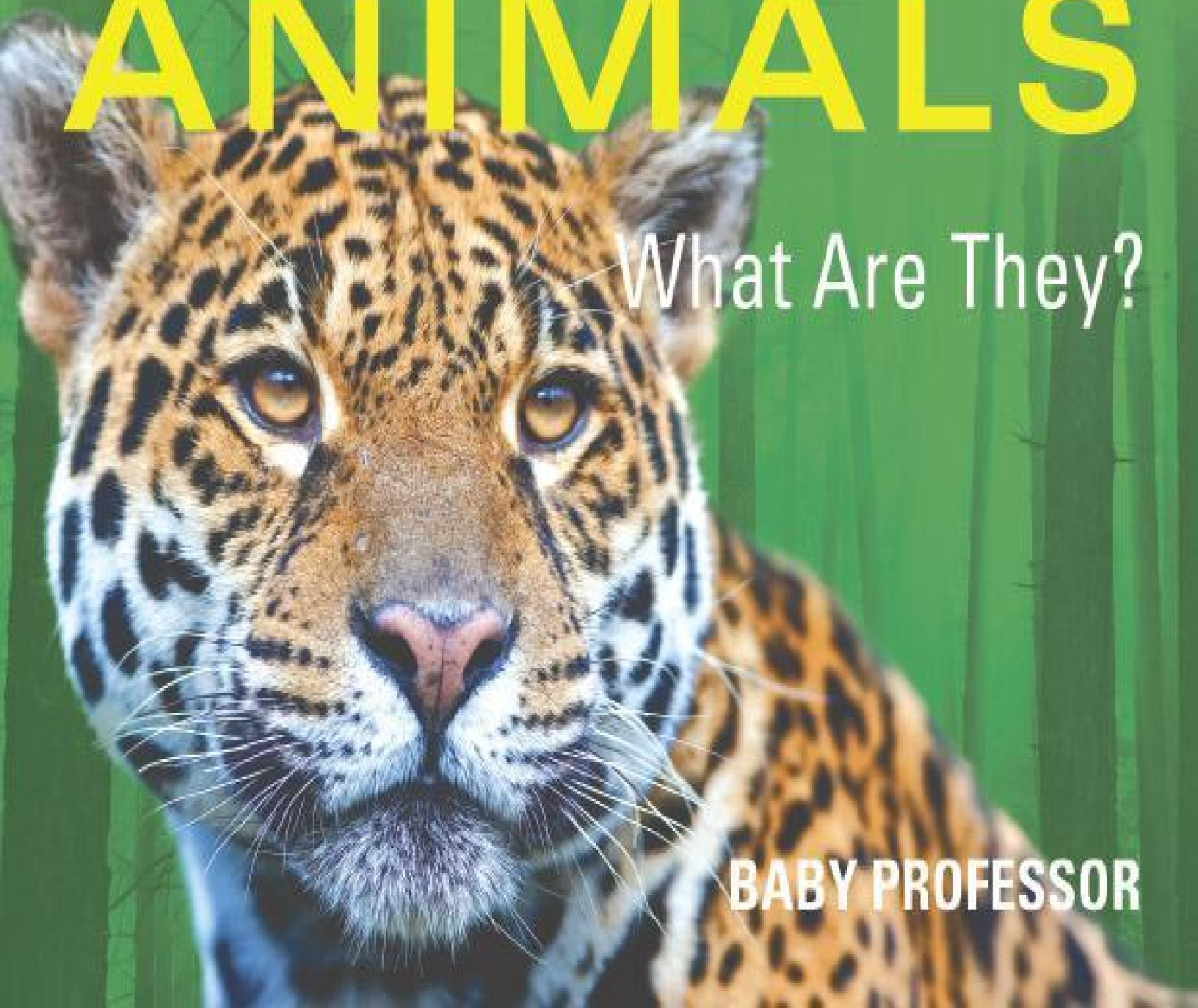


ANIMAL BOOKS FOR KIDS | CHILDREN'S ANIMAL BOOKS

# CRITICALLY ENDANGERED ANIMALS

What Are They?

BABY PROFESSOR



# CRITIC ENDAN ANIM WHAT AR


ANIMAL BOO!  
Children's Ar



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**T**he more people t  
the more we take  
buildings and roa  
Our activities also chang  
These things make it ha  
to survive. Read on and  
animals at risk.

A confrontation between two White Rhino.



# ANIMALS AT RISK

Many animal species are *"at risk"*. This is because their habitat is disappearing, due to deforestation, of pollution or global warming. Many people hunt them so many animals are trophies. A species is *endangered* if scientists note that the number of animals has been dropping steeply for a long time. Some have gotten so low that the species is *extinct* without help and protection.



Scientists try to keep track of species that are at risk, and share what they know so people and governments can take steps to make it possible for species to survive.

This does not always work. Since 1900, almost 500 animal species have become extinct. Almost all of these extinctions are directly or indirectly caused by human activity.

Scientists have three general categories for species at risk: **Vulnerable, Endangered,** and **Critically Endangered.**

*Breaching Humpback Whale.*



*A group of Walrus relaxing on the ice near the water.*



# VULNERABLE SPECIES

A vulnerable species is a naturally lives that may be threatened. These threats may include loss of their natural habitat. A vulnerable species is not going to disappear in the next 100 years, but if circumstances change, they may be in danger soon.





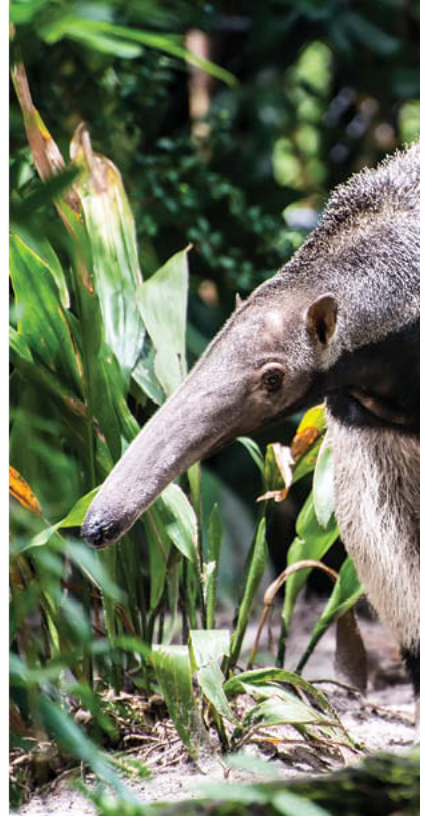
Here are some vulnerable animals all over the world. They have wonderful names!

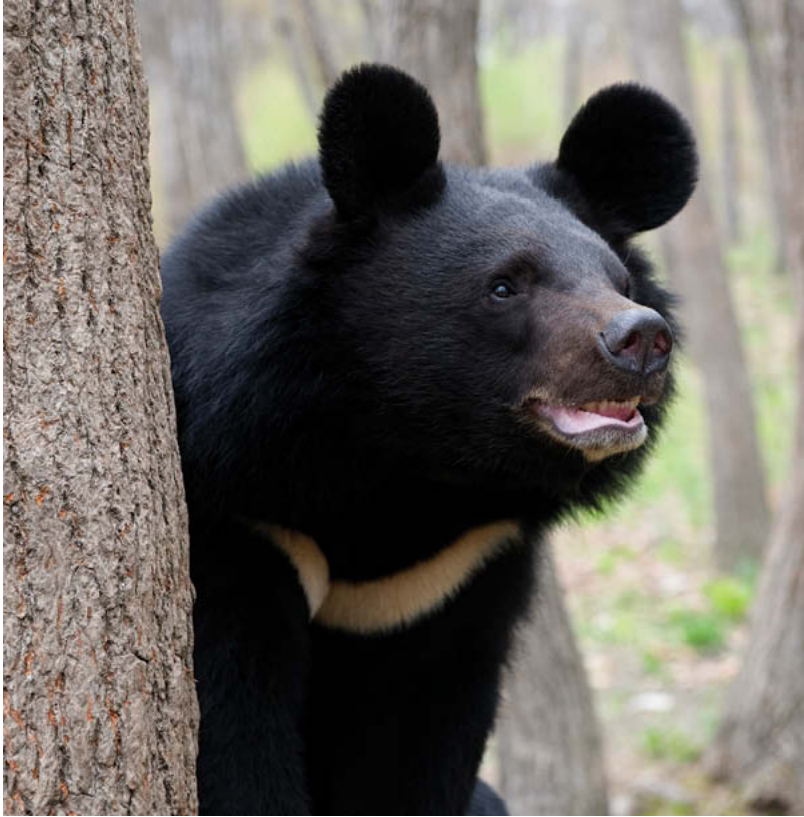
- **Wandering Albatross**
- **Giant Anteater**
- **Common Eland**
- **Four-Horned Antelope**
- **Asian Black Bear**
- **Siamese Fighting Fish**

*Galapagos Tortoise.*

- Secretary Bird
- Clouded Leopard
- Galapagos Tortoise
- Golden Hamster
- Lion
- Manta Ray
- California Sea Lion

*Giant Anteater in nature.*

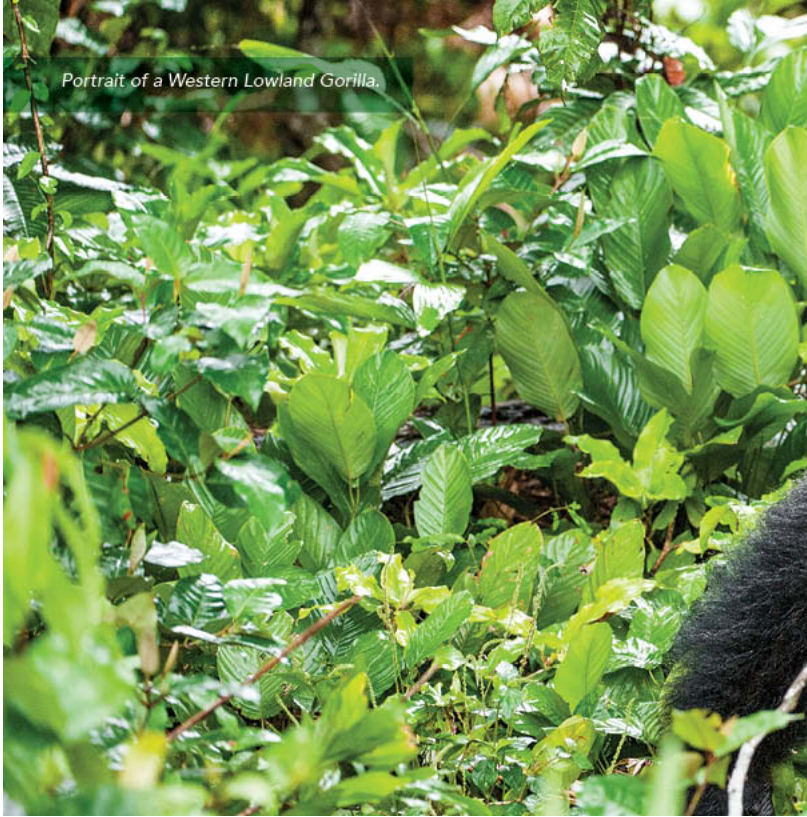




- **Great White Shark** (amazing fish in the B: *Great White Shark*)
- **Spectacled Bear**
- **Pancake Tortoise**
- **Wallaby**
- **Walrus**
- **Yak**
- **Black-Billed Whistli**

*Asian Black Bear.*





# ENDANGERED SPECIES

Populations of end  
dropping so quickly  
of extinction soon. Here



## BALD EAGLE

**D**DT, a pesticide that used to be in common use, has a chemical that causes the shells of eggs to become thin. That means more eggs crack before the baby bird can hatch, lowering the birth rates in many bird species. Stopping use of the pesticide, and other efforts, have helped preserve this species for now.

*Bald Eagle.*





## SWIFT FOX

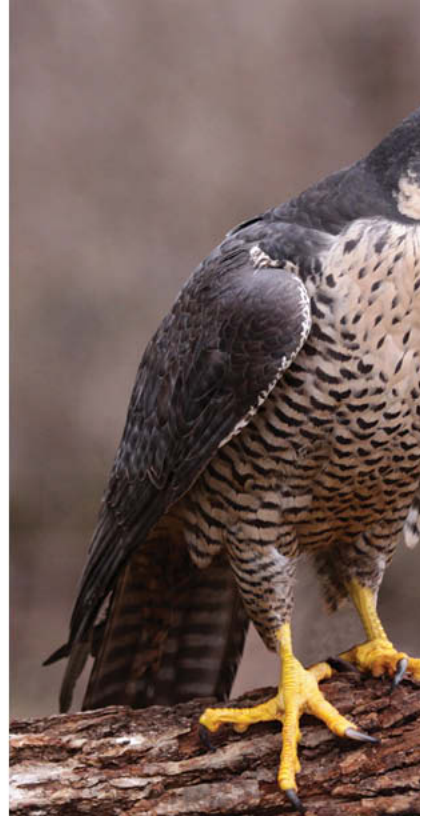
In the 1930s and 1940s in the United States and Canada, farmers used methods to reduce the number of wild animals. These methods also almost wiped out the Swift Fox, which now only appears in its former habitat.

*Swift Fox.*

## PEREGRINE FALCON

Like the eagles, the falcons have suffered from weakened shells to their eggs so many fewer babies were born. The species is making a slow recovery now that DDT is no longer widely in use.

*Peregrine Falcon.*







## AMERICAN ALLIG

Alligators are hunted for their skins and because people fear them. As the human population grows in the United States, the alligator population is declining. Heavy conservation efforts are needed to prevent alligators from disappearing.

*Basking American Alligator.*

## CALIFORNIA CONDOR

The California condor was almost wiped out by the chemicals in DDT that also attacked eagle and falcon eggs, as mentioned. They are carrion eaters, so they also suffer from lead poisoning when they eat carcasses of animals that have been killed with lead bullets. Condors frequently collide with power lines, and many die this way. There are fewer than 500 California condors left, half of them in captivity.

*California Condor at Grand Canyon National Park.*







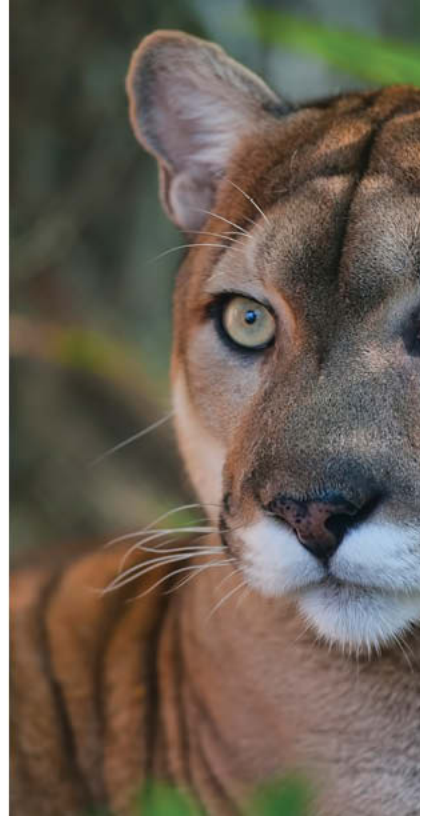
## FLORIDA PANTHER

Each male panther uses 10-15 miles as a hunting territory. He feeds himself, between 1-2 miles, and their young. Panther population has shrunk so dramatically that there are fewer than 20 panthers left in the wild. Only reserves and zoos in the state have panthers.

*Florida Panther stares intensely at camera*

The population has moved back up to over 150 through conservation efforts, but that number is so small that a single new challenge, such as climate change due to global warming, could end this species very quickly. Panthers die from collisions with cars and illnesses, and are weakened because of inbreeding and contact with industrial chemicals and fertilizers.

*Endangered Florida Panther.*



# CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SPECIES

Species that are critically endangered have declined so far that only a few animals of the species remain in wildlife preserves. There are so few that animals have trouble finding mates and rearing their young.

For some species, the animals born and raised in captivity are introduced into the wild, but for many species, no wild population longer exists because of the conversion of their natural habitats to farm lands.

Here are some critically endangered species.





## WHITE RHINOCEROS

This species has been [unclear] years, but today the [unclear] left in the wild. That is do [unclear] 1960.

## JAVAN RHINOCEROS

This species lives on [unclear] island, Java. It is dark [unclear] horn. The folds of its skin [unclear] wearing armor. There are [unclear] rhinos left outside of zoos [unclear] to hunting and loss of ha [unclear]

*Wild African White Rhino, South Africa*

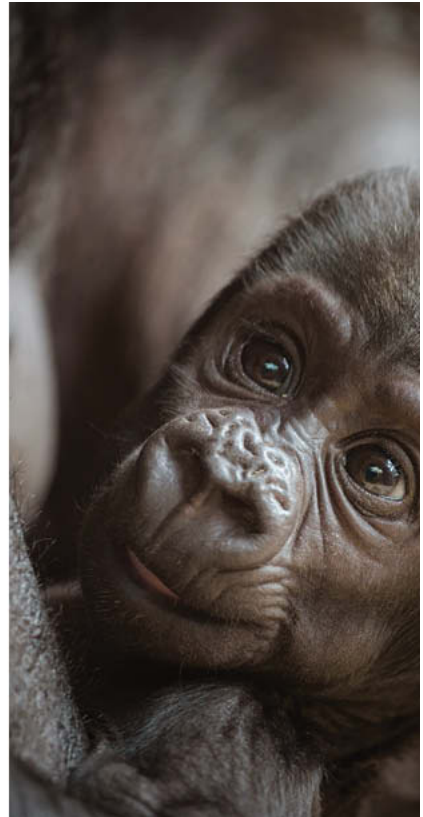
## SUMATRAN TIGER

Poaching and cutting down the forests on the Indonesian island of Sumatra have reduced the habitat of these tigers to just a few remainders of forests, and there are only 400 or so Sumatran tigers left outside of zoos and preserves.

## WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLA

The population of this species of gorilla, which lives in the Congo in Africa, has declined by 60% in the past twenty-five years due to disease, poaching, and loss of habitat.

*Baby of a Western Lowland Gorilla.*







## AMUR LEOPARD

**T**hese leopards are so Russia. Human activity their habitat, so just over survive outside of captivity

## HAWKSBILL TURTLE

**T**hese turtles have lived world for over 100 milli coral reefs and beds of se hunted for their pretty she

*Hawksbill Sea Turtle close-up.*

## **SOUTH CHINA TIGER**

**P**eople hunted these tigers and killed thousands before the Chinese government moved to protect them in 1979. There may be fewer than 50 left in the wild.

## **PANGOLIN**

**P**angolins are weird creatures with armor made of scales. People hunt them for their scales and for their meat, and two of the eight pangolin species in Africa and Asia are almost extinct.

*South China Tiger.*





## **YANGTZE FINLESS PO**

**T**hese porpoises are a  
and live in the Yangtz  
are only about one thou  
pollution and other huma

*Finless Porpoise.*



## SUMATRAN ORANGUTAN

**T**he orangutans once lived all over the Indonesian island of Sumatra. They eat fruit and play a major part in the forest system by distributing the seeds of fruit over their territory. Due to the loss of habitat, hunting, and poaching to sell to orangutans as pets, there are just a few groups of orangutans left in isolated forest areas in the north of the island.

*Sumatran Orangutan.*







## NORTHERN BALD IBIS

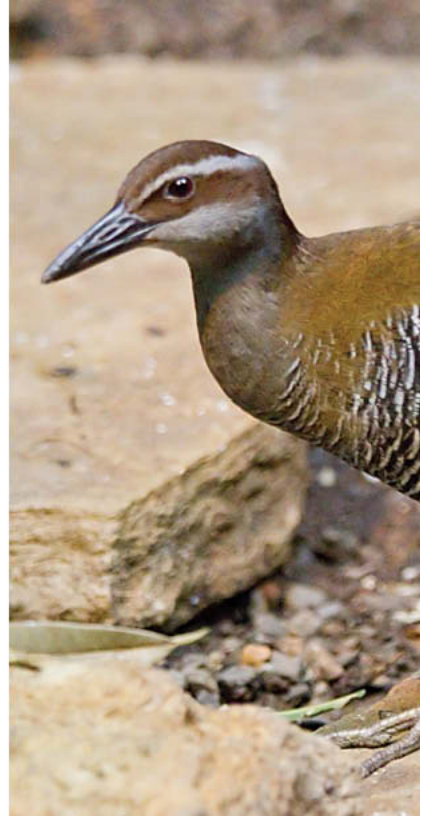
These beautiful birds are found all along the north coast of the western Middle East, notably in the areas of Morocco and Syria. There are only 300 birds left, although the population has increased slightly in the past decade.

*Bald Ibis preening.*

## GUAM RAIL

**G**uam rails are flightless birds that lived on Guam Island in the Pacific Ocean. When brown tree snakes came to the island, they almost wiped out the birds. Today, almost all of the species live in captivity in Guam and in the United States. There is a project to introduce the rails back into wild areas of Guam.

*Guam Rail at the Cincinnati Zoo.*





## **NORTHERN HAIRY-NO**

**T**hese Australian mammals were once extinct, but in the 1930s, about 150 wombats were discovered. Efforts continue to protect and restore their populations.

## **BLACK-FOOTED FERRET**

**T**here are now fewer than 1,000 black-footed ferrets in North America. They once lived throughout the prairie but were nearly wiped out by disease and loss of habitat.

*Black-footed Ferret.*



## WHITE ANTELOPE

This species, also known as the Addax antelope, has lived for thousands of years in the Sahara desert. Habitat destruction and over-hunting have reduced the population to fewer than 200 animals.

## VAQUITA

These rare marine mammals look like porpoises and live along the Pacific coast of Mexico. They are often caught in the nets used for illegal fishing in the area, and are killed or left to drown. Fewer than 100 vaquita still exist in the wild.

*Addax Antelope.*





# CARING FOR THE WHOLE EARTH

Some people call our  
organism. Learn about  
the species and natural  
connected to, in other Ba  
*Peeling the Earth Like an O*  
*Mammals from Around th*  
*the Barren Desert?*, and



