

TOPIC 9.9

Endangered Species

SUGGESTED SKILL

 *Environmental Solutions*

7.D

Use data and evidence to support a potential solution.



Required Course Content

ENDURING UNDERSTANDING

EIN-4

The health of a species is closely tied to its ecosystem, and minor environmental changes can have a large impact.

LEARNING OBJECTIVE

EIN-4.B

Explain how species become endangered and strategies to combat the problem.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE

EIN-4.B.1

A variety of factors can lead to a species becoming threatened with extinction, such as being extensively hunted, having limited diet, being outcompeted by invasive species, or having specific and limited habitat requirements.

EIN-4.B.2

Not all species will be in danger of extinction when exposed to the same changes in their ecosystem. Species that are able to adapt to changes in their environment or that are able to move to a new environment are less likely to face extinction.

EIN-4.B.3

Selective pressures are any factors that change the behaviors and fitness of organisms within an environment.

EIN-4.B.4

Species in a given ecosystem compete for resources like territory, food, mates, and habitat, and this competition may lead to endangerment or extinction.

EIN-4.B.5

Strategies to protect animal populations include criminalizing poaching, protecting animal habitats, and legislation.

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

- Classroom Resource > [AP Environmental Science Teacher's Guide](#)
- External Resource > [Environmental Literacy Council's AP Environmental Science Course Material](#)
- External Resource > [GLOBE for the Environmental Science Classroom](#)
- The Exam > [Chief Reader Report 2017, Q2](#)
- The Exam > [Student Performance Q&A 2016, Q1](#)
- The Exam > [Samples and Commentary \(2017, Q2, 2016, Q1\)](#)