

# Geography Middle/Secondary Teacher Resource



## BC Curriculum:

- **Content-** Characteristics of global biomes, including climate, soil and vegetation.
- **Curricular Competencies-** Make reasoned ethical judgments about controversial actions in the past and/or present, and determine whether we have a responsibility to respond (geographical value judgments).
- **Big Ideas-** Incorporating data from a variety of sources allows us to better understand our globally connected world.

## Objective:

Students will have the opportunity to choose an animal to focus their research on at the Greater Vancouver Zoo and research that animal’s geographical environment and how that environment supports animal life. They can then make a connection between the physical geography of the animal, how humans affect that geography and in turn, how does that have an effect on a global scale.

**Example:** Bees help vegetation growth through pollination. Without pollinators, the world’s agricultural resources can suffer, affecting both animals and humans.



### Assignment:

Students can visit the Greater Vancouver Zoo website (<https://gvzoo.com>) and choose an animal they wish to focus on. They will be researching the animal and the climate/environment/habitat/social behaviour/food that the animal correlates to. To make a global connection the students need to look at what important role the animal plays in its habitat, where they fit in the food chain, what happens to the ecosystem if that animal goes extinct or how it is affected by humans? How does human geography affect the animal? How do we prevent this? Can the student develop possible solutions to save the animal and their environment? Students can also visit the zoo to see “their” animal and how the Greater Vancouver Zoo mimics their natural environment.



### Questions to Research:

- **Where** in the world does your animal live?
- **What** does their **natural habitat/environment** look like?
- **What** kinds of food do they eat?
- **Where** are they on the food chain?
- **What** is the animal’s **conservation status**?
- **How** does **human geography** affect the animal **and** its environment?
- **What** can we do to prevent the destruction of the animal’s habitat **and** keep them from becoming **endangered** or **extinct**?



### Presentation Ideas:

- Power Point
- Poster
- Video
- Chart
- Diagram
- Visual model





## Examples of Zoo Animals by Geographic Region - Conservation Status

### Africa:

- Addax – **critically endangered**
- African-spurred Tortoise - **vulnerable**
- Ankole Cattle – **not listed**
- Aoudad - **vulnerable**
- Cheetah – **vulnerable**
- Common Eland – **least concern**
- Dromedary Camel – **domesticated**
- Egyptian Goose – **least concern**
- Giraffe – **least concern**
- Grant’s Zebra – **least concern**
- Helmeted Guineafowl – **least concern**
- Hippopotamus – **vulnerable**
- Lion – **vulnerable**
- Marabou Stork – **least concern**
- Ostrich – **least concern**
- Scimitar-Horned Oryx – **extinct in the wild**
- Red-River Hogs – **least concern**
- Yellow Baboon – **least concern**
- Zebu Cattle – **not listed**

### North America:

- American Alligator – **least concern**
- American Badger – **least concern**
- American Elk – **least concern**
- Bald Eagle – **least concern**
- Bison – **near threatened**
- Grizzly Bear – **least concern**
- Arctic Wolf – **least concern**
- Muskox – **least concern**
- Moose – **least concern**
- North American Black Bear – **least concern**
- Red Fox – **least concern**
- Reindeer – **least concern**
- Rocky Mountain Goat – **least concern**





- Western Painted Turtle - **vulnerable**
- White-Tail Deer – **least concern**



**South America/Central America:**



- American Flamingo – **least concern**
- Capybara – **least concern**
- Chinchilla – **endangered**
- Collared Peccary – **least concern**
- Geoffrey’s Marmoset – **least concern**
- Oregon Spotted Frog – **vulnerable**
- Patagonian Mara – **near threatened**
- Spectacled Caiman – **least concern**
- White-Nose Coati – **least concern**



**Australia:**

- Emu – **least concern**
- Red Kangaroo – **least concern**
- Red-Necked Wallaby – **least concern**
- Carpet Python – **least concern**



**Asia/Europe:**

- Bactrian Camel – **critically endangered**
- Burmese Python - **vulnerable**
- Indian-Crested Porcupine – **least concern**
- Nilgai – **least concern**
- Black Spanish Burro – **domesticated**
- Northern Lynx – **least concern**
- Ostrich – **least concern**
- Peafowl – **least concern**
- Pere David’s Deer – **extinct in wild**
- Red Panda - **vulnerable**
- Siberian Tiger - **endangered**
- Sika Deer – **least concern**



**Madagascar:**

- Ring-Tailed Lemur - **endangered**

