

SPECIES

A species is a group of similar individuals. Groups can be animals that live miles and miles apart from each other.

Naming animals is a way we group them together because they might look quite similar to each other! Humans are a species as we are all very similar, inside and outside.

Usually, individuals within a species look and behave alike. Some animals are extinct – the Dodo, dinosaurs. More recently, the Golden Toad. Sadly some are low in numbers for example the Great Hammerhead.

Some species are really endangered meaning there is a small number left. Like dinosaurs, more species may also become extinct, such as the Critically Endangered Vaquita. This can be due to different reasons, such as hunting, poaching, fishing, nets, pet trade, habitat loss or housing developments.

Species can live in all different places together happily, as all the animals and plants suit a particular habitat. Guatemala is a country in Central America – between North and South America. It is a beautiful vibrant part of the world. One special part of Guatemala was under threat of being destroyed but now it has protection forever with the help of World Land Trust. This beautiful area is full of wildlife and amazing species. It has high mountains, lush forests and coastal habitats



WORLD
LAND
TRUST

SPECIES

Key Stage 1

Use videos and photographs to help students identify species and their physical differences.

Create a matching exercise using simple species type (birds, mammals, amphibians, insects, fish and reptiles) with images.

Advanced learning – carry out research on their favourite species; encourage selecting a less well-known species to show diversity.

UK Red Squirrel has been taken over by the invasive Grey Squirrel, it was introduced from the United States in the late 1870's. It is bigger and stronger than our native grey.
Create a missing poster for the UK's Red Squirrel.

Create endangered species cards to introduce species, then create posters or other literatures such as an infographic on a chosen species.

Explain threats that species face and for further learning test knowledge by matching the threat to species.

Create mini flip charts on a species, include a photo, information on diet, details of appearance and interesting facts

“New Species discovered!”

Create an activity or new species. Provide an outline of required information such as location, appearance, diet, breeding and behaviour. Consider creating a report for a newspaper.

Encourage participations by role playing the following – tourists, hunter, indigenous people, collectors or tourism representative.

Key Stage2

For further learning, introduce the terms evolution and biodiversity.

Evolution is a process of continuous change and the distinction between one species and another is not always clear-cut. Species can be further split.

Biodiversity to show how important different species are, and the impact of when biodiversity is lost.

Research favourite species and investigate into endangered species and present.

Create a bingo game once the students are familiar with the species and threats.

Become species experts and conduct multi-media presentations.

Create an Endangered Species list, ideas below :
Bornean Orang-utan, Amur Leopard, Black Rhino, Eastern Lowland Gorilla, Hawksbill Turtle