What is an Endangered Species?

An endangered species is an animal or plant that is in danger of becoming extinct; meaning it would no longer be alive on our planet, Earth. All animals need habitat – consisting of food, clean water, shelter and living space – to survive. Habitat loss is the number one reason why a species may become endangered. Other reasons why a species may become endangered include competition with introduced species, pollution, disease and animal trade. But remember, endangered means there is still time!

What Can We Do?

Everyone can help! The smallest things we do every day can make a difference.

- Recycle everything you can.
- · Conserve water; don't leave water running.
- Turn off lights and TV when you are out of the room.
- Use energy-efficient CFL bulbs instead of incandescent light bulbs.
- Don't throw trash out of your car.
- Make your neighborhood friendly to backyard wildlife; for example grow native plants that provide nuts, berries and nectar to feed wildlife, plant a butterfly garden, put up a bat house or bird house, and build a brush pile.
- Save gas, reduce the amount of lawn needing to be mowed.
- Compost food and yard waste.
- Reduce the use of chemicals in your yard and use environmentally friendly alternatives to pesticides.
- Keep your cat indoors to help protect local wildlife.
- Organize clean up days at your school or in your neighborhood.
- Adopt a Stream to monitor water quality.
- Save your pennies to purchase a federal Duck Stamp at the post office;
 your stamp purchase will conserve wetland habitat used by ducks, frogs,
 turtles, fish and endangered species.
- Encourage other people to learn more about endangered species.
 - Draw a poster, design a brochure, create note cards or write a letter to share a conservation message about endangered species.





