Preparin for Your Education Session:  
Wildlife Under Threat

Location: Rainforest Life (map ref. E2)  
Duration: 40-50 minutes

Please note: Teachers and other adults are responsible for accompanying the pupils during the sessions and for their behaviour and conduct throughout their visit. Regrettably, if a reasonable standard of behaviour is not met the Education Officer will terminate the session.

Curriculum links

KS3 Science  
Human activity and natural processes can lead to changes in the environment.

KS4 Citizenship  
The challenges facing the global community, including international disagreements and conflict, and

Session content

After a discussion of the main threats to animals, this session will focus in on hunting and the illegal wildlife trade. Pupils will investigate an array of real hunted animal artefacts and products from our extensive collection (on loan from the Metropolitan Police Wildlife Crime Unit), and will be encouraged to discuss some controversial statements about hunting, using the information provided.

After exploring their own opinions they will find out how these problems are tackled in real life by ZSL conservationists.

During the session pupils will:

- Sit, listen, answer and ask questions
- Investigate real animal artefacts
- Discuss controversial statements and share their opinions

Using the Zoo to support this session

The photocopyable worksheet on the reverse of this page encourages pupils to make observations of some of the Zoo’s endangered animals, and think about the interconnectedness of life on Earth.

Other activities to do during your visit:

- Use signs by each animal to build up a list of endangered species. Back at school, find out which of these are listed by CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) on www.cites.org.

- Visit Gorilla Kingdom (map ref. F4). Use the information given to you by the characters on screen and the field station area to understand which threats gorillas face in the wild.

- Watch the Sumatran tigers (F5). Use the wall panels to gather information about the decline in tiger

Suggested classroom activity (for before or after your visit)

Research a range of endangered animals and find out which threats they are facing. Learn the key vocabulary — ‘conservation’ ‘endangered’ ‘extinct’ ‘preservation’
Visit **Rainforest Life** (map ref. E2)

Rainforest animals and their habitats are threatened by humans. Observe the animals in Rainforest Life. Sketch your favourite animal and say why you think we should protect it.

We should protect this animal because:

... 

Why are Gorillas **disappearing** from the wild?

... 

Look in the Field Station near the gorilla statues. Give one thing that we can do to help **save wild gorillas**.

... 

Visit **Gorilla Kingdom** (map ref. F4)

Which gorillas can you see today? Can you name them?

... 

Think of two ways that a Zoo can help to protect wild animals.

... 

Visit the **B.U.G.S!** house (map ref. C7)

Look at the variety of animals. All animal are linked in food chains and webs. Every animal is important to our planet as it has its own **job to do or role to play**.

Find 3 animals and write down their job or role. *e.g. spiders help to reduce the number of flies by eating them.*

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<th>Job or role</th>
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