

Reading

Read the article.

Don't let our animals disappear!

The animals on the map on the right are all **endangered**. This means that they may soon become extinct — dying out just like the dinosaurs. It is possible that your grandchildren will never see a real elephant, tiger or orangutan. And they are not the only animals that may disappear. Over 12,500 animals are endangered. Why? **HUMANS!**

5 Human activities such as **forest clearing**, **pollution** and **hunting** are the main causes of the problem.

Forest clearing

In Indonesia, forest areas the size of **300 football fields** are destroyed **every hour**.

3,000 orangutans lose their homes every year.



Forests are very important for life on Earth. They provide clean air, food, and a home for many animals. However, forests are cleared to
10 make way for roads, towns and farms.

Many orangutans are losing their homes and starving to death because of forest clearing. Orangutans will become extinct unless we stop destroying their forest homes.

Pollution

15 When waste is dumped in the sea, it is a big problem for fish and sea animals. For example, many sea turtles die after they accidentally eat plastic bags floating in the sea. Also,
20 since sea turtles need to lay their eggs on sandy beaches, rubbish on these beaches can trap the babies and prevent them from reaching the ocean. Sea turtles will become extinct
25 unless we stop polluting the sea.



A sea turtle eating a plastic bag which looks like a jellyfish.

Some of the world's endangered animals



Hunting

Although animal hunting is banned in many places, millions of animals are still killed by hunters every year. Tigers are hunted for their fur and rhinos are hunted for their horns. Elephants are killed for their beautiful long tusks, which are made of ivory.

In Africa, about 30,000 elephants are killed each year. Their tusks are used to make ivory jewellery, ornaments and chopsticks. Elephants will become extinct unless we stop buying ivory products.



90% of the elephants in Africa have been killed in the last 50 years.



HIGH PRICE of ivory = **MORE** hunting



THOUSANDS of ivory products are sold across Asia each year.

The lives of the animals are in our hands. Don't let them go the way of the dinosaurs. Go to www.saveanimals.orgx to find out how to save endangered animals.

Act now before it's too late!



Do you think endangered animals will die out like the dinosaurs one day? Why / Why not?