

The UAE is well known for its enormous variety of wildlife – **mammals**, **birds**, **reptiles** and **amphibians**. And this is mainly because the region is very concerned about nature and the natural environment.

Some of the animals that are found in the region include the **Arabian oryx** and the **Arabian leopard**. Forty years ago, both of these animals were almost **extinct** in the wild as a result of hunting activities.

Thanks to important and urgent **conservation** work, successful **breeding** programmes were introduced. Now, both these animals are growing in numbers in the wild.

To ensure that the Arabian oryx and Arabian leopard remain part of the Emirati landscape and culture, both animals have now been protected by law.



Arabian oryx



Arabian leopard

2 What are the two animals mentioned in the article?

3 Was the situation the same 40 years ago? If not, what was the situation?

5 What additional action was done to help protect these two animals in the future?