# **Endangered Species**

Choose an animal or plant that is considered to be an endangered species and complete a fully animated presentation of information describing the species. No mouse-clicking, slides transition automatically. Remember to include at least 3 sources that you researched. The <u>presentation requirements</u> are at the end of this document.

The loneliest animals are the last of their kind on the planet. Scientists warn that up to 100 species a day are being pushed toward extinction. Sadly, many of these creatures are endangered because of human actions. Research an endangered species, using the questions below as a frame. Use your research to prepare a 5-10 minute PowerPoint presentation to present this animal, and the challenges to its survival, to your class. Make your news segment interesting by including elements like little-known facts, photos and/or video, and snappy dialogue.

## **Introductory Activities**

- 1. Read about Lonesome George <u>here</u>
- 2. Watch this YouTube movie about Endangered Species
- 3. Save this "<u>Last of their Kind</u>" worksheet in your PowerPoint folder; keep it open as you complete the next activity.
- 4. Watch these <u>5 short movies</u> about several animal species that are on the brink of extinction. If humans don't take action soon, these species will be gone forever. As you watch the 5 segments, fill in the chart "Last of Their Kind".

#### Some Websites to Research:

- BAGHEERA an Endangered Species and Endangered Animal Website
   focusing on earth's endangered animals and endangered species. It includes both endangered
   animals and endangered plants. This website contains some fantastic photos and video
   footage:http://www.bagheera.com/
- Endangered Specie an interesting site with lots of links to causes, species, etc. http://www.endangeredspecie.com/
- 3. **Animal Info Endangered Animals** This is a rather detailed website. It provides biology, ecology, habitat, and status of rare, threatened and endangered species of mammals and information on their native countries. This site also includes many links to pictures: <a href="http://www.animalinfo.org/">http://www.animalinfo.org/</a>
- 4. http://www.earthsendangered.com/
- 5. **Kew Plants People Possibilities** The *Science and Conservation* section on this website contains a wealth of information about plants under threat of extinction. A few of its features are an interactive map, that explores the state of plant life around the world, as well as detailed profiles of plants at risk and information about endangered habitats:http://www.kew.org/science-conservation/kew-biodiversity/plants-at-risk/index.htm
- 6. **Kids' Planet ESPECIES Animal Fact Sheets** Contains fact sheets, that include written, pictorial, video and audio content on over 50 species. It also has sections on different types of habitats and the *Endangered Species Act*: http://www.kidsplanet.org/factsheets/map.html
- 7. Basic Google link: here

### What to Include in your Presentation:

- 1. Title Slide name, project title
- 2. Contents Slide:
  - a. Overview Slide: What is an Endangered Species?
  - b. The Endangered Species Act Slide: Describe the Act of 1973
  - c. My Endangered Species Slide: Common name and picture of your animal
  - d. Geography Slide: A picture of the continent where the species lives (areas should be colored on the map where the species is located). Write a paragraph describing the area or location, climate, and environment of the species.
  - e. Habitat Slide: Describe the appearance and habitat of the animal. Explain why the animal is best suited for the environment.
  - f. Causes of Endangerment Slide: Explain the causes of the species' endangerment.
  - g. Conservation Action Slide: Explain why it has been selected for the endangered list and describe plans for protecting or breeding these organisms. What steps are being taken to save the species? Why should we try to save these organisms? What benefit do we get from them?
  - h. How We Can Help Slide: Write a persuasive paragraph on how you feel about the organism and what you can do to help.
  - i. Sources Slide: Document your research by listing the sources you use on a resource page.
    - i. Three resources are **required.** You must give credit to any internet recourses you use by listing them on the page used and on the resource page. List the title of the book or article, the author, and the page number. List the title of the program when using a computer resource.
    - ii. Internet resources may be used as long as the web site is documented.
    - iii. Please give credit to anyone who helps you with the art or typing of the presentation.
    - iv. All other information must be from your research.

# **Final Activity: Worksheet to Complete:**

Complete the table and the 3 critical thinking questions. Save in your PowerPoint folder. Worksheet link