

Lesson Plan: 4-6.2Grade Levels:
Grades 5 & 6

Conservation Ecology

Background	<p>As humans are able to spread out around the world, it has become ever more important to conserve areas for our planet's wildlife. Conservation Ecology is an exciting field that not only helps protect animals, but also the ecosystems in which they live. The five most common causes of extinction due to human activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destruction of habitat for development or to obtain lumber, minerals, oil and other products • Introduction of exotic species into new habitats • Pollution • Overuse of animals and plants through collecting and illegal hunting • Use of animals and plant products for religious reasons/beliefs
Goal	<p>The goal of this lesson is to educate students on conservation issues as they relate to the following focus animals: Cheetah, Rhino, and Nile Lechwe.</p>
Materials to Bring	<p>Students should come with a 3-6 page notebook created with lined paper. They should also have a pencil.</p>
At Safari West	<p>The naturalist will share in-depth information with your students about conservation issues as they relate to Cheetah, Rhino, and Nile Lechwe.</p>
Back in the Classroom	<p>Encourage students to continue gathering information on the one focus animal that interests them the most. They can do their research in the library or on the Internet. Students can present their findings to the class.</p> <p>Note to educators: Advise your students, when using the Internet for research, to avoid sites created by individuals because they can contain bizarre or misleading information. Web sites produced by colleges, universities and zoos have been edited for accuracy.</p>



