Zoos and Conservation Talk
The role of zoos in the 21st Century

Year 7-9

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

✓ **All students** will know the roles zoos have and how wildlife is threatened by human activities.

✓ **Most students** will understand how the roles of zoos are linked to each other and how they allow zoos to support and aid wildlife together and individually.

✓ **Some students** will be able to objectively understand the roles zoos have in the 21st Century and be able to form opinions based on facts and evidence.

Session Outline:

The session starts with the history of zoos and their place in an ever changing world, concluding with the four main roles zoos have today. These being, conservation, recreation, research and education. The talk looks at why these roles are important and how these four roles aid in helping wildlife, with a focus on breeding programmes, reintroductions and the charities that are supported by zoos. Some of the threats animals face are also looked at and the impact this has on wildlife. The threats that are looked at are habitat loss, over-use and pollution. Examples of animals that have gone extinct due to human activities, but also success stories of reintroductions that zoos have been a part of, are talked about as well.

Please note, no live animals are used in this session.