

Deforestation

Humans have been cutting down trees for thousands of years to build homes and make fires. We are now cutting down forests faster than ever before, not only for timber and fuel but also to clear large areas for farming. Trees are also cut down to make paper - we use 1 million tonnes (985,000 tons) of paper every day!

> Orangutans have lost more than 80 per cent of their forest habitat in the last 20 years. They are now at high risk of extinction in the wild.

Palm oil

Palm oil is a smooth, creamy oil made from the fruit of the African oil palm tree. It is used in a huge number of products, from cooking oil and chocolate to cleaning products and lipstick. The oil palm tree is native to Africa, but it's now grown in other parts of the world on huge farms called palm



oil plantations. Forests are cut down and replaced with palm oil trees, and that means animals lose their homes.



There are 3 trillion trees in the world, but 15 billiom are cut down every year.

Why do we need forests?

Forests are not just a collection of trees - they are a vital part of a healthy planet.



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Carbon dioxide As trees grow, they use up carbon dioxide, a gas in the air that causes climate change. They soak up other harmful gases from the air, too.



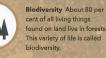
Oxygen Forests are the "lungs" of the Earth, pumping out the oxygen that we breathe.



Soil protection Tree roots keep the soil in place, preventing it from being carried away by water or the wind.



Medicines Lots of medicines are extracted from rainforest plants or based on substances found in them.



People About 300 million people worldwide live in forests, and even more depend on them for their work and food.

Palm oil is used in more than half of all packaged supermarket products.



Palm oil is a preservative, which means it stops things from going off. It has many other names – at least 200! They include palm kernel, palmate, glyceryl, stearic acid, sodium kernelate, and often it is just referred to as vegetable oil. So, it can be very difficult to know if your favourite products contain the oil. However, if you really want to avoid it, you can do some research on the internet to find brands that make a point of not using it.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Ask your parents or carers to choose

products that use sustainable palm oil.

This means the oil palm trees have been

grown in a way that is kind to people, animals, and their environment.



Many types of animal and plant are threatened by human actions, such as deforestation, hunting, pollution, climate change, and disease. We have to act now to protect them and make sure they do not disappear forever. There are many ways we can help threatened species.

Extinction

Many animals have smaller and smaller spaces to live in due to deforestation, destruction of their habitats, and hunting. If we don't protect them and their natural homes, they will soon die out, just like the dodo.





Reintroductions

Protecting our

If we make overfished parts of the

oceans into protected areas, the

numbers of fish there will get a

chance to recover. The Rapa Nui

Rahui Marine Protected Area, off

the coast of Chile, protects

more than 140 marine

species found

nowhere else

on the Earth.

oceans

We can help animals that find it hard to

survive in the wild by breeding them in

captivity. In eastern Asia, Amur leopards

now breeding them in zoos in the hope

they can one day go

back to their natural home. Amur

leopard

cub

struggle in the wild. However, we are

Ecotourism Trips to areas where there are endangered animals and habitats is called ecotourism. It brings in money to local communities and helps protect wildlife. Tourists have to be careful not to cause any harm. They must keep to footpaths and not get too close to the wild animals.

Reintroducing animals to their

wiped out can be very difficult.

However, in 2009, beavers were

reintroduced to Scotland, UK,

Amazing sea creatures, such as

porpoises and dolphins, can be

injured or killed by fishing nets. In

2017, Mexico banned the gillnet.

This kind of net was threatening to

wipe out a type of porpoise called

Vaquita

the vacuita.

and they are doing well!

habitat once they have been

Protecting our forests

The best way to protect forests is to turn them into conservation areas. In 2017, Papua New Guinea created the Managalas Conservation Area, protecting 3,600 sq km (1,400 sq miles) of ancient forest.

Rhino horn

All over the world, animals are killed for their body parts. Rhinos are killed for their horns, which are used in traditional medicine. In some places, vets remove rhinos' horns, so that poachers have no reason to kill them.



Hunting bans

In some areas, animals are still hunted and killed for sport. Grizzly bears are one of the animals targeted in this way. In 2017, British Columbia, Canada, banned the killing of grizzly bears for either meat or sport.

Grizzly bears are a "keystone species" - meaning they are crucial to the well-being of their ecosystem.





horns sawn off to make it "valueless" to poachers.

A rhino in South Africa has its

Life Cycle/Story Example

LIFE STORIES

The explanation below tells you how sunflowers grow from seeds.

The Life Story of a Sunflower



1. The seed swells in warm, wet, spring weather. The roots push down into the soil.



3. Next the leaves start to grow. The plant grows taller and taller.



5. In summer the bud opens. The flower turns towards the sun.



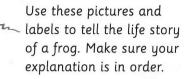
2. A few weeks later, a shoot appears. The roots keep growing.



4. Soon it is taller than a person. A flower bud appears.



6. Later seeds form and finally the petals fade and die.







1. Spring.



3. After 4 weeks.



5. After 10 weeks.

WRITING TIPS

When you write an explanation:

- first think of a title.
- write in the present tense.
- describe what happens in the right order.
- use time words such as first, then, next, after and finally.



2. After 2 weeks.



4. After 8 weeks.



6. After 12 weeks.



Trees

There are millions of trees growing in this country.

Some trees lose their leaves in the autumn and grow new ones in the spring. These trees are called deciduous trees.

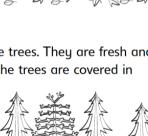


This is why autumn is sometimes called 'the fall'. Often the dead leaves will become very dry and will rustle and scrunch when you walk through them.

Through the cold winter months the deciduous trees have no leaves and you can see all the branches and twigs very clearly.

In the spring, new leaves grow on the trees. They are fresh and bright green. All through the summer the trees are covered in beautiful green leaves.

Trees that don't lose their leaves in the winter are called evergreen trees because they are *ever green*. Evergreen trees include holly trees, pine trees and monkey puzzle trees.



The leaves on a deciduous tree change colour in the autumn.

Some of them turn brown, some turn yellow, some turn orange and

some turn red. When the wind blows, the leaves fall off the branches and land on the ground.



The structure

- 1 A general statement about the subject of the report.
- Facts about the subject set out in paragraphs.



Features of the text

- 1 Write it in the present tense.
- QUse a formal style and write in the third person.
- Begin with general information and then state details and specific facts.

Remember we call paragraphs POINTS



5

answers as you find them.

Writing a report MAMMALS African Elephant Write a report about giant pandas or African elephants. BREEDING HABITAT Females (cows) give MAMMALS Giant Panda birth to one baby (calf) every four or five years. HABITAT BREEDING The calves weigh 90 kg Female pandas produce and are | metre tall. one or two babies (cubs) They drink their Elephants live in large FFFDING every two or three years. mother's milk until groups called herds on the Elephants spend up to Cubs weigh only about they are six years old. 18 hours a day grazing grassy plains of Africa. 100g and have no fur. Pandas live alone in the on grasses, leaves, roots, Cubs need a lot APPEARANCE cold, high bamboo forests of care and usually tree bark and fruit. An Large ears flap Height: 3.7m in the mountains of China. to cool elephant only one survives FEEDING adult can eat up to 230 kg Thick skin Weight: Up to Pandas live mostly on of food and drink 200 APPEARANCE 7 tonnes bamboo shoots and roots. litres of water every day. Height: 1.7m Sometimes they eat small Weight: Up to 150 kg Eyes have good Tail swishes night vision animals, birds and fish. flies away Long trunk for Adult pandas eat up to smelling, sucking 38 kg of bamboo each day. up water and Powerful jaw: Thick fur picking up things Hairy feet Large paws for walking on for grabbing snow and ice shoots and roots digging and fighting Sharp claws 1 First read the information. 3 The neat copy. Write the title. • What does the animal look like? Look up any words you do not WRITING TIPS • Where does it live? 4 Write your report using the understand in a dictionary. When you write a report: • What does it eat? answers to your questions. 2 Make a list of the following write in the present tense. • What do you know about 5 Add facts of your own. questions and jot down the start a new paragraph its babies? Look in other books to for every answer.

make sure they are correct.

6

end with a short conclusion.

LL ABOUT ANIMALS

eports are factual. They explain the ay things are. This information about enguins is from an animal handbook.

BREEDING

Oily, waterproof

Wings used

not flying

Tail steers when

hird is swimming

for swimming

feathers



BIRDS Emperor Penguin

HABITAT



Emperor Penguins live in seas around Antarctica, in large groups called flocks.

APPEARANCE The Emperor Penguin is the largest of all penguins. Height: 1.15m

Weight: 30 kg

Small bill

Thick blubber

keeps penguin

Small feet

warm

In the autumn, male and female penguins travel 100 km south to a nesting site. There, they meet a life-long mate. Three weeks later, the female lays one egg. She returns north to feed, leaving the male to care for the egg. The male keeps the egg warm on his feet under a flap of skin. He does this for two

months. He eats nothing and huddles together with other males to keep warm. When the egg hatches, the female



FEEDING Penguins are fast swimmers

finis .

(up to 30 km per hour). They catch fish, squid and krill in their beaks which they eat under the water.

> Writer's own comments

Their

babies

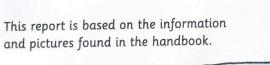
What

Where

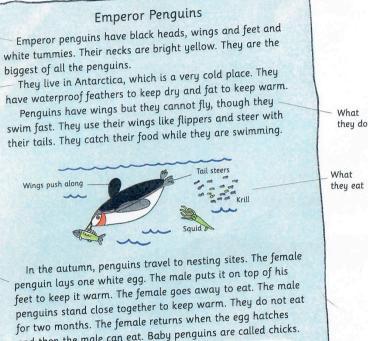
they live

like

they look









and then the male can eat. Baby penguins are called chicks.





I saw some chicks at the zoo. They had soft, fluffy, grey feathers instead of black and white ones. The mother was feeding them with fish straight from her mouth into theirs. Most people love penguins and we need to protect them.

egg cracks

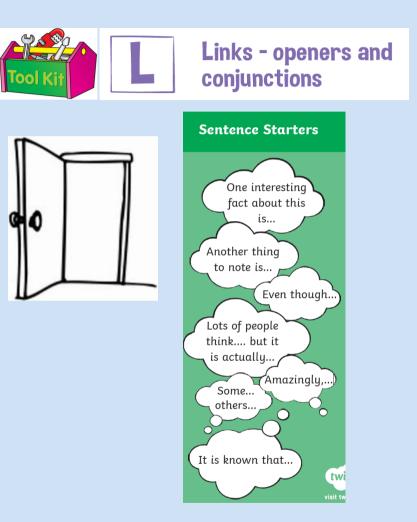
A good ending

10

Factual sentence starters for information texts

• are	
• is	
They are	
They are also	
They like to	
They don't like	
They avoid because	
They don't	
It doesn't	
 They can It can 	
Instead they	
In addition,	
Usually	
Generally	
Normally	
• As a rule	
Frequently	
They can be	
They are usually (It is usually)	
They are rarely (It is rarely)	
They are never (It is never)	
Like many	
Unlike	
This is a	
Although	
Even though	
Despite	
Despite the fact that	
Sometimes	
Often	

Links -Openers Words to start or open sentences with.

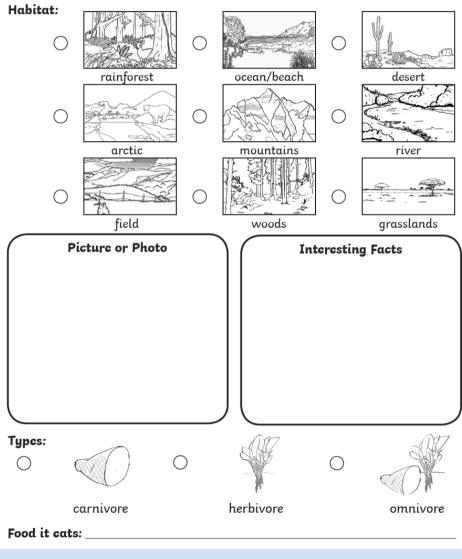


Monday Afternoon Activity

https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/ articles/zhvmt39

Habitat Fact File Activity

Animal: mammal () bird () amphibian () reptile () fish () Name: _____



Tuesday Afternoon Activity

Living Things and Their Habitats Key Stage 1

Activity: Match the living thing to its habitat



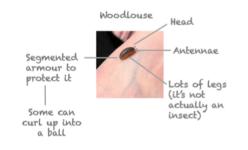
Activity: Find and identify living things in their habitats

Go on a bug hunt, see what you can find in your local area and identify what lives there and how they are suited to that habitat or micro-habitat

Activity: Draw and label a minibeast

Either find a minibeast from your bug hunt, or look one up in a book or on the internet and label it

Example:



https://stemlearning.wistia.com/medias/oil59grd13

Activity: Create estate agents adverts for animals' habitats

Can you think of the features of different microhabitats and create an advert for what might attract animals or plants suited to those habitats:

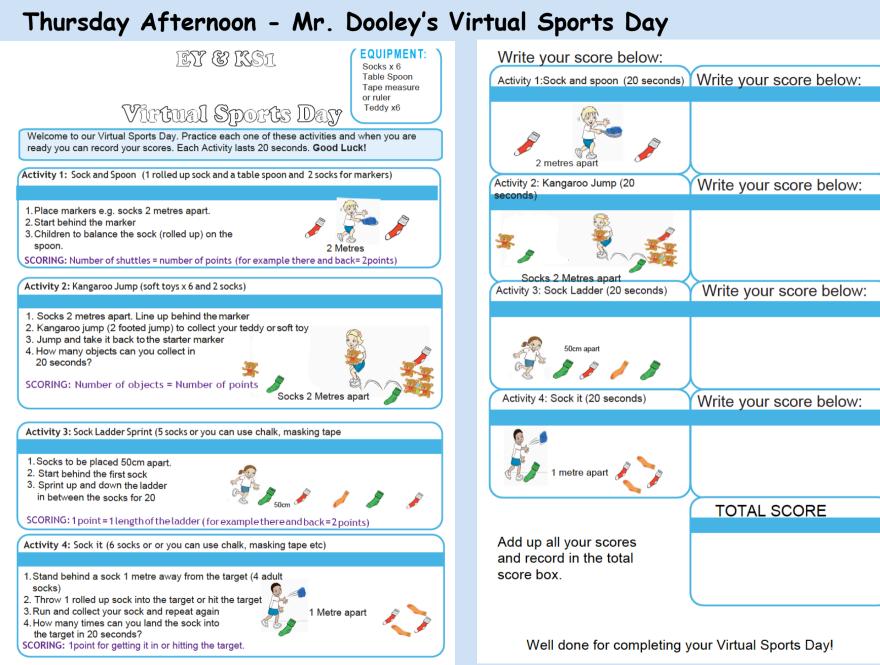


Habitat Features

Would suit

Features Would suit

Habitat



Friday Afternoon Activity

Well Being - Cool Off (Coping Skills) Snowflake

- A simple and fun way to make a coping skill reminder for children (and grown ups) of any age!
- Choose from assortment of paper colours and types, fold and cut out snowflake. Talk about how all snowflakes are different and everyone's way of calming down can be different and unique too.
- Write and draw calming strategies on the snowflake.
- Decorate with glitter, sequins, felt pens, stickers etc.
- We all need reminders sometimes and reminders of safe ways to calm and relax

are important for everyone! Cool off with a coping skill snowflake today.

