UNIT 9 – ENDANGERED ANIMALS

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Latest tweets

It's Earth Day so we're going to tweet about the most endangered species on Earth. We call them 'most wanted' because we really WANT to keep these animals on our planet! Find us on social media to see how you can take action to help them – they can't help themselves! #mostwanted 5 hours ago

There are only 55,000 African penguins left, all on the south-west coast of Africa. An oil spill in 2000 put 40,000 of them in danger, but a quick response from green groups and lots of volunteers saved them. If there's another spill, will we act as quickly as before? #mostwanted 4 hours ago

The 50,000 Asian elephants in South and South-East Asia are still hunted for the ivory in their tusks. That means people are still buying things made from ivory. If there were no buyers, hunters would stop killing elephants. It's as simple as that. Don't buy ivory. #mostwanted 3 hours ago

Polar bears hunt seals, their biggest food source, on the Arctic ice. But as the Earth gets warmer, this ice starts melting earlier each spring so the bears have less time to fatten up for the winter. If a bear doesn't gain enough weight, it won't survive the cold months. #mostwanted 2 hours ago

The Philippine eagle was made the national bird of the Philippines in 1995, but its numbers had already dropped to 500 by then. It hunts monkeys in the treetops, but loggers are cutting down the Philippine rainforest fast. No trees, no monkeys. No monkeys, no eagles. #mostwanted 1 hour ago

1. Choose the correct answer.

1 How many penguins are left on the south-west coast of Africa? ⋯

   A 55,000

   B 40,000

2 What happened during the 2000 oil spill? ⋯

   A The penguin species became endangered.

   B Many penguins were saved by volunteers.

3 Why do people hunt Asian elephants? ⋯

   A to stop them killing smaller animals

   B to get the ivory from their tusks

4 Why are polar bears in danger today?

   A because they can't find food

   B because hunters are killing them

5 Why does the Philippine eagle depend on the trees to survive? ⋯

   A because the treetops are its natural habitat

   B because monkeys live in the trees

PREPOSITIONS

2. Fill in **on** or **in**.

The Natural World

DID YOU KNOW?

1 Polar bears live longer ____ the wild than in zoos. ...

2 The tallest tree in the world, the coastal redwood, now grows only ____ the coast of California and Oregon. ...

3 There are no penguins ____ ... the Arctic – they only live ____ ... and around the Antarctic.

4 There are 3,740 species of birds ____ ... Asia – and 1,330 ____ ... India alone.

5 One of the most endangered species ____ Earth is the Javan rhino – with fewer than 100 still alive. ...

3. Complete the tweet with the words below.

(smaller)   (grasslands)   (activity)   (in)   (rhinos)

4.

The 3,555 Indian **1)** ____ ... left in the

wild are **2)** ____ ... danger because the

3) ____ ... where they live are getting

4) ____ ... and smaller every day due to

global warming and human **5)** ____ ... .

#mostwanted

5. Complete the text. Use:

the bald eagle

The American bald eagle isn't really bald. Its head is covered in white feathers! It has been the 1) [____] ••• bird of the USA since 1782, but by 1967, its 2) [____] ••• had dropped to under 1,000. That's when the Americans took 3) [____] ••• , putting it on the 4) [____] ••• species list and protecting it from loggers, hunters and farmers. Cleaner rivers and lakes also protected its biggest food 5) [____] ••• , fish. In 1995, it was taken off the list and today there are over 70,000 eagles in North America.

6. Choose the correct animal to complete the similes.

1 The firefighter was as brave as a **parrot / lion / dog** to enter that burning building. •••

2 When I finish school, I will be as free as a **kitten / bee / bird**. •••

3 I have lost my glasses. I'm as blind as a **bat / lion / elephant**. •••

4 Liam passed his exams with high marks. He was as proud as a **peacock / lion / mouse**. •••

5 Martha was ill for over a week. She was as weak as a **bird / kitten / cat**. •••

6 Be as quiet as a **lion / bee / mouse** because the children are sleeping. •••

7 I have been as busy as a **peacock / bee /bat** for two months. This project doesn't seem to end.

8 I'm afraid Laura can't come with us tonight. She is as sick as a **dog / mouse / bird**. •••