

Zoos and Conservation:

The role of zoos in the 21st Century

Post 16

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

- ✓ **All students** will know the roles zoos have and how they have changed over time
- ✓ **Most students** will understand how zoos are linked to each other and how this allows zoos to support and aid wildlife, both together and individually
- ✓ **Some students** will be able to objectively understand the roles zoo have in the 21st Century and be able to form opinions based on facts and evidence

Session Outline:

The session begins by exploring how nature inspires art and invention and highlights our connection to the natural world. It then reviews the history of zoos and their evolving roles, concluding with their four main functions today: conservation, recreation, research, and education. The discussion emphasises the importance of these roles in aiding wildlife through breeding programs, reintroductions, and supported charities. Additionally, it addresses threats to animals, such as habitat loss, overuse, and pollution, while presenting examples of species that have gone extinct due to human activities alongside zoo success stories saving species.



Curriculum Links

Biology/Environment

- Understand reasons for loss of global biodiversity
- History of zoos
- Understand the roles played by NGO's

Citizenship

- Ethical implications
- Think critically and debate an ethical question