



# WORLD WILDLIFE DAY

MARCH 3

TTYP What is wildlife and why is it important?

# World Wildlife Day

- World Wildlife Day (WWD) is an annual event, organised by the United Nations (UN), to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild animals and plants.
- WWD has become the most important global, annual event dedicated to wildlife.

# **Theme: Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation.**

## **Innovation**

Innovation means coming up with new ideas or methods. This year's theme is digital innovation and exploring and highlighting how new technology can help humans and wildlife co-exist.

## **Conservation**

Conservation is the protection of things found in nature. It requires the sensible use of all of Earth's natural resources, such as water, minerals, wildlife and forests. People involved in conservation try to preserve the natural world so it will still be around in the future.

# Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation

- This year's World Wildlife Day theme encourages us to think about new ways we can use technology to help wildlife and conservation.
- We can also access online research to keep us up-to-date with wildlife trends. This research also helps scientists support wildlife and the environment worldwide.

We can use the technology available to help us, such as cameras and trackers, to locate and monitor endangered species.

# How to get involved yourself!

- There are lots of websites and apps that you can download and record wildlife you see you can do this using any technology you have at home with your adult!
- The RSPB every year do the big garden bird watch in January and you can record all the garden birds that visit. [Big Garden Bird Watch 2024 \(rspb.org.uk\)](https://www.rspb.org.uk)
- In the summer there is The Big Butterfly count where you can record all the local butterflies you see. This is an app [The 2023 Big Butterfly Count has begun! | Butterfly Conservation \(butterfly-conservation.org\)](https://www.butterfly-conservation.org)
- Then, there is instant wild where you can look at wildlife cameras across the world and identify different animals for scientists. [Intro | ZSL Instant Wild](https://www.zsl.org)

# Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation

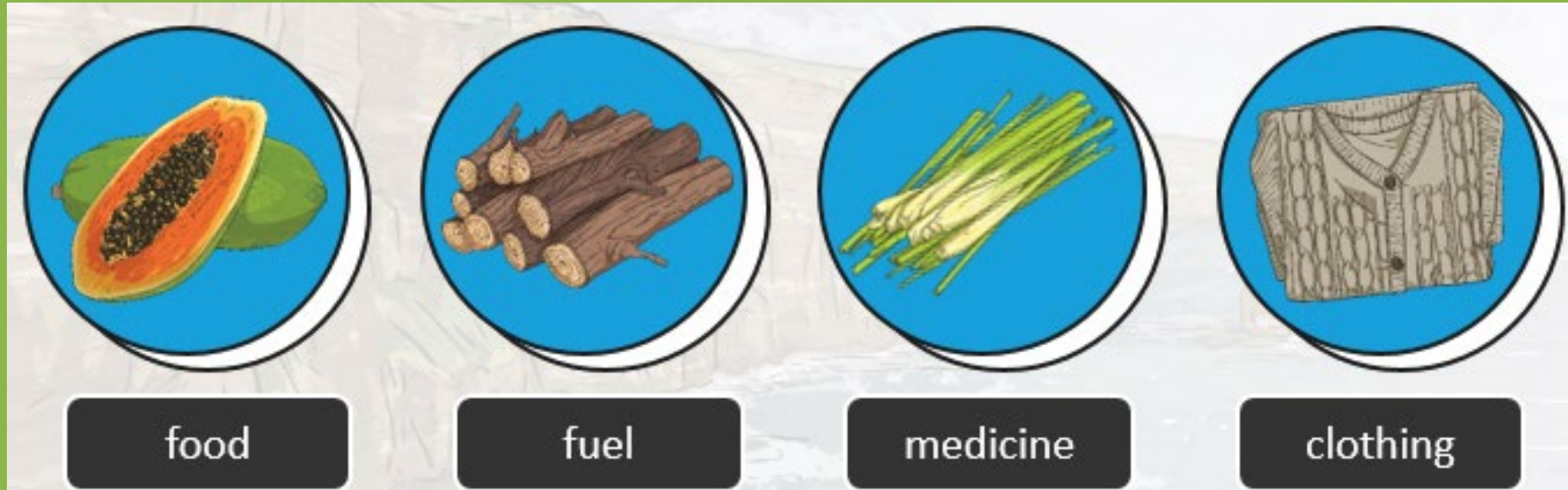


- World Wildlife Day invites us to explore existing technical innovations dedicated to conserving our planet's animals and plants.
- Digital innovation has already transformed the way we protect our crucial biodiversity.
- Ground breaking apps now enable us to tell different tiger species apart in seconds.
- Drones are helping us roam large areas to locate sea turtle nesting sites.
- Advanced tracking systems allow us to identify, monitor and preserve wildlife.
- [Watch video: Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)
- Connecting People and the Planet involves strengthening our connections to nature with the help of technology and doing so together.
- The United Nations (UN) understands not everyone has access to these new digital tools and therefore aims to achieve universal digital inclusion by 2030. That would mean everyone on the planet has safe and affordable internet access and the use of digitally enabled services.

# Why is wildlife important?



- People rely on wildlife and its produce everyday . Millions of people also rely on nature for housing and a source of income.



- It is essential that we change our relationship with nature.
- Our health as a species depends on having healthy wildlife populations, healthy ecosystems and biodiversity for a healthy planet!



# Endangered species

- TTYP What are endangered species? Can you name any?



Species around the world are constantly being evaluated to see if they are at risk of extinction. They are then categorised as...

- vulnerable
- endangered
- critically endangered

As of December 2022, **41,415** different species of plants and animals are classed as endangered and threatened with extinction.

[Top 10 Most Endangered Species in 2024](#)  
[#endangeredspecies](#)  
[#2024 \(youtube.com\)](#)

KS1 & early years video:

[Endangered Animals!](#)  
[\(youtube.com\)](#)

# Endangered Species

There are lots of conservation efforts to try and save many species who face threats, such as loss of habitat, hunting and disease.

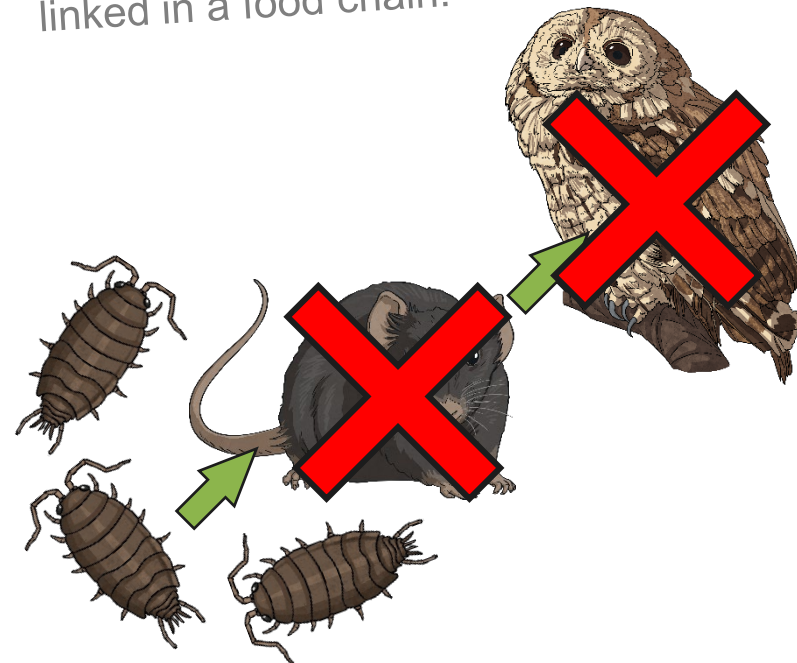
## Did You Know...?

The vaquita is the most endangered marine animal in the world.



There are estimated to only be 10 left in the wild.

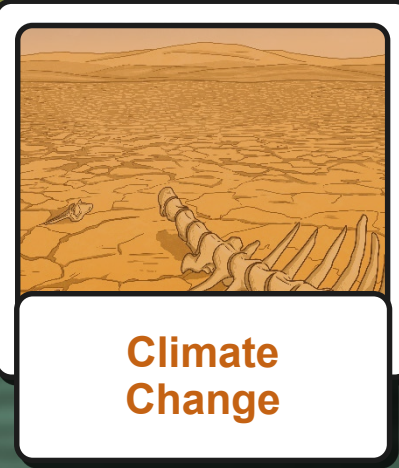
If a species goes extinct, it is likely to cause a knock-on effect, endangering other species linked to it in the ecosystem; for example, if they are linked in a food chain.





# Threats to Species and Ecosystems

● Click on a picture to learn more about each type of threat.



Next

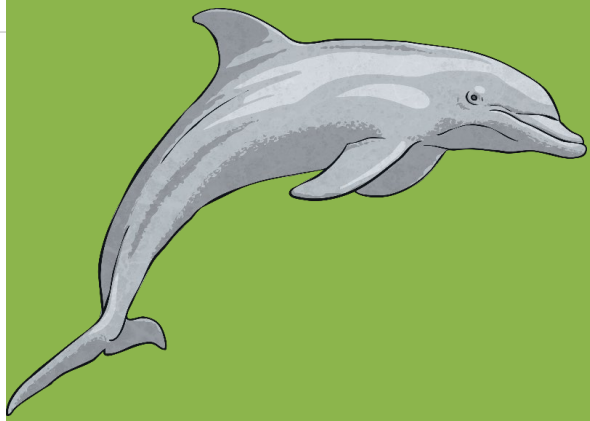
# Shocking Statistics

It is estimated that there are only 68 Javan rhinos left in the world, making this critically endangered species one of the most threatened large mammal species on Earth.

Earth's wildlife populations have declined by an average of 69% in just over 50 years, according to the Living Planet Report in 2022.

According to data from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the Red List of Threatened Species shows that over 8,400 species of wild fauna and flora are critically endangered, while close to 30,000 more are understood to be endangered or vulnerable.

Based on these estimates, it is suggested that over a million species are threatened with extinction.



## What is being done?



- Vulnerable species are monitored closely to check on their status. Many countries around the world have programmes set up to help conserve these endangered species and are working to try to increase their numbers.
- There is also rising awareness of the threats, with many people taking action to combat climate change and pollution in their everyday choices, such as recycling.
- There are also numerous laws and agreements in place around the world to help protect ecosystems, such as the Paris Climate Agreement which was signed in 2015 by 196 countries, in which promises were made to lower greenhouse gas emissions. TYP Do you think the promises are always kept?



# How Can We Help?

Recycle as much of your waste as you can.  
Reduce, Reuse & Recycle!

Help spread the word about conservation and endangered species

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Get to know the species that face the most urgent threats in your area and how you and your community can help conserve them or support ongoing initiatives to do so.

Reduce water and energy use

Use sustainable products

Donate to environmental charities

plant trees



Donate to environmental charities

Walk, cycle or use public transport when you can

# Every Day Wildlife Protection

Though World Wildlife Day is an annual celebration, wildlife conservation is an issue that needs attention and action every day.

This year, World Wildlife Day invites us to share our digital conservation stories and illustrate the future we envisage for nature. As we venture further into this digital era, the survival of wildlife species depends on us all.

Whilst this may feel overwhelming, every person's small actions add up, which can make a real difference for every species and ecosystem. TYP What could we do to make a small difference to wildlife at school?

**Happy World  
Wildlife Day!**

