

Animal Protection Laws



Objectives

The student will identify animals that are protected under various laws.

Materials

For each student:

- Animal protection coloring worksheet
- crayons

For class:

- Animal protection law sheet

Background

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), along with several other government and non-government agencies have worked hard to ensure the safety and protection of endangered and threatened plants and animals. There are several laws and agencies in place designed to protect these plants and animals, some of which are: the Marine Mammal Protection Act, Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES), Eagle Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, and the Migratory Bird Act. In this exercise, the students will explore the function of each of these laws and agencies and which animals or plants they serve to protect.

Action

1. Pass out one animal protection coloring worksheet to each student and some crayons.
2. Explain that many animals need protection by the government for various reasons such as poaching, pet trade, or habitat destruction. Explain each of the laws listed on the protection law sheet and that each law listed protects certain types of animals.
3. The students will correlate the law to the animal under its protection, by coloring the correct match.
4. Review the correct answers with the class. Next, explain each law and why certain answers are correct or incorrect.

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Lacey Act The U.S. wildlife law of 1900, it was strengthened in 1981 to curb illegal trade. It prohibits the import of illegally killed, collected, or exported wildlife products from another country and allows the governments to seize any of these entering the country illegally or without necessary permits. Fines are up to \$20,000 and five years imprisonment. The USFWS (United States Fish and Wildlife Service) enforces this law.

Marine Mammal Protection Act The U.S law of 1972 establishing a moratorium on the taking and importation of marine mammals or their products in all waters and lands under the jurisdiction of the U.S. The National Marine Fisheries Service enforces the MMPA.

Migratory Bird Act Beginning in 1913, it protects migratory and insectivorous birds along with game Birds. The Migratory Bird Act decrees that all migratory birds and their parts (including eggs, nests, and feathers) were fully protected.

CITES The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which was signed in 1973. The treaty regulates international trade in endangered and threatened species through permits. Over 100 countries are members of CITES. CITES is broken down into three appendices.

CITES Appendix I A list of endangered animal and plant species that the members of CITES have agreed is, or may become extinct if commercial trade in those species is not controlled.

CITES Appendix II A list of animal and plant species identified by any member of CITES as endangered or threatened in that country. Trade in those species requires special permits and a certificate of origin if exported to another country.

CITES Appendix III A list of species included at the request of a conservation organization that already regulates trade in the species and that needs the cooperation of other countries to prevent exploitation. Trade in these species is allowed, but only with permits or certificates.

Eagle Protection Act Enacted in the U.S. in 1940, this law fully protects both the bald eagle and golden eagle. It is illegal to import, export, buy, or sell any live bird, body parts, eggs, or nests. Fines are \$20,000 and two years imprisonment.

Endangered Species Act The U.S. law enacted in 1973 that places restrictions on a wide range of activities involving endangered and threatened species to help ensure their continued survival. The ESA legislates for CITES, regulates import, export, and protection for all wildlife entering the U.S. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service enforce the ESA.

United State Fish and Wildlife Service This agency of the Department of the Interior is primarily responsible for implementation and enforcement of the ESA, CITES, and other wildlife laws.

ISIS International Species Information System created in 1974 by the American Association of Zoological Parks and Aquariums, (now AZA: American Zoo and Aquarium Association) is the computer databank that keeps track of thousands of animals from zoos in the U.S., Europe, and other countries around the world. Through ISIS, the age, sex, parentage, place of birth and death of an individual are easily retrievable. The system facilitated international species survival programs by making available data that was previously unavailable in a single source context.

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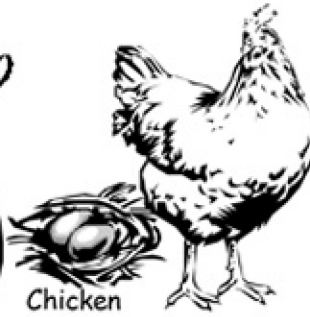
1. CITES



Rat



Goat

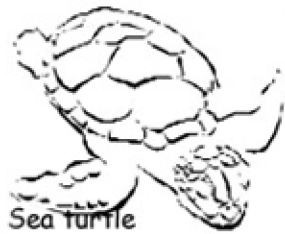


Chicken



Rare flower

2. Marine Mammal Protection Act



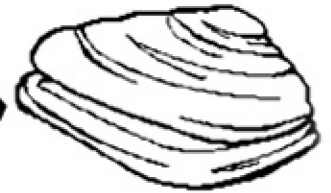
Sea turtle



Crab



Dolphin



Clam

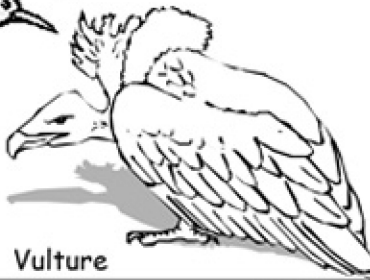
3. Eagle Protection Act



Eagle



Hummingbird

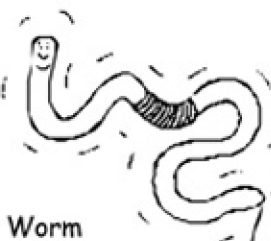


Vulture

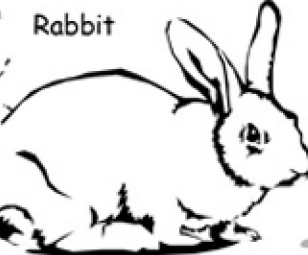


Blue jay

4. Endangered Species Act



Worm



Rabbit



Dog

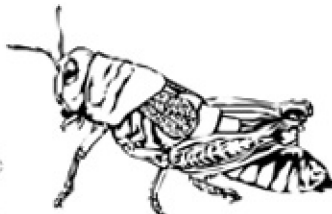


Rhinoceros

5. Migratory Bird Act



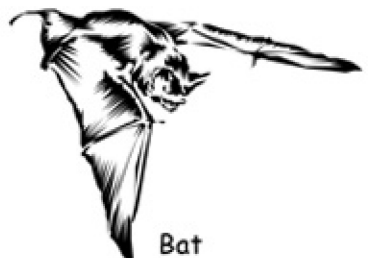
Dragonfly



Grasshopper



Owl



Bat