

The meaning of Extinction

When an entire species, or type, of animal dies out, that species is extinct.

Once a species becomes extinct, it is gone forever.

Introduction

Earth is home to lots of wonderful animals, but sadly, some types of animals called species no longer exist. When we talk about extinct animals we don't refer only to prehistoric dinosaurs! There are 'recently extinct' animals, too – animals that have died out in recent years.

Do you know what it means to be in **danger of extinction**?

Every day there are more and more animals that are making the list for endangered species. According to official data, around 5000 species are considered in danger of extinction and these numbers have worsened alarmingly in the last ten years. According to the leading organisation in wildlife conservation and endangered species, WWF, some of the critically endangered species include:



Figure 1 Orangutan



Figure 2 Saola



Figure 3 Sumatran Elephant



Figure 4 Sumatran Orangutan



Figure 5 Sumatran Rhino



Figure 6 Sunda Tiger



Figure 7 Vaquita



Figure 8 Western Lowland Gorilla



Figure 9 Yangtze Finless Porpoise



Figure 10 Amur Leopard



Figure 11 Black Rhino



Figure 12 Bornean Orangutan

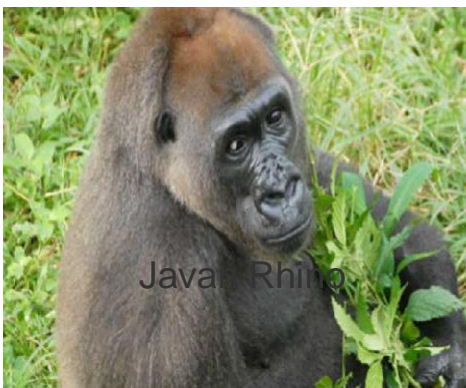


Figure 13 Cross river Gorilla



Figure 14 Eastern Lowland Gorilla



Figure 15 Hawksbill Turtle



Figure 16 Javan Rhino

Task

To engage yourself in this quest, you will need to explore basic facts about Critically Endangered Animals. You will also engage in several mathematical-related activities. These tasks will require a computer, access to the web, paper and pencil.

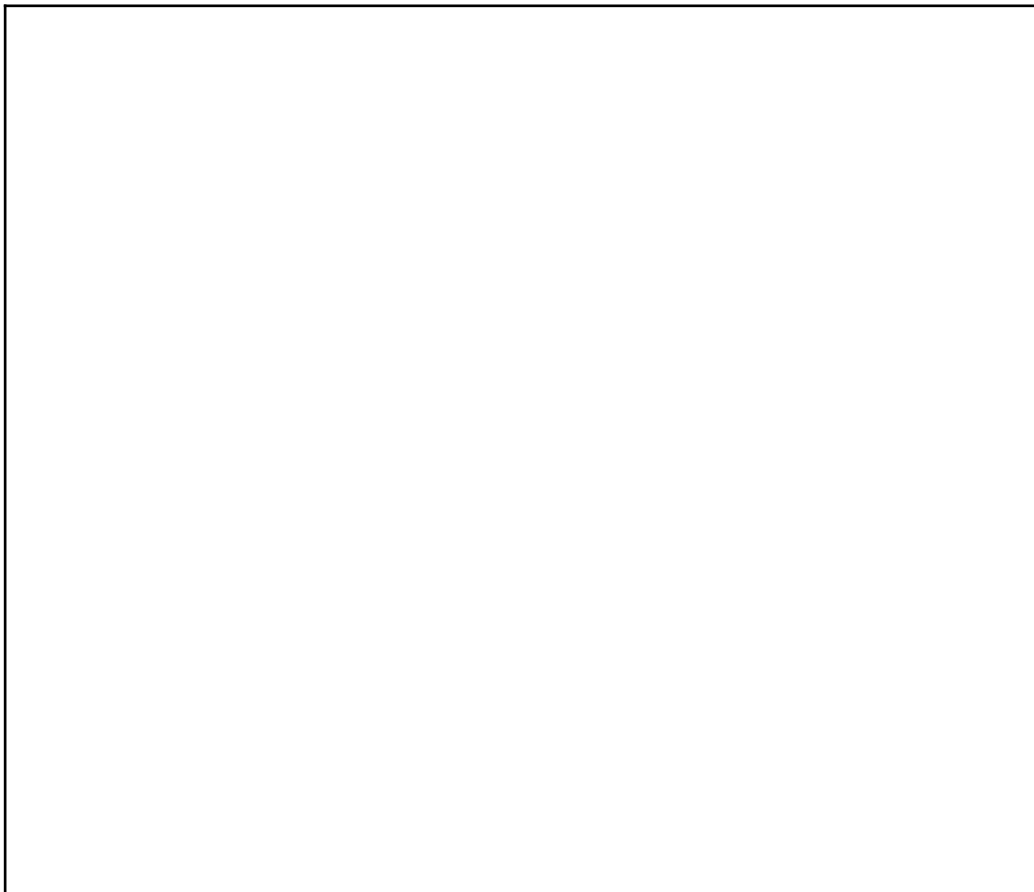
The Process

Learn about Endangered Animals

1. www.onekindplanet.org/top-10/top-10-worlds-most-endangered-animals/ - Onekind Planet, Animal facts, education & inspiration
2. www.britannica.com/list/10-of-the-most-famous-endangered-species - Britannica website
3. www.wanderlust.co.uk/content/10-of-the-worlds-most-endangered-animals/ - Wanderlust
4. www.youtube.com/watch?v=vN_qy0YPURA - 10 Animals That Are Close To Going Extinct
5. www.wikipedia.org/ - use this website to find information about particular animals
6. <https://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2020-08-02/local-news/turtle-eggs-in-ramla-bay-hatch-6736225737> - Turtle eggs at Ramla Bay hatch

Questions (use the links above to find answers to the following questions)

1. Using a ruler, draw the Symbol of Extinction.



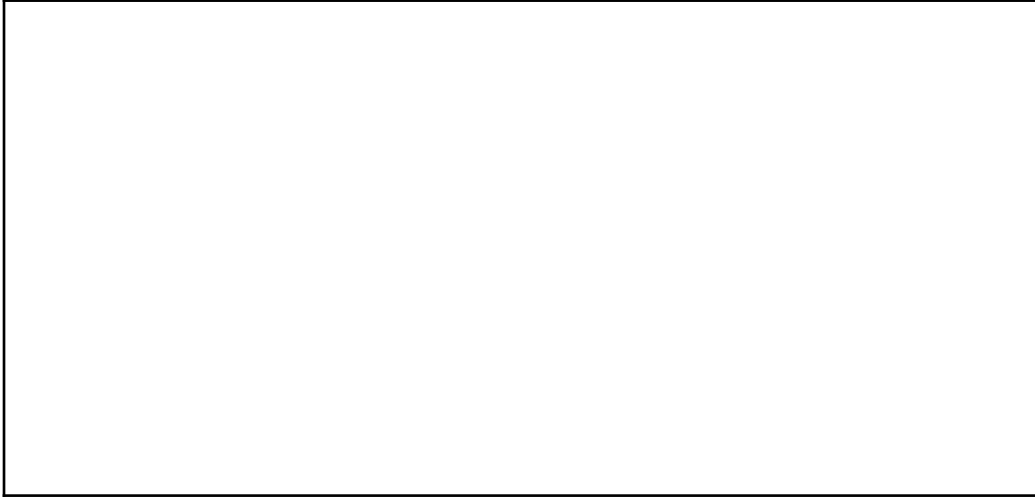
2. Draw the lines of symmetry in the Symbol of Extinction.

3. Identify the shapes you can see in the Symbol of Extinction.

4. **Design** your own Symbol of Extinction.

a. Make use of different 2-d and 3-d shapes.

b. Then write a description for your design.



5. **Round to the nearest 100** the population of the black rhinos in 2019.

6. The Saola was officially discovered in 1992.

Write down the number of years that have passed since this discovery.

7. The Saola was discovered in July 1992.

Find the exact date when this species was officially discovered by WWF.

8. If the 1st July 1992 was a Wednesday, **determine** the day in which the Saola was discovered.

9. The female Vaquita is longer than the male Vaquita.

a) **Find the largest possible length** of a female Vaquita.

b) **Find the largest possible length** of a male Vaquita.

c) **Write the difference** in their lengths in:

centimetres (cm)

b) millimetres (mm)

10. **Find** the number of giant pandas according to IUCN Red List of Threatened Species.

11. **Double** the population of the Giant Pandas.

12. **Write** the fraction of the day that the Giant Panda spends on feeding.

13. **Find** how many turtle eggs hatched in Ramla Bay Gozo during this year.

14. **Write** a number sentence about your previous answer.

A number sentence is a mathematical sentence made up of numbers and signs. Example $10 = 20 \div 2$

Activity – Top Trump Game

1. If you don't know how to play 'Top Trump Game' watch the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6RNtB--oGiw>
2. Choose your favourite 4 Endangered Animals and create 4 Top Trump Cards. Use the template here.
3. Make sure to name and draw your favourite animals. Fill in ALL the details.
4. You can find all the information you need from the list of websites above.

Resources

1. Follow the links listed in the Process section above.
2. You can use Google search as an additional site.
3. 'Top Trump Game Cards'

Evaluation

1. Share your answers and activities with a classmate or a family member.
2. Complete the Exit Slip.

Conclusion

Congratulations! You have discovered connections between Maths and the Endangered Animals.