

Should We Have Zoos?

Pre-Reading

A. Warm-Up Questions

1. Is it cruel to place animals in zoos?
2. Will zoos one day be banned in your country?
3. What's the difference between a zoo and an animal refuge?
4. Do you enjoy watching whales or dolphins in aquariums?



B. Vocabulary Preview

Match the words on the left with the correct meanings on the right.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. modernized | a) the money earned above the costs |
| _____ 2. profits | b) to not welcome |
| _____ 3. funding | c) updated, made new |
| _____ 4. enclosure | d) returning good health and safety to animals |
| _____ 5. natural habitat | e) the ideal surroundings for a specific type of animal |
| _____ 6. captivity | f) money from outside sources to help with a program |
| _____ 7. endangered species | g) a safe place to look after sick or at-risk animals |
| _____ 8. animal refuge | h) a park that contains water species (also the tank itself) |
| _____ 9. aquarium | i) to become a highly discussed issue again |
| _____ 10. rehabilitation | j) an animal group that is at risk of dying out completely |
| _____ 11. reject | k) a secure area for animals in a park or zoo |
| _____ 12. heat up | l) opposite of "the wild" |

Reading

ZOOS

Can we live without them?

1. Did you go to zoos as a child? Could we live without zoos? Some zoological parks are educational. **Modernized** zoos in large cities use **profits** for wildlife protection and research. Smaller zoos have limited **funding**. It is very costly to build zoo **enclosures** that function like an animal's **natural habitat**.
2. Some animal rights groups think **captivity** is cruel and unnecessary. They argue that animals should never be caged for public viewing. Will future zoos be limited to **endangered species** parks and **animal refuges**? Many **aquariums** are moving in this direction. The new focus is on **rehabilitation** for animals rather than entertainment for humans.
3. Reintroducing captive animals to a natural habitat is tricky. Hunting in forests and oceans can be less attractive than being hand-fed by humans. Many rehabilitated animals are **rejected** by their own species. Trainers understand that it is risky to work with wild animals. The zoo debate **heats up** whenever a deadly attack occurs in public. We know a lot about animal behavior from zoos. We also know a lot about dinosaurs. How did we learn so much about the T. rex without observing it in person?

Comprehension

Discuss these questions in pairs, and write the answers in your notebook.

1. What problem do zoos with limited funding have?
2. What do animal rights activists usually say about zoos?
3. What does the reading say about aquariums?
4. What sometimes happens to captive animals that are reintroduced to the wild?
5. Why does the reading mention dinosaurs?

Vocabulary Review

A. Complete the Sentences

Complete the sentences using a vocabulary word from page 1.
Some words may not be used.

1. The elephants need a much larger _____ than the tigers.
2. Without _____, the zoo could not afford to stay open.
3. There was an attack by a killer whale at the _____.
4. There is a growing list of _____ that need protection.
5. In the _____ program, trainers taught the dolphin how to hunt for its own food.
6. Many animals live longer in the wild than they do in _____.
7. Some zoos put all of their _____ back into programs such as wildlife protection.

B. Choose the Correct Word

Choose the word that best describes the underlined word in the sentence.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. In their <u>natural habitat</u> , animals know where to hunt for food and where to find water.

a) surroundings in the wild
b) water source
c) food chain
d) family at home | 3. <u>Modernized</u> zoos have enclosures that are close to the animal's natural habitat.

a) smaller
b) mechanical
c) rehabilitating
d) updated | 5. There will be a new animal <u>refuge</u> for endangered tigers opening soon.

a) research
b) safe haven
c) aquarium
d) trap |
| 2. The mother bear <u>rejected</u> the young cubs and left them to die in the cold.

a) stayed with
b) gave birth to
c) denied
d) remembered | 4. The argument <u>heated up</u> when the zoo announced that another panda had died.

a) ended
b) intensified
c) calmed down
d) teamed up | |

Discussion Questions

1. Would you want to work in a zoo? Why or why not?
2. Should schools organize zoo trips or is it enough to teach about animals with videos and books?
3. Why do animal attacks happen in zoos?
4. What should zoos do with profits?

Class Opinion

Walk around the class and ask your classmates questions. Write their answers in the chart below.

Classmate's name:	Should humans save endangered wild animals?	Should all zoos be non-profit?	Which animals should NOT be placed in zoos?

Listening – Gap Fill

🔊 <http://blog.esllibrary.com/2010/06/01/podcast-zoos/>

Fill in the blanks as you listen to the recording.

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1. educational, animal's
2. unnecessary, entertainment
3. habitat, observing

ANSWERS: