

## **Endangered Animals Graphic Organizer Answer Key**

---

### **What causes animals to become endangered?**

Answers:

- Destruction of an animal's habitat
- Global climate change
- Overharvesting or overhunting
- Introduction of non-native species that out-compete native species for food
- Pollution
- Disease
- Changes in river flow (sometimes caused by dam building)
- Changes in food chains

### **Why should we care about endangered animals?**

Answers:

- Animals can be a source of medicines for humans.
- Some animals eat pests that destroy human food crops.
- Animals make up a large part of humankind's food supply.
- Some people feel it is morally wrong to allow a species to die out.
- Many animals serve as environmental monitors, warning us about growing pollution hazards.
- The loss of one endangered animal can have impact on an entire ecosystem.
- People enjoy being part of a natural world that includes many different kinds of animals.

**What kinds of animals are endangered?**

Answer:

- Freshwater mussels
- Amur leopards
- Sockeye salmon
- Grizzly bears
- Andean condors
- Chimpanzee
- Sandhill cranes
- Crested gibbon
- Orangutan
- Yellow-eyed penguin
- Florida panther
- Javan rhinoceros

**What can be done to help endangered species?**

Answers:

- Animals can officially be listed as "endangered" with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- A recovery plan can be created and implemented.
- Zoos can establish breeding programs to help increase the population of endangered animals.
- People can restore native habitat.

- People can remove non-native animals that are using resources that might otherwise go to native animals.