

Animals in Trouble!

Learning values

- Learning about endangered species
- Exploring the concept of habitat
- Developing an awareness of human impact on animals
- Demonstrating empathy for living beings
- Exploring cause and effect

Recommended materials

- 9218 Wild Animals Set

Vocabulary

Encourage the use of these words during the activity:

- Endangered
- Habitat
- Panda
- Bamboo
- Extinct
- Food
- Shelter
- Survive

Connect

- Ask the children to close their eyes and think of their favourite animal. Have them visualize it in its natural habitat. What does this animal need to survive?
- Introduce the word “endangered” and discuss its meaning. Talk about the reasons animals become endangered.
- Facilitate a discussion on animals that are endangered, such as tigers, turtles, and pandas. If appropriate, introduce the word “extinct” and discuss its meaning. Ask the children how they would feel if one of their favourite animals became extinct.



Use the illustration to support the Connect story

Construct

- Create and build a safe habitat for one of the endangered animals.



Suggested model solution

Contemplate

- Ask the children to describe how the habitat they created keeps the animal healthy and safe. Encourage children to point out specific aspects such as trees for shelter, water to drink, etc.
- Tell children the story of a panda named Peizhi. She lives in a bamboo forest high in the mountains of Western China. She needs a lot of space in the bamboo forest to eat and live. But Peizhi has a huge problem: a lot of the forest is being cut down by people who want to use the land for farming and roads. Help think of a solution to Peizhi's situation. How can people still get what they need and protect Peizhi's home at the same time?
- Ask the children if they can think of other ideas of how people can help make the world a safer place for endangered animals. Create a list with words and/or pictures.

Continue

- Create and build another habitat for a different endangered animal. Make sure the habitat contains food and shelter for the endangered animal.
- Explore one of the ideas from the brainstorming session further – ask the children if there is something on the list that the class could do to help endangered animals, such as planting a tree, conserving water, raising money for a charity that helps endangered animals, etc.

Check for evidence of learning

Have the children:

- Name or describe one or more endangered species.
- Explain or show one or more aspects of a healthy habitat for animals.
- Describe or demonstrate one or more ways people can help endangered animals.





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