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

Learning Outcomes:

At the end of the session:

✓ All students will know the roles zoos have and how they have changed over time

✓ Most students will understand how zoos are linked to each other and how this allows zoos to support and aid wildlife, both 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 a look at how nature inspires people in art and invention as well as how connected people are to nature. This is followed 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.