



## INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

<b>Class: VIII</b>	<b>Department: SCIENCE 2020 - 2021</b>	<b>Date of completion : 24.07.2020</b>
<b>HANDOUTS</b>	<b>Topic: CONSERVATION OF PLANTS AND ANIMALS</b>	<b>Note: A4 FILE FORMAT</b>
<b>SECTION</b>	<b>NAME OF THE STUDENT</b>	<b>ROLL NO.</b>

**Conservation** – Conservation means the process of keeping and protecting something from damage.

**Wildlife** – The term wildlife means all the plants and animals which are found naturally in the forest and other natural habitats.

**Biosphere** – Biosphere is the part of the Earth in which living organisms exist or which supports life.

**Ecosystem** – All the living components, plants, animals and microorganisms along with non- living components such as climate, soil, river, deltas, etc., and their interactions among themselves and with each other.

**Flora and Fauna** – are the plants and animals found in a particular area.

**Biodiversity** – is the huge variety of organisms existing on the earth, their interrelationships and their relationship with the environment.

Threat to biodiversity are – deforestation, natural calamity and climatic changes.

**Deforestation** – large scale cutting of trees for various purposes. It is the biggest threat to the existence and survival of wild animals and birds. This is done for:

- Procuring land for agricultural use.
- Building industries and houses.
- Making furniture or using wood as fuel.

### **Consequences of deforestation :**

- It has adverse effect on food chains. Animals particularly found in forests become rare or migrate to other regions.
- The level of carbon dioxide goes up which results in the increase in temperature and consequently leads to global warming.

- Decreases rainfall which disturbs the water cycle and leads to drought.
- Changes properties of soil like nutrient content and texture. Also, decreases water holding capacity of soil.
- Leads to removal of top layer of soil and gradual conversion of fertile land into desert which is known as **desertification**.
- Depletion of forest products like wood, food, medicines.

**National parks** – These are protected land area preserved in natural conditions to provide natural habitat to wildlife. In these areas foresting, grazing, cultivation and free entry of people is prohibited. E.g.- Jim Corbett National Park, Kaziranga National Park.

**Wildlife Sanctuary** – It is an area where only animals are protected. Here capturing and killing of animals is prohibited. Human activities like harvesting of timber, collecting minor forest products and cultivation are allowed as long as they do not interfere with life of wild animals. E.g. Bharatpur bird sanctuary, Periyar sanctuary.

**Biosphere reserve** – A huge area that offers protection to plants, animals and tribal community that may exist in the forest area. The main aim is to conserve biodiversity and maintain culture of that area. A biosphere reserve may contain National parks and Sanctuaries. E.g. Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve includes Satpura National Park, Bori Sanctuary and Pachmarhi Wildlife Sanctuary.

**Zoo** – are the places where animals are protected in artificial habitats for public view.

**Species** – A group of population which are capable of interbreeding. The members of a species can reproduce fertile offspring only with the members of their own species and not with the members of other species. Members of a species have common characteristics.

**Endemic species**- Species of plants and animals that are exclusively found in a particular area. E.g. sal and wild mango are two examples of endemic flora of Pachmarhi biosphere reserve; Bison, Indian giant squirrel are examples of endemic fauna of this area.

The destruction of habitat or introduction of new species may affect the natural habitat of endemic species. Based on their endangerment they are classified as follows:

- **Extinct species**- Some species of plants and animals which do not exist anywhere on the earth. E.g. Dinosaur, dodo.
- **Endangered species** – Some species that are at high risk of becoming extinct due to hunting or destruction of their habitats. E.g. Tiger, blue whale
- **Vulnerable species** - The species of plants and animals which have high chances of becoming endangered unless the circumstances threatening its survival and reproduction improve. E.g. Giant panda.

**Project Tiger** – It was launched by the government of India in 1973, to save tigers from extinction due to poaching. Various tiger reserves were created in the country. This project has helped in strengthening the habitat and thus the increase in tiger population.

**Red Data Book** – It is a record of all endangered plants and animals. This book is mainly created to identify and protect those species which are on the verge of extinction.

**Migration** – The seasonal mass movement of animals from one place to another to escape from extreme cold, to breed or to find food. E.g. Artic tern, Siberian Crane.

**Recycling Papers** – To process the waste paper (to make new paper) so that it can be used again. A large number of trees are cut down to make paper from the wood pulp. This is a way of conserving trees and forests which helps in conserving biodiversity.

**Reforestation** – The planting of new trees where forests have been destroyed. The planted trees should generally be of the same species as found in that forest. Natural reforestation can take place if the deforested area is left undisturbed for some time.

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