

University of Puerto Rico
Humacao Campus
English Department

Unit 6: Saving the wild

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Think and discuss

- 1) Which of the world's animals are disappearing? Why are they disappearing?

Some of the world's animals that are disappearing are Black Rhino, South China Tiger, Pere David's Deer and Scimitar-horned Oryx. They are dying, because of the humans, because they are hunting.

- 2) What can people do to help save animals in danger?

To save animals in danger the people can stop hunting them and begin taking care for them and for their environment.

Explore the theme

- A) Read information below and answer the questions.

1. What human activities can be dangerous for animals?

Some human activities that can be dangerous for animals are that some activities affect temperature and this make that some animals find it difficult to survive, also that humans build on land where animals live and find food. This makes animals lose their homes, or habitats.

2. Which animal in the photos is most in danger?

The animal that is in the photo that is most in danger is the blue-throated macaws.

3. What kinds of information does the IUCN use to make its red list?

The information that does the IUCN is to look at how many of each animal live in the wild. It also looks at how the population is changing over time.

- B) Use the correct form of the words in blue to complete the definitions.

If something is in danger, there is a chance something bad will happen to it.

The temperature of something is how hot or cold it is.

If something has a(n) effect on something else it changes it.

Reading 1

Preparing to read

- A) The words in blue below are used in the reading passage on pages 95-96. Which of these words are antonyms (words with opposite meanings)? Complete the sentences.

1. safe is the opposite of in danger
2. rise is the opposite of fall
3. cool is the opposite of warm
4. over is the opposite of under

B) List three ideas for each category below. Then share your ideas with a partner.

1. Three countries with a population of under 10 millions

Monaco Saint Kitts and Nevis Dominica

2. Three animals that like to live in cool places

Musk Oxen Arctic Hare Snow Leopard

3. three things that are rising in your country.

Economy Industries Contamination

C) You are going to read about sea turtles and how their numbers around the world are falling. What might be causing this? Make a list of possible reasons. Check your ideas with a partner.

- 1) Climate change
- 2) Predator animals
- 3) People breaking the eggs
- 4) Beaches contamination
- 5) Sea contamination

Understanding the reading

A) Match a paragraph (A-E) from the reading with its main idea.

1. D. Many people around the world are helping to keep sea turtles safe.
2. C. Warmer temperatures affect the sea turtles eggs.
3. A. Sea turtles are an old species, but they are now in danger.
4. E. Sea turtle numbers are rising in some places, but the turtles still need our help
5. B. Climate change is causing problems for sea turtles.

B) Use the information in the passage to answer the questions. Circle the correct options.

1. Which of the following is NOT mentioned as a danger of sea turtles?

- a. climate change
- b. people stealing eggs
- ☒ c. trash in the ocean

2. What does Mariana Fuentes say we should do to help sea turtles?

- a. stop people from going to beaches where sea turtles lay eggs.
- b. move more sea turtles to zoos.
- ☒ c. keep sea turtle nests and eggs safe.

3. Why is Florida mentioned in this passage?

- ☒ a. It is a place where conservation efforts are working.
- b. Mariana Fuentes studies sea turtles here.
- c. There are no more sea turtles there.

C) Find and underline information on pages 95-96 that describes two effects of climate change on sea turtles. Then complete the flow chart. Check your answers with a partner.

Rising temperatures -----flooding on beach areas turtle nests and eggs are destroyed.

Warmer sand-----affects the gender in turtles nests----- not enough female male are born

Developing reading skills

A. Read the two paragraphs. Circle the words that introduce a reason or a result. Then answer the questions.

Paragraph 1

Reason: People began to farm in their habitats.

Result: The government created areas for the pandas to live in.

1. Why did giant pandas become endangered?

Giant pandas become endangered, because people began to farm in their habitats.

2. Why do they have a better chance of surviving now?

They have a better chance of surviving, because the government created areas for the pandas to live in.

Paragraph 2

Reason: Turtles have ocean dangerous chemicals.

Result: People get sick.

1. Why can people get sick from eating sea turtles?

The people get sick from eating turtles because the ocean has dangerous chemicals in it and turtle bodies have these in them too.

2. Why are sea turtles' bodies polluted?

The sea turtles bodies are polluted because of the ocean's dangerous chemicals.

Reason: The people were eating sea turtles.

Result: The people get sick.

B. Reread the following paragraphs in the reading on pages 95-96. Answer the questions. Then underline the information that gives you the answers.

Paragraph A: Why are sea populations getting smaller?

The sea populations are getting smaller because of human activities and climate change.

Paragraph E: Why is the number of sea turtles in Florida increasing?

The number of sea turtles in Florida are increasing because of conservation work.

Video: Saving Lemurs

Before Viewing

- A) Look at the photo on this page and the one on page 100. What do you know about these animals? How could you describe them? Discuss with a partner.

Something that I know about these animals is that they are from Madagascar. I describe them like cute and smart animals.

- B) Read the information about Lemurs. Then discuss these questions.

1. Did any of the information about lemurs surprise you?
The information that surprised me was that Lemur have about 100 species in Madagascar.
2. Why do you think lemurs are endangered?
I think that lemurs are endangered because of the new species of them that are appearing.

C) the words and phrases below are used in the video. Match each word or phrase with the correct definition.

1. Gain weight (v) to become heavier
2. Make sure (v) to check that something is happening.
3. Take care of (v) to keep (someone or something) safe
4. Relatives (n) members of the same family.

While viewing

- A) Watch the video. Which of the following are true about Duke Lemur Center?

Check ☒ all that apply

- ☒ 1. It has the largest collection of lemurs outside Madagascar.
- ☒ 2. Only one person works here.
- ☒ 3. It takes care of Lemur babies.

- B) Watch the video a second time and answer the questions.

1. Why is it an exciting time at the Duke Lemur Center?
☒ a. a new species of lemur has been found.
☒ b. some lemur babies have been born.
2. How can you check if Lemur babies are healthy?
☒ a. by weighing them.
☒ b. by looking at their eyes.
3. What do the babies do during the first 30 days?
☒ a. Learn to climb.
☒ b. eat and sleep.

After viewing

- A) What does Cris Smith mean when he says, “When you look into a lemur’s eyes, you can tell that they’re looking back”? Note your ideas below. Then discuss with a partner.

He refers that the eyes of the lemur are very focused on their target, this is because they have very small pupils. Also that they have very strange eyes, also their color is distinct from other animals.

- B) Which animal would you like to help more: lemurs or sea turtles? Why? Complete the sentence below with your own ideas, and then compare with a partner.

I would like to help sea turtles because I like more sea animals and I think that the sea needs more help from humans because sea turtles have several things that are affecting them because of our actions.

Reading 2

Preparing to read

- A) The words in blue below are used in the reading passage on pages 102-105. Match the correct form of each word to its definition. Circle the two words that are antonyms.

1. Nature (n) everything in the world that is not made by people.
2. Unfortunately (adv) sadly or unlucky
3. Disappear (v) to go away or become unable to be seen.
4. Care about (v) to be interested in something and think that it is important.
5. Save (v) to keep something away from danger.
6. Latest (adj) the most recent.
7. Shocked (adj) very surprising or upset.
8. Fortunately (adv) happily or lucky.

- B. Note answers to the questions below. Then share your ideas with a partner.

1. Which animals do you care about the most? Why ?

The animals that I care the most are my dogs and my fish, this is because I love them so much and because they are very important to me.

2. What animals do you know about that have disappeared forever?

The animals that I know that have disappeared forever are the Dodo Baiji White Dolphin, Tasmanian Tiger and Woolly Mammoth.

- C. Look at the pictures and read the title and captions on pages 102-105. What is the reading mainly about? Check your idea as you read the passage.

- a. photographs of the world’s most endangered animals.
- ☒ b. a photographer who takes pictures to help save endangered species.

- c. advice on how to take photographs of endangered animals.

Understanding the reading

- A. Complete the answers to the questions. Then underline the information in the passage that helped you.

1. Why was Sartore shocked when he read about Martha ?
Because, In the past, there were 5 billion passenger pigeons.
2. Why does Sartore think that photography can help save endangered species?
Because photography is the best way to show problems to the world.

- B. Match each animal from the reading (1-5) with the correct information (a-e).

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. B. The passenger pigeon. | a. is named "Ruben" |
| 2. D. The Madagascar fish eagle. | b. is extinct |
| 3. C. The lemur leaf frog. | c. has fallen in number by 80 percent. |
| 4. A. The chimpanzees | d. has a population of fewer than 100 |
| 5. E. The tiger | e. tore up Sartore's black paper |

- C. Find and underline the following words in the following words in the reading. Use the context to identify their meanings. Then complete the definitions.

creature (paragraph B)

record (paragraph B)

issues (paragraph D)

1. A(n) Record is a collection of information.
2. A(n) Issue is an important subject or problem.
3. A(n) Creature is a living thing that is not a plant.

- D. Note answers to the questions below. Then discuss with a partner.

1. How do the Duke Lemur Center and Joel Sartore help to save endangered species.

Duke Lemur Center	Joel Sartore
They weight Lemurs.	He searches for information about animals.
They feed Lemurs.	He takes photos to help endangered animals.
They care for Lemurs.	He helps endangered animals with photography to inform the people.

2. Which approach do you think is more useful in terms of saving animals?

I think that going by train's approach is more useful because this helps to not contaminate so much of our planet and this helps the people and the animals that both need clean air to stay alive and have a good life.

Writing

Exploring written english

A. Read the information below

Now read the sentences (1-5). Label each sentence part/ reason or result.

1. Fuentes was interested in sea turtles, so she decided to help protect them.
Reason Result
2. Australia is a good place to study sea turtles because it has a large turtle population.
Result Reason
3. Fuentes works to protect sea turtles because human activity is endangering them.
Result Reason
4. Sartore wanted to help endangered species, so she started his photo Ark project.
Reason Result
5. It's difficult to see Brazilian porcupines in the wild because they sleep during the day.
Result Reason

B. Complete the following sentences (1-5) Circle because or so.

1. The world population is increasing because so there are more cars on the road.
2. I want to help protect the environment because so I take the bus every day.
3. Some tea animals are dying because so the ocean is polluted.
4. Sea turtles are critically endangered, because so we need to help them.
5. Sartore created Photo Ark because so he wanted to help save endangered species.

C. Combine the sentences (1-5). Use the words in parentheses

1. I take the bus to school everyday. I want to save money. (so)
I want to save money, so I take the bus to school every day.
2. We recycle plastic. We don't want to pollute the oceans. (because)
We recycle plastic, because we don't want to pollute the oceans.
3. We want to have cleaner air. Our city planted trees. (because)
Our city planted trees, because we want to have cleaner air.
4. I turn off the lights when I leave a room. I want to save electricity. (so)
I want to save electricity, so I turn off the lights when I leave a room.
5. We want to save trees. We use both sides of paper. (because)
We use both sides of paper, because we want to save trees.

Editing practice:

In sentences with because and so, remember to:

use because before a reason and so before a result.

Use a comma in sentences with so

Find and correct one mistake in each of the sentences.

1. Some animals cannot cope with climate change, so we need to help them.
2. Sartore publishes animal photos, because he wants to help endangered species.
3. Fuentes wrote a book about sea turtles, because she wanted people to learn about them.
4. The number of male sea turtles is falling, because climate change is affecting turtle eggs.

D. Read the information below. Then complete the sentences with the present continuous form of the verb in parentheses.

1. Joel Sartore is making (make) people more aware of endangered species with his photos.
2. The Duke Lemur Center is helping (help) to raise baby lemurs.
3. Lemurs are endangered because people are destroying (destroy) forest habitats.
4. Polar bears are losing (lose) their habitats because the polar ice is melting (melt).
5. The Florida panther is a critically endangered species. However, conservationists are working (work) hard to protect its forest habitats.

Editing Practice

In sentences with the present continuous tense, remember to:

use be before an-ing verb

use the correct form of be

use an- ing verb after be

Correct one mistake in each of the sentences.

1. In some places, sea turtles populations are going up.
2. Sea turtle habitats are in danger because temperatures are rising.
3. Mariana Fuentes is helping to help sea turtles.
4. Humans are destroying many animals' habitats.

Writing tasks

- A) Choose an endangered animal from this unit that you are interested in. Then make notes about it below.
1. Endangered animal: Coqui
 2. Where does this animal live? Puerto Rico
 3. How many are left in the world? In the world are only 192 individuals per acre
 4. Why is it endangered? This is endangered because of the contamination of Puerto Rico and some climate facts.

5. What people are doing to help Coqui: taking care of them and their environment

2

Endangered Coqui in Puerto Rico

The coqui or natively known as the coquí one of the most representative animals in Puerto Rico. This can be true because of many things. A thing that many people is saying about them is that they like their sound. However, Puerto Rico has so many coquíes (plural of coquí) species, but some species of the coquí in Puerto Rico are dying because of the contamination, the people of Puerto Rico that don't care about of their habitat and climate effects like climate change, temperature change, hurricanes, polluted runoff from landfill lixiviate, soil and water pollution, herbicide use, dredging done on the canals along the wetland, and the reduction of their habitat due to construction projects. There are also several indirect threats that can harm the coquí llanero. For instance, unfortunately if climate change causes a rise in ocean levels, this can change the composition of the wetland, turning it from a freshwater system to a saltwater one.

One of them is the Plains coquí or coquí llanero. Wild Experts estimate that they have a population of about 192 individuals per acre and this coquí feeds mostly small insects. The plains coquí is the smallest frog species in Puerto Rico. Its size is approximately that of a dime. The average size in males is 0.58 inches, or 14.7 mm, while females average 0.62 inches, or 15.8 mm, in size. This is one of the species with the least reproductive capacity among Puerto Rican tree frogs. The coquí llanero only produces one to five eggs per clutch. The coquí llanero is in danger and it is dying, it is in the federal endangered species list of 2012. It is important to take care of the habitats of these animals and to take care of them, because unfortunately some of these animals were here before us and we are killing them with our negligence. To save the coquí we can do many things, we can take care of their home, take care of them, do not harm its habitat, and avoid contaminate their environment as much as possible. Finally, I can say that Puerto Rico has to care more about the coquí species, with good actions we can save the coquies species, because these types of species are part of Puerto Rico and they deserve a good life without being hurt or killed.

Resources to do these paragraphs

Joglar, R.L. 2005. Biodiversidad de Puerto Rico, Vertebrados Terrestres y Ecosistemas. Editorial del Instituto de Cultura Puertorriqueña. 563 pp.

Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales. 2007a. Designación del coquí llanero *Eleutherodactylus juanariveroi* como especie en peligro crítico de extinción. San Juan, Puerto Rico. 11 pp.

Departamento de Recursos Naturales y Ambientales. 2007b. Designación del hábitat crítico esencial del coquí llanero. San Juan, Puerto Rico. 48 pp.

Ríos-López, N. 2007. The structuring of herpetofaunal assemblages in human-altered coastal ecosystems. Doctoral in Philosophy Thesis. University of Puerto Rico, Río Piedras Campus. 247 pp.

Ríos-López, N. and R. Thomas. 2007. A new species of palustrine *Eleutherodactylus* (Anura: *Leptodactylidae*) from Puerto Rico. Zootaxa 1512: 51-64.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. 2011. Endangered and threatened wildlife and plants; 12-month petition finding, Proposed Listing of Coquí llanero as Endangered, and Designation of Critical Habitat for Coquí Llanero; Proposed Rule. Federal Register 76: 63420-63442.

C) Now edit your draft. Correct mistakes with because, so, and the present continuous tense. Use the checklist on page 157.

	Unit 6
1. Is the first word of every sentence capitalized?	✓
2. Does every sentence end with the correct punctuation?	✓
3. Does every sentence contain a subject and a verb?	✓
4. Do your subjects and verbs agree?	✓
5. Do all possessive nouns have an apostrophe?	✓
6. Are all proper nouns capitalized?	✓
7. Is the spelling of places, people and other proper nouns correct?	✓

Unit review

- What two words can you use to introduce a reason?
Because and As
- What is one result of climate change?
One result is that it is changing the planet and this is affecting the animals in several ways.
- Do you remember the meaning of these words? Check (✓) the ones you know. Look back at the unit and review the ones you don't know.

Reading 1

- ✓ cool
- ✓ in danger
- ✓ safe
- ✓ warm
- ✓ effect
- ✓ over
- ✓ temperature
- ✓ fall
- ✓ rise
- ✓ under

✓ Reading 2
✓ care about
✓ latest
✓ shocked
✓ disappear
✓ nature
✓ unfortunately
✓ fortunately
✓ save

Forum

Do some research on what species are in danger in Puerto Rico. Share your findings in the forum by writing 1 paragraph, and give possible solutions to this problem.

I did some research and I found information about the Plains coquí this is dying because of the contamination, the people of Puerto Rico that don't care about their habitat and climate effects like climate change, temperature change, hurricanes, polluted runoff from landfill leachate, soil and water pollution, herbicide use, dredging done on the canals along the wetland, and the reduction of their habitat due to construction projects. Professionals estimate that they have a population of about 192 individuals per acre and this coquí feeds mostly small insects. The plains coquí is the smallest frog species in Puerto Rico. Its size is approximately that of a dime. The average size in males is 0.58 inches, or 14.7 mm, while females average 0.62 inches, or 15.8 mm, in size. This is one of the species with the least reproductive capacity among Puerto Rican tree frogs. The coquí llanero only produces one to five eggs per clutch. To save the coquí we can do many things, we can take care of their home, take care of them, do not harm its habitat, and avoid contaminate their environment as much as possible.