

Whether lost, sick or in danger of disappearing completely from our planet, animals face many challenges. Fortunately, there are organisations that are here to help. Here are three of them!

A WOOD GREEN – THE ANIMALS CHARITY

This centre has a mission to provide shelter and care for animals which are unwanted or lost.

Louisa Snow opened the first centre in 1924 in North London. She was worried about the number of pet animals which were left on the streets of London after the First World War.

In 1933, Dr Margaret Young joined the charity and started to try to find homes for the animals that were rescued. After several years, the London centre had too many animals so they bought a small pig farm in Hertfordshire so that the animals had somewhere to stay.

Today, the centre has more than one location and looks after other animals including rabbits, guinea pigs and farm animals.

B YORK ANIMAL HOSPITAL

In 1992, Dr Kaye Morgan, a vet and dog owner herself, started York Animal Hospital. Today it is well known for giving high-quality care for people's pets. As well as looking after and treating sick animals, the hospital also has dentists to look after the animals' teeth. The charge for this is quite small, compared to what people have to pay when they visit their dentist.

Even if your pet is not sick, you can bring it in for a wellness check-up. This is where the York Animal Hospital doctors give your pet a complete examination, looking at its eyes, ears, teeth and even its heart.

Another service they offer is to give advice about animals' diet and behaviour. According to their website, 'behaviour problems are the number one reason that owners give up a pet'.

C ROYAL ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF SCOTLAND (RZSS)

The Scottish lawyer Thomas Gillespie started the RZSS in 1909. He wanted to protect animals that are in danger and to educate the public about these species. RZSS operates both Edinburgh Zoo and the Highland Wildlife Park – a place which is home to over 200 animals, from local Scottish species to rare and endangered animals from other parts of the world.

The RZSS education programme for schools has taught over one million pupils from nursery school to secondary school. As well as the tours of the zoo and park, there are many courses for students from how to touch and hold animals to how to photograph and paint animals.

One of the most popular animals that the RZSS works with is the panda. RZSS Edinburgh Zoo has the only giant pandas in the UK, a female called Tian Tian (Sweetie) and a male called Yang Guang (Sunshine). They are kept in identical, but separate accommodation because giant pandas are animals that prefer to be alone. The RZSS has teamed up with other organisations to carry out research that will hopefully help the giant panda survive.

Read the article and then look at paragraphs A–C and find ideas with the same meaning.

- 1 They don't only take care of ill creatures. _____
- 2 These creatures like living apart. _____
- 3 Our aim is to look after animals that no one else wants. _____
- 4 This doesn't cost much money. _____

Read the text again. For questions 1–6, choose from the organisations A–C. The organisations may be chosen more than once.

Which organisation

- 1 was not started by a woman? _____
- 2 is famous for its good standard of treatment? _____
- 3 specialises in a particular type of treatment? _____
- 4 had to move from the city to the countryside? _____
- 5 encourages people's artistic skills? _____
- 6 wants to have a positive effect on the animals' future? _____