

It's too hot to jog, don't go jogging!
It's too stormy to fish, don't go fishing!
It's too cold to swim, don't go swimming!
It's too wild to ride, don't go riding!
It's too dangerous to climb, don't go climbing!

Unit 2 Creature Features

1 Raiya has been finding out about the balance of nature.

ou know that the environment exists in a delicate balance? yeasy to upset the balance and cause terrible results. my report about how one man upset the balance of nature tralia.















English grade 8 Class B...

English *=*

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- 2. In 1859, Thomas Austin took 24 wild rabbits from England to Australia and released them on his land. Most sportsmen thought it was a very good idea because they liked shooting the rabbits in their free time.
- 3. The rabbit population grew and grew. After 6 years, Austin had killed 20,000 but he still had 10,000 left. There were so many rabbits that one man shot 1,200 in 3 hours! The rabbits escaped into the wild and the wild population grew and grew.
- 4. By 1884, the rabbits had reached every corner of Australia and were destroying the natural environment. They ate the grass and plants and even killed large trees. They competed with the sheep for grass and they destroyed crops and farms.
- 5. The government decided to stop the rabbits destroying the environment. In 1907, they finished building a 2,000-mile-long fence to stop them entering the farmland in the South West. In 1950, a disease called myxomatosis was introduced and millions of rabbits died. By 1997, they became resistant to myxomatosis and the population increased to 300 million. Now, the rabbit population is being controlled with a new disease and native plants and animals are slowly recovering. Some people are concerned because the new disease may harm native species such as cows and the short-tailed bat.
- 6. This report has described how one man and 24 rabbits upset the balance of nature and permanently changed the environment of Australia. I think that we should all be very careful not to upset the delicate balance of nature.

the following text about zoos. Answer the questions

u know how important zoos are? It is true that zoos are places where humans go to see a variety of animals and be places. However, I believe that a modern zoo does more















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than that now. It is involved in education, conservation and research.

Zoos play an important role in the conservation of species under threat from human activity. They have saved many animals from extinction because of their breeding programmes. The Arabian oryx was bred successfully in captivity and has been reintroduced into Saudi Arabia and Oman. Many zoos in Europe worked together to help save the Przewalski horse, which was the ancestor of all domestic horses and became extinct in Mongolia and China. These horses have now been introduced back into the wild. As a final example, by the 1980s only 28 of the California condors – the biggest American bird – were left in the wild because of hunting and use of pesticides by humans. In the last few years, 60 of these birds have been born at Los Angeles zoos and have been freed into protected areas.

I think that most modern zoos believe their main aim is to educate the public as well as providing facilities so visitors can enjoy themselves. Education in zoos is not just to teach us about animals but also to teach us about the natural world and how we affect it. Zoos offer guided tours, workshops and other activities to help people find out more about animals and their environment.

Finally, scientists spend a lot of time looking at animals to find out more about them and how we can help them. This is called research. This research is only possible while the animals are kept in a safe environment such as a zoo.

yeen 2,000 and 6,000 animal species will become extinct very we don't help them. So if we visit zoos, we will be able to m save many species of animals.

give animals with no chance a last chance!















Which three animals are mentioned in the text?

The three animals are The Arabian oryx, the Przewalski horse and the California condors.

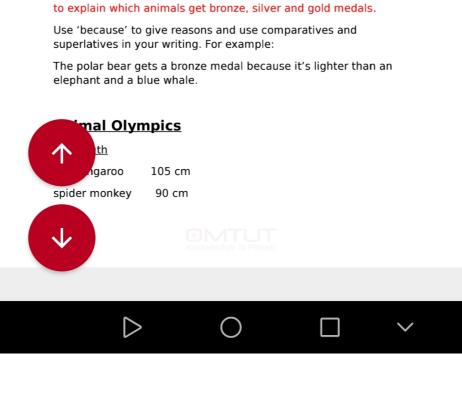
How many species will become extinct without help from humans?

Between 2,000 and 6,000 animal species will become extinct without help from humans.

Write down a sentence from the text that is a fact.

Zoos play an important role in the conservation of species under threat from human activity

3 Help the judge to award the prizes. Look at the information and decide which animals get the medals. Then write sentences to explain which animals get bronze, silver and gold medals.





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Indian elephant 150 cm

snow leopard 113 cm

<u>Height</u>

red kangaroo 180 cm giraffe 600 cm African elephant 300 cm

Speed

cheetah 115 km per hour race horse 69 km per hour ostrich 40 km per hour sloth 2 km per hour tortoise 3 km per hour Pronghorn 90 km per hour

Antelope

The cheetah gets the gold medal because it is faster than a race horse.

The giraffe gets the silver medal because it is the highest animal in the zoo.

at this web page showing information about Sharjah Zoo. and decide if these statements below are true or false.















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Sharjah Zoo, also known as the Arabian Wildlife Centre, houses over 100 species. It opened in September 1999 and is the only zoo in Arabia which exhibits all of the animals naturally living in the Arabian Peninsula. It is a good place for visitors to learn about the animal and plant species which are endangered in Arabia.

Make sure you watch the video just inside the main entrance before you go in to the display areas. Then, the tour takes you through the reptile, fish and insect house, where poisonous snakes, chameleons, monitor lizards, scorpions and camel spiders are exhibited.

Next, visit the bird aviary. It is set in a wadi and desert environment and is home to several songbirds, flamingoes and the Houbara bustard. Make sure you look out for the rock hyrax warming itself in the sun. These tail-less brown animals, the size of a rabbit, have three toes on each foot and are the closest living relative to the elephant!

Inside the aviary, there is a cave with a tank containing blind cave fish from Oman. These fish are born with eyes but they do not develop because of their dark habitat. Next to the aviary, the smaller cats such as the Caracal lynx, wildcat and sand cat are housed.

Finally, the tour takes you into the nocturnal house where night has been turned into day. A large variety of mammals are here including three species of fox, porcupines, hedgehogs and twelve species of rodent. Information is provided throughout the centre on display panels and on taped recordings.



tre is open to visitors at the following times:

Weekdays and public holidays: 9am to 7pm.















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Thursday:11am to 7pm.

Friday: 2pm to 7pm only.

Ticket counters close at 5.30pm.

Closed on Mondays.

- 1 There are two zoos, SharjahZoo and the Arabian Wildlife
- 2 At the end of the tour you can see a video. false
- 3 There are elephants at Sharjah Zoo. false.

4 The cave fish are inside the aviary. true 5 The nocturnal house is open at night. true 6 I can buy a ticket at 10 am on Sunday. true

7 I can buy a ticket at 6pm on Thursday. false

















Unit 3 Inventors and Invention

Read the report

Great Arab inventions and inventors.

This report is about Arab inventions and inventors in history. The

Internet was used to get information. This report starts by looking at inventions of the past and then goes on to look at inventions of the present.

Many centuries ago, Arab inventors changed the world with their amazing inventions. The globe was invented by Al Idrisi in 1100 and the process of using stones to make glass was discovered by Ibn Firnas. The world of Science and ocean travel was completely changed by the invention of the compass. This was invented by Arabs to help Muslims find the Qibla for prayers.

It is true to say that we usually think of Arab inventors of the past but there are many great Arab inventors who are alive now and helping to change our world. For example, the world's fastest

ra was invented by Professor Ahmed Zewail from Egypt. He arded the Nobel Prize for Chemistry in 1999 for his n. The camera uses lasers to take pictures of chemical ns. Another important invention is the "Test-Fast-Tera" anine. It was invented by an Egyptian woman called Dr. Ferial











