Vocabulary: Animals

Look at the photos. Then read and listen to the article. Match the photos to paragraphs A–D in the article.

Endangered animals

A Today, there are only about 25,000 polar bears in the Arctic Circle. But how much longer will they be there? With melting ice now a serious problem in the region, scientists believe that the population is going to drop even further.

B After three centuries of hunting, water pollution is today one of the biggest problems for whales. Although it's difficult to tell how many are in the ocean, current evidence suggests that more species are going to become extinct soon.

C In recent years, the populations of certain species of snakes have mysteriously declined by at least 50% across the UK, France, and Italy. Unfortunately, scientists aren't sure if this will improve.

D This particular monkey lives in the forests of the Peruvian Andes. With the continuing destruction of forests in the area, scientists predict that its population is going to fall by 80% over three generations. Experts hope that local industries will protect these animals.

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Match the animal words to the pictures.

bear ~~bird~~ fox monkey shark snake whale wolf

1 bird
2 _____
3 _____
4 _____
5 _____
6 _____
7 _____
8 _____

We often associate animals with certain characteristics. Which animals are described below?

1 This small animal with its red fur is usually very quick and clever. **fox**

2 This animal looks similar to a dog, but doesn't have a dog's reliable character. Instead, we often describe it as cruel and scary. _____

3 In real life, this animal is scary and incredibly strong, but in children's literature, it is kind, sweet, and extremely popular! _____

4 These small animals can fly. Therefore, it isn't surprising that we associate them with freedom and strength. _____

5 These animals are quite small, but can move extremely quickly using their long arms. We often think of them as strong, flexible, intelligent, and curious! _____