sucking in water and then pushing the water out through their teeth, capturing all of the small animals which were contained in the water and swallowing them.

### Diet

Blue whales are the biggest animals on the planet but they survive by eating krill, tiny animals which float through the water. They need to eat about 3,600kg per day to get the energy they need!

## KEY THREATS:

Climate change has meant that the amount of krill found in the oceans is decreasing. Blue whales rely on krill to survive so as the amount decreases it becomes more difficult for them to survive.

They are also affected by toxic materials getting in to the oceans and can sometimes become tangled up in fishing gear or get hit by ships.

## WHAT IS WWF DOING?

WWF is working worldwide to raise awareness of climate change and its impact on many species. They are also working to encourage governments to create policies to protect whales.

