



Discovery Worksheets

Design a survival animal

Species are constantly changing, with some dying out (becoming extinct) and new ones evolving. However, the rate at which they are dying out is getting faster and faster. More than half of all animal extinctions have occurred on islands.

One study of animal extinctions over the last 400 years found that:

- 39 per cent were caused by alien species being introduced
- 23 per cent were caused by the animal being hunted or deliberately killed
- 36 per cent were caused by the animal's habitat being destroyed.

For this activity, you are to design an animal built for survival. It is suggested you use a large piece of cardboard to prepare a display for your class.

1. Draw and name a new animal which will not become extinct.
2. Describe the following:
 - (a) its appearance
 - (b) the food it eats
 - (c) its habitat
 - (d) its behaviour and habits.
3. Clearly explain why your animal will not become extinct. Describe what actions and plans will be taken to protect it.
4. Design a special zoo enclosure for your animal. In doing so, think about its natural habitat and its day-to-day needs.

