

# CONSERVATION & ZOOS

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# WHAT DO I TEACH?

- Level 3: Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation  
Exotic animal husbandry



What does conservation mean to you?



Why do we have zoos?

# What's in a name?

Sanctuary

Safari Park

Zoo

How zoos market themselves is really important and certain terms and phrases give people a certain expectation of what an organisation does.

What do you think of when you read sanctuary, safari park or zoo?

# Where do zoo animals come from?







There are some animals that are more difficult to keep in captivity than others. Which do you think are the hardest to keep?

**Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs**

**Secretary of State's Standards of Modern Zoo Practice**

**Appendix 8 – Specialist exhibits, Elephants**

**June 2017**

Do you think we should still keep elephants in zoos?

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/secretary-of-state-s-standards-of-modern-zoo-practice>

# SSSMZP Appendix 8 – Specialist exhibits, Elephants

Captive environment

Feeding and nutrition

Behavioural management

Healthcare

Staff management

Elephant training



# Free contact vs. Protected contact





# Keeping elephants in zoos or safari parks to be banned

 **Comment**



**Sian Elvin**

Monday 21 Jun 2021 3:52 pm



It is thought they suffer from mental illness and other physical issues such as arthritis in captivity  
(Picture: Getty Images / iStockphoto)

Dr Jo Judge (CEO), “We’re shocked to learn that decisions might be being made that contradict decades of scientific data and expert opinion. BIAZA has been working closely on the reports that inform Government decisions regarding elephants which shows many welfare improvements to the point where our zoos lead the world in elephant care.”

“Research applied to the elephants cared for in our zoos is directly applicable to saving species in the wild whether that is testing of conservation equipment (such as thermal imaging or camera traps) that allow us to protect wild families of elephants, pioneering vaccines against diseases or converting spend from a family day out into conservation funds.”

“We call on Government to make evidence-based policy decisions that does not put at risk future conservation efforts.”

# SPECIES BIAS IN CONSERVATION

When you see adverts or fundraising campaigns by conservation charities, what type of animals are generally featured?

Why is that?



Zoos don't just look after and display animals – they play a much bigger role in protecting biodiversity.

Watch this clip to see how zoos contribute to conservation:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cT\\_HgcbINf4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cT_HgcbINf4)



## Research task:

- Select an endangered species of your choice that you know is kept in zoos
- Where is it from originally, and why is it threatened in the wild?
- What are the particular challenges keeping this species in a zoo?
- Describe the ways *ex situ* conservation is helping this species
- In your opinion does this justify keeping this species in captivity and is there more that needs to be done?
- Padlet link <https://padlet.com/jocook4/yiegdLgsbetdbcbt>