

ACTIVITY LIBRARY — ELEMENTARY

Animals & Ecosystems at Risk

How climate change threatens animal habitats like polar ice, rainforests, and coral reefs, with a fill-in-the-blank and drawing activity.

Every animal, whether it's one you see in your backyard or on vacation, belongs to an ecosystem. An ecosystem is the animal's home, where living and non-living things interact to form a community.

When climate change happens, it hurts these ecosystems, also hurting the animals that belong to them. Without the safety of their homes, it becomes more difficult for animals to survive. This is what leads us to see endangered animal species, or animals that are very close to disappearing entirely (extinct).

Here are some examples:

- Polar Bears: The warming caused by climate change hurts the ice habitats which polar bears need to survive.
- Rainforest Animals: The changes in temperature and rainfall which climate change causes make it difficult for these animals to live comfortably.
- Coral Reefs & Fish: Climate change also causes ocean warming, which hurts the environment that sea animals live in.

Animals and ecosystems help humans in many ways, through providing medicine, clean water and air, and food! That's why it's so important to continue learning about them so that we can figure out more ways to help.

Fill in The Blank

Word Bank: medicine, community, endangered, survive, climate change

- Animals and ecosystems are hurt by _____, which causes warming.
- Animals and ecosystems are very important because they provide _____.
- When an animal species is _____, it is about to disappear completely.
- Climate change makes it difficult for polar bears and fish to _____.
- An ecosystem is a _____ where living and non-living things interact.

Draw & Think

- Pick one of the three examples of animals and ecosystems mentioned earlier:
- Polar Bears



- Rainforest Animals
- Coral Reefs & Fish
- Draw how the animal and their home has changed because of climate change.
- On the bottom, write one sentence about how this makes you feel.