
NATURE PROTECTION

Why Do We Need Nature Protection?

1. The Value of Biodiversity

Biodiversity is the variety of all living things on Earth. It is not just about having many different animals to look at; it is a complex system that keeps us alive.

- **Oxygen:** Plants and trees clean our air.
- **Food:** Healthy ecosystems provide fruits, vegetables, and fish.
- **Medicine:** Many of our medicines come from wild plants.

When we protect nature, we are protecting these "ecosystem services" that humans need to survive.

2. The Main Threats

Today, nature is under pressure from several human-driven factors:

- **Overexploitation:** Taking too much from nature (like overfishing or overhunting) so that species cannot reproduce fast enough.
- **Urban Sprawl:** Expanding cities into wild areas, which destroys the homes of animals.
- **Climate Change:** As the Earth warms, many species cannot adapt fast enough to the new temperatures and weather patterns.

Strategies for Protection

1. In-Situ Conservation (On-Site)

This means protecting species in their natural habitat. This is the best way to protect nature because it saves the entire ecosystem.

- **National Parks:** Large areas of land protected by the government.
- **Nature Reserves:** Areas specifically managed for the conservation of plants or animals.
- **Marine Protected Areas (MPAs):** Regions of the ocean where fishing and industrial activities are restricted to protect sea life.

2. Ex-Situ Conservation (Off-Site)

Sometimes, a species is so close to extinction that it is not safe in the wild. Scientists use:

- **Seed Banks:** Storing seeds of rare plants in cold vaults so they can be planted in the future.

- **Zoos and Aquariums:** Acting as "living museums" where endangered animals are bred to increase their population.
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Restoring What Was Lost

1. Habitat Restoration

Protection is not always enough; sometimes we have to fix what we broke. **Restoration** involves active steps to bring an ecosystem back to health.

- **Reforestation:** Planting trees in areas where forests were cut down.
- **Removing Invasive Species:** Getting rid of plants or animals that don't belong there and are hurting the local species.
- **Cleaning Waterways:** Removing trash and chemicals from rivers and lakes.

2. Wildlife Corridors

When humans build roads through forests, it "fragments" the habitat. Animals become trapped in small areas. To solve this, scientists build **Wildlife Corridors** (green bridges or tunnels) so animals can safely cross roads and reach other parts of the forest.

Laws, Policy, and Global Cooperation

1. International Agreements

Nature does not have borders. Birds migrate between countries, and oceans belong to everyone. Because of this, countries sign international laws:

- **CITES:** An agreement that makes it illegal to trade endangered animals (like elephants for their ivory or tigers for their fur) across borders.
- **The IUCN Red List:** A global list that tells us which species are safe and which ones are in danger of extinction.

2. The Role of Rangers

National Parks and Reserves are protected by **Rangers**. These are professionals who:

- Patrol the land to stop illegal hunting (poaching).
 - Guide tourists to make sure they don't harm the environment.
 - Monitor animal populations to see if they are healthy.
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What Can Individuals Do?

Nature protection is not just the job of the government. Every person can contribute:

- **Citizen Science:** Helping scientists by counting birds or plants in your local area and reporting the data.
- **Sustainable Tourism:** When you go on vacation, choose "Eco-Tours" that do not harm nature and help support local conservation.
- **Reducing Consumption:** Using less "stuff" means fewer natural resources are taken from the wild to make products.
- **Supporting "Green" Laws:** Encouraging leaders to create more protected areas.

Task 1: Conservation Awareness (True/False)

Read the statements and decide if they are True (T) or False (F).

1. Nature protection only helps animals, not people. ()
2. National Parks are areas where nature is protected from human industry. ()
3. Extinction means a species has completely disappeared from Earth. ()
4. It is legal to hunt any animal inside a Nature Reserve. ()
5. Planting local trees is a good way to help habitat restoration. ()
6. Pollution only affects the air, not the soil or water. ()
7. Poaching is the illegal hunting of wild animals. ()
8. Humans depend on nature for clean air and water. ()
9. Once a species is endangered, it is impossible to save it. ()
10. Global warming makes nature protection more difficult. ()

Task 2: Multiple Choice

Circle the correct answer (A, B, or C).

1. What is "Biodiversity"?	A. A type of energy	B. The variety of life on Earth	C. A chemical used in farming
2. Which of these is a "Natural Resource"?	A. Plastic	B. Fresh water	C. Computers
3. What is a "Nature Reserve"?	A. A place for building factories	B. A protected area for wildlife	C. A type of city park
4. "Extinct" means the species is...	A. Sleeping	B. Gone forever	C. Moving to a new forest

5. Habitat restoration involves:	A. Cutting down trees	B. Repairing damaged nature	C. Building more roads
6. A "Captive Breeding" program happens in:	A. A wild forest	B. A specialized center or zoo	C. A large city
7. The main cause of habitat loss is:	A. Natural disasters	B. Human activity (farms/cities)	C. Too many animals
8. Which is a way to protect nature at home?	A. Using more plastic	B. Saving water and recycling	C. Leaving trash in the park
9. What is a "Poacher"?	A. A scientist	B. An illegal hunter	C. A park ranger
10. Sustainable use of resources means:	A. Using everything today	B. Using resources carefully for the future	C. Never using nature at all

Task 3: Vocabulary Gap Fill

Fill in the gaps using the words from the box.

WORD LIST: protection, endangered, national parks, biodiversity, habitat, pollution, extinct, resources, awareness, restoration

- Every country has _____ to keep its most beautiful areas safe.
- The giant panda was once highly _____, but numbers are now growing.
- Air _____ from cars can harm the health of forests.
- We need to save natural _____ like timber and minerals.
- High _____ helps an ecosystem stay strong and healthy.
- Environmental _____ helps people understand why nature is important.
- The dodo bird is a famous example of an _____ species.
- Cutting down a forest destroys the _____ of many birds and insects.
- Nature _____ is everyone's responsibility.
- _____ projects help turn abandoned land back into green forests.

Task 4: Definitions Matching

Match the term to the correct definition.

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|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. Conservation (___) | A. An animal that is being hunted by another. |
| 2. Endangered (___) | B. The wise use and protection of natural resources. |
| 3. Poaching (___) | C. At very high risk of extinction. |
| 4. Reserve (___) | D. Illegal hunting or capturing of wild animals. |
| 5. Restoration (___) | E. Returning something to its original, healthy condition. |
| 6. Ranger (___) | F. A bridge for animals to cross a road safely. |
| 7. Corridor (___) | G. A person who protects a National Park. |
| 8. Fragmentation (___) | H. When habitats are broken into small pieces. |

9. **In-situ** (___) | I. Conservation that happens in the natural habitat.
10. **Ex-situ** (___) | J. Conservation that happens outside the natural habitat (e.g. zoos).
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Task 5: Sentence Completion

Complete the sentences with your own ideas based on the handbook.

1. To protect nature, governments should create more _____.
 2. If we don't protect endangered species, they will become _____.
 3. People can help the environment by reducing their use of _____.
 4. A healthy forest provides us with _____.
 5. We should never leave _____ when we go hiking.
 6. Wildlife corridors are important because they _____.
 7. Recycling is important because it saves _____.
 8. We can protect water by not throwing _____ into rivers.
 9. National Parks are great places to learn about _____.
 10. Education is the key to increasing environmental _____.
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TEACHER'S ANSWER KEYS

Task 1 (T/F): 1.F, 2.T, 3.T, 4.F, 5.T, 6.F, 7.T, 8.T, 9.F, 10.T

Task 2 (MC): 1.B, 2.B, 3.B, 4.B, 5.B, 6.B, 7.B, 8.B, 9.B, 10.B

Task 3 (Gap Fill): 1.National Parks, 2.endangered, 3.pollution, 4.resources, 5.biodiversity, 6.awareness, 7.extinct, 8.habitat, 9.protection, 10.restoration

Task 4 (Match): 1-B, 2-C, 3-D, 4-A, 5-E, 6-G, 7-F, 8-H, 9-I, 10-J

Task 5 (Sentences): *Suggested answers only* (1.Reserves, 2.Extinct, 3.Plastic/Resources, 4.Oxygen/Wood, 5.Trash, 6.help animals travel, 7.Natural resources, 8.Chemicals/Waste, 9.Wildlife/Ecology, 10.Awareness)

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