



What is an Endangered Species?

At WWF, we talk a lot about 'endangered species' and you've probably heard the term before. But what exactly does it mean for a species to be endangered? [#wwf](#) [#wildclassroom](#) [#endangeredspecies](#) [#wildlife](#) [#animals](#)



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Kahoot public

Questions (19)

1 - Quiz

What is the definition of *endangered species*?



- A species only found in zoos ✗
- A species only found in one region of the world ✗
- A species that is dangerous to humans ✗
- A species that is in danger of becoming extinct ✓

2 - Diapo

The word “endangered” means that the species are in danger of no longer existing (becoming extinct).



Species that are endangered have so few individuals remaining that it will likely take a lot of focused conservation efforts to help them survive.

3 - Quiz

Which of the following would NOT be considered a species?



- A tree ✗
- A human ✗
- A drop of water ✓
- A fungus ✗

4 - Diapo

A species can be any group of similar living organisms, including animals, reptiles, plants, and fungi.



Individuals of the same species are able to repopulate.

5 - Vrai ou faux

We do not know how many species there are on Earth.



Vrai



Faux



6 - Diapo

Scientists estimate that there are millions of species in the world, but new species are being discovered each day.



Therefore, it is difficult to know exactly how many species exist, but we know that the number is very high (and growing)!

7 - Vrai ou faux

Species are organized into categories based on their extinction risk.



Vrai



Faux



8 - Diapo

Each species falls into one of eight categories.



These categories range from least concern to data deficient (we don't know enough to categorize them). When referring to 'endangered species,' it includes species that have been categorized as critically endangered, endangered, or vulnerable.

9 - Quiz

What does it mean if a species is categorized as “vulnerable”?



- It faces a high risk of extinction in the wild. ✓
- It poses a threat to other species. ✗
- It is thriving in its habitat. ✗
- It has not adapted well over time. ✗

10 - Diapo

A species categorized as “vulnerable” is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild, such as the polar bear.



Vulnerable species are at risk, but are not as threatened as those categorized as endangered who are facing a *very high* risk of extinction or those categorized as critically endangered facing an *extremely high* risk of extinction.

11 - Quiz

When scientists categorize a species, what factors do they consider?



- Population count ✓
- Habitat loss ✓
- How popular they are with humans ✗
- Where the nearest water source is ✗

12 - Diapo

Experts carry out a very thorough assessment to determine a species' extinction status.



They evaluate the habitat and if/how it's changing. They also look at the number of individuals and if that number is dropping significantly. Threats the species faces and any current actions in place to help are also factored into the decision.

13 - Quiz

What might cause a species to become extinct?



- Deforestation ✓
- Pollution ✓
- Poaching (illegal hunting) ✓
- Disease ✓

14 - Diapo

A species can become endangered or go extinct for a number of reasons – many of which stem from human activities.



Species could be threatened directly, from actions like poaching, or indirectly, such as when changes are made to their habitat. Climate change is another huge cause of species extinction since it alters habitats and resources, and causes disasters.

15 - Quiz

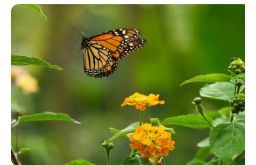
Why is it so important to protect endangered species?



- They have roles in their ecosystem. ✓
- They are a food source for humans. ✗
- Plants need them to grow. ✗
- They prevent diseases from spreading. ✗

16 - Diapo

Every species contributes to the health of their ecosystem.



When a species becomes extinct, it can have rippling effects throughout the rest of the ecosystem, and impact other species that rely on it.

17 - Vrai ou faux

Once a species is categorized as *endangered*, it will likely be endangered forever or become extinct.



Vrai



Faux



18 - Diapo

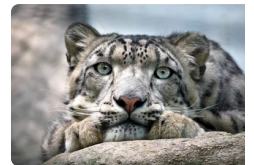
Experts across the world work hard to understand the threats facing endangered species in order to protect them.



Species are continuously reassessed to see how they're doing over time. If their numbers have improved, they will be 'downlisted' to a less critical status. For example, the giant panda was downlisted from endangered to vulnerable in 2016.

19 - Sondage

What will you do to help protect endangered species?



- Save energy by unplugging electronics not in use
- Reduce your food waste by composting or saving leftovers
- Plant native flowers and trees to help local species
- Write letters to politicians encouraging them to protect wildlife habitats
- Spread the word to your family and friends about how they can help
- Avoid using products made from animal parts

Sources des ressources ^