



Name: _____

Date: _____



One of the best ways to save an endangered or threatened species is to protect its **habitat**, or the place where it lives. **The Endangered Species Act** is a law that provides solutions for how to do this for more than 1,200 kinds of wildlife, fish, and plants in the United States,

and more than 500 species in other countries, including the mountain gorilla. The law has been very successful. Many organizations and individuals have been, too.

You can be a part of these solutions. Start by reading the examples below. Then research two species from your state to add to the list.

ANIMAL	WHERE IT LIVES	HOW MANY	THREATS	GROUPS WORKING TO SAVE IT	DID YOU KNOW?
Mountain Gorilla —one of four types of gorillas	Forests and mountains of Africa	About 720	Habitat loss, war, hunting, poaching, and disease	Clinton Global Initiative, Wildlife Direct, Owen and Mzee Foundation	Adult males are called silverbacks because they develop a streak of silvery-gray hair on their backs. Gorillas are identified by their unique nose prints.
Tiger —all six remaining types of tigers are endangered	South and Southeast Asia, China, and the Russian Far East	3,000 to 4,500	Hunting and poaching, habitat loss	Save the Tiger Fund, Tigers in Crisis	Tigers are the largest animals in the cat family. They are very good swimmers.
Giant Panda	The mountains of central China	About 2,000 in the wild	Habitat loss, poaching	World Wildlife Fund	Most bears hibernate, or sleep for the winter, but pandas do not. A panda's main source of food is bamboo.
Sea Otter	The coastal waters of California, Washington, Alaska, Canada, Russia, and Japan	Fewer than 100,000	Oil spills, habitat loss, disease, fishing	Sea Otter Alliance, Sea Otter Studies at WERC	Sea otters are the second smallest marine mammal. They have the thickest fur of all animals and are able to use tools such as rocks to open shells.

FIND OUT MORE:

Research to learn how the loss of one animal listed above would affect its environment and yours. Write your findings on the back of this page.

Log on to www.scholastic.com/mizagorilla for additional activities and information.

RESEARCH TIPS:

Find listings of endangered or threatened species in your state at the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service's Web site: http://ecos.fws.gov/tess_public/StateListing.do?state=all

Find animal facts at the Defenders of Wildlife's Web site: www.defenders.org/wildlife_and_habitat/

Find animal facts at the World Wildlife Fund's Web site: www.worldwildlife.org/species/

