

Protected by law?

The threats facing wild animals hunted for food

• Teachers' pack. •
Citizenship key stage 3



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Photo: Duncan Willees

More copies

Additional copies of this pack can be ordered from: IFAW – the International Fund for Animal Welfare, 87-90 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7UD (tel: 0207 587 6700)

Website links

Lists of suggested websites are featured in this pack. The opinions expressed in these sites do not necessarily reflect those of IFAW – the International Fund for Animal Welfare – and IFAW takes no responsibility for the content of those websites. IFAW's website – www.ifaw.org – accurately reflects its views. Each listed website should be checked before use to ensure that it is appropriate for the age group being taught.

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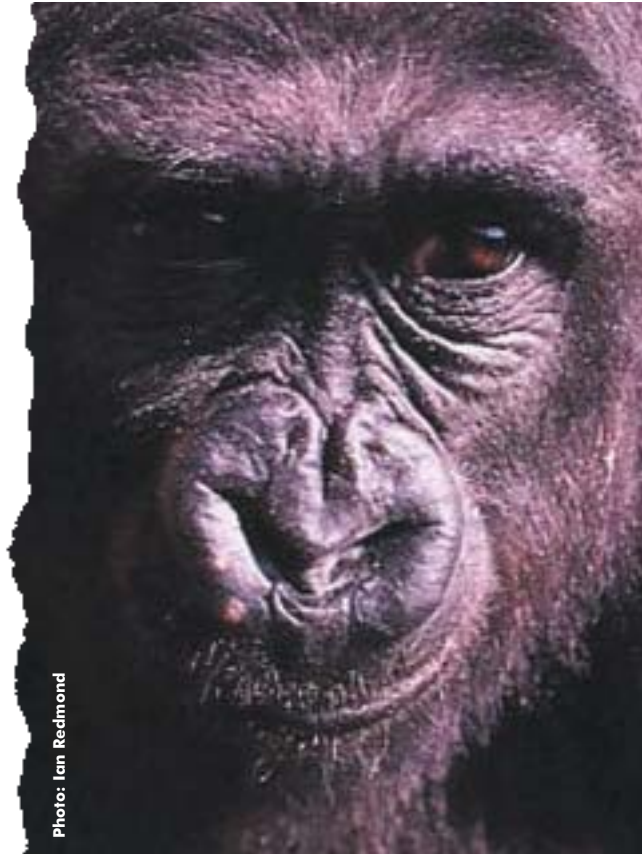


Photo: Ian Redmond

About the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW)

IFAW is an international campaigning organisation founded in Canada more than 35 years ago. Its mission is to improve the welfare of wild and domestic animals by reducing their commercial exploitation, protecting wildlife habitats and assisting animals in distress. Recognising that the fates of people and animals are inextricably linked, IFAW seeks to promote animal welfare and conservation policies that advance the well-being of both animals and people. It has bases in 15 countries and two million supporters worldwide.

IFAW's UK office was established in 1976 to enlist the UK public's support in the campaign to end the hunt for white coat seals in Canada. There are more than 800,000 UK supporters. The UK office campaigns on a range of issues relating to wildlife trade, protection of marine wildlife and hunting with dogs.

Photo: Stewart Cook



Introduction

Protected by law? discusses wildlife trade and the effect of hunting and commercially trading wild animals for food. This topic explores issues relating to nature conservation, human traditions and development.

It covers specifically the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority's (QCA's) scheme of work for key stage 3 citizenship (unit 5, section 4): *How the law protects animals – local to global study*. Elements are also suitable for Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE) and geography lessons. This pack takes approximately three to four hour-long lessons to deliver.

Issues related to animal welfare and its interface with cultural traditions and religious observance need to be handled sensitively, particularly in classrooms with children from visible ethnic minorities.

Teachers may need to consider how they group students together. They may need to be aware of not allowing themselves or others to stereotype students from Afro-Caribbean backgrounds during the role play exercise. Teachers may want to consider briefing particularly vulnerable pupils before the lesson.

Citizenship ground rules – a reminder

Ground rules are made and agreed by students. They should enable each class member to feel comfortable sharing their own attitudes and values knowing they will be listened to and respected even if others in the class disagree with them. If class ground rules have not been established before, the following exercise can facilitate this. Approximately 30 minutes should be allowed if a ground rules exercise has not been done before. Alternatively, if the class is familiar with ground rules then just five to ten minutes should be required to remind and reaffirm.

Activity

Objective:	To develop individual skills of listening, understanding, co-operation and sensitivity to different view points.
Outcome:	An agreed code of conduct based on respect and understanding.
Resources:	Large sheets of paper for each group and marker pens.

Ask each individual in the class to respond to the following question:

How do other people make you feel comfortable sharing your true thoughts and feelings?

- Make a list of the students' responses. For example:
 - 1 They listen
 - 2 They don't laugh at me
 - 3 They don't shout out to other people what I say.
- Ask individuals to pair up and discuss their responses and ideas.
- Move them into groups of six and ask them to share responses and ideas.
- Ask each group of six to make one combined list making sure that each member of the group agrees with everything that is written down.
- Ask one member from each group to feed back the list to the whole class.
- Either the teacher or an identified student should then compile a list of the combined behaviours. This list then becomes the set of ground rules for the class.

Special note: Teachers should check that the class understands the meaning and depth of the words contained in the list. The ground rules should be attached to concrete examples. Broad concepts like "I feel listened to when someone is 'nice' to me" should be avoided. The ground rules should be written in 'pupil speak' where appropriate and displayed attractively.

Citizenship programme of study

This pack addresses the following aspects of the key stage three citizenship programme of study

Citizenship pupils should be taught to:

- 2a** think about topical political, spiritual, moral, social and cultural issues, problems and events by analysing information and its sources, including ICT-based sources
- 2b** justify orally and in writing a personal opinion about such issues, problems or events
- 2c** contribute to group and exploratory class discussions and take part in debates
- 3a** use their imagination to consider other people's experiences and be able to think about, express and explain views that are not their own
- 3c** reflect on the process of participating.

Literacy link

Through the activities in this pack, pupils will be able to understand, use and spell correctly words relating to law and government:

- International Convention
- legislation
- agreement
- parliament
- minister
- national law
- international law
- pressure group
- lobby
- campaign
- enforcement
- European Union

Special note: For further ways in which literacy and citizenship can be combined consult the DFES publication *Literacy in Citizenship*, Ref: DFES 0052-20049.

Keep wildlife wild

The film – *Keep wildlife wild* – and its accompanying worksheet on page 6, are intended to give students a short introduction to the global context of wildlife trade and the laws which could affect it. *Keep wildlife wild* is the theme of IFAW's Animal Action Week 2004. Animal Action Week is in its twelfth year and more than 750,000 students in 12 countries have participated.

The film, worksheet and photographs on page 7 can be used to lead into the rest of the activities in the pack which focus on the single issue of wildlife traded for food.

The following notes are designed to inform you of the details shown on the CD-ROM/video. You may wish to use them in discussion with the students before they start the worksheet on page 6. Important points could be written on the board to help them. The answers appear on the worksheet, but upside down and at the bottom of the page.

CD-ROM/video running time: 12 minutes



Photo: IFAW

Illegal trade: Every year millions of tourists unwittingly buy souvenirs like tortoiseshell jewellery and ivory ornaments made from endangered species including turtles and elephants.

Wildlife trade – a global issue

Wildlife trade is an industry now worth billions of pounds and the effect on the world's wildlife has been devastating. Species are being driven to extinction at a rate hundreds of times faster than a century ago and one fifth of the world's animal and plant species could vanish in the next 30 years, partly as a result of people making money from buying and selling wildlife.

Some of this trade is illegal and represents one of the largest areas of organised crime in the world. Although there are laws in place in most countries to control wildlife trade, the trade largely escapes detection and enforcement is weak.

Technology is, however, beginning to play a vital role in tracking the criminals involved in wildlife crime. Ecomessage, a central reporting system developed by Interpol, the international police organisation, is working to track those involved in wildlife crime wherever they are in the world.

Wild animals and wild animal products are traded around the world both legally and illegally to meet the demand for:

- exotic pets
- food
- clothes, shoes and jewellery
- souvenirs and ornaments
- traditional medicine

Wild trade statistics

Bushmeat* and ivory

The African elephant population has dropped from around 1.3 million in 1980 to possibly as few as 402,000 today, particularly because of the demand for ivory but also the demand for elephant meat. The poaching of elephants for ivory is also a problem in Asia.

A century ago there were around two million chimpanzees in Africa – now there could be as few as 105,000 – the majority has been hunted for food. It is now easier than ever to hunt wild animals for food because of the roads built by logging and mining companies which go through previously untouched forests. Large areas of vital habitat are also being destroyed by logging and mining activities.

The illegal trade in bushmeat results in over 7,000 tonnes of illegal meat and meat products, including bushmeat, being seized by customs officials at UK airports every year.

This trade is believed to be dangerous to human health as there are no health and safety checks. Diseases that animals and their meat can pass on to humans include HIV, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), Ebola, and monkey pox which is similar to smallpox.

**The term 'bushmeat' is used in Africa to describe any animal from the bush – forest or shrubland – which is killed and eaten*

Teachers' Notes

Keep wildlife wild

Exotic pets

More than 10 million reptiles – tortoises, snakes, lizards and alligators – are being kept as pets around the world. Many would have been caught from the wild and sold illegally.

For every wild animal being kept as a pet, many more have to die. A large percentage of animals die during capture and transport. One study showed that around 90% of reptiles in the pet trade die within the first year of captivity.

There are fewer than 5,000 tigers left in the wild, but more than 10,000 are kept as pets in the USA.

Traditional medicines

Bears, rhino, seals and tigers are among those animals under threat from the use of their body parts for medicine. Tiger bone is used to treat problems like rheumatism even though there are at least 20 plant-based alternative medicines. Particularly cruel is the farming of Asiatic black bears in China, where thousands are kept in appallingly cramped conditions and have taps inserted in their stomachs to remove bile juice.

Legal trade and slaughter

Between 2003 and 2005 nearly one million harp seals are planned to be killed in Canada. The Canadian government supports the hunt as it claims killing the seals protects fishing stocks. The fur, oil and meat are taken from the carcasses for commercial trade.

The International Whaling Commission introduced a temporary ban on commercial whaling in 1986, but Norway, Japan and Iceland continue to hunt whales.

Web-based activities

Visit the Animal Action Week section of IFAW's website – www.ifaw.org

Your students either individually or as a class will be able to join in on the interactive *Wildlife crimebusters challenge*.

The site also features an *Adopt a wild animal to stay wild* scheme. This scheme will provide visitors with free screen savers, e-cards, a downloadable 'adoption certificate' and email updates on IFAW campaigns. This site will remain live until October 2007.



Photo: IFAW

Take the *Keep wildlife wild* challenge



What do you remember from the film you have just seen? (Tick the correct answers below).

1 Wildlife is traded for lots of different reasons, including food, exotic pets, fashion, traditional medicine and souvenirs.

TRUE FALSE

2 Bushmeat describes meat from wild animals. In which continent is this term most commonly used?

AUSTRALIA ASIA AFRICA

SOUTH AMERICA EUROPE

3 Approximately how many tonnes of illegal meat and meat products are believed to enter the UK each year?

7 TONNES 7,000 TONNES

70,000 TONNES

4 The logging industry has made the poaching of endangered species easier.

TRUE FALSE

5 Tick three countries from the list below that still hunt whales despite the International Whaling Commission's ban on commercial whale hunting.

CHINA JAPAN

KENYA NORWAY

ICELAND RUSSIA

INDIA UK

6 Humans cannot catch serious diseases from wild animals.

TRUE FALSE

7 There are many more tigers kept by people as pets than there are left in the wild.

TRUE FALSE

8 Which two continents are home to the remaining elephants that are poached for the ivory trade?

AUSTRALIA AFRICA ASIA

NORTH AMERICA EUROPE

9 Which country currently allows the killing of up to 350,000 harp seals per year in the largest marine mammal hunt in the world?

GERMANY NETHERLANDS

CANADA SOUTH AFRICA

USA MEXICO

10 Animals are used in the traditional medicine trade because it is impossible to make any alternative products from plants.

TRUE FALSE

11 What is the name of the international police organisation that fights wildlife crime and has launched 'Ecomessage'?

INTERNET INTERCRIME

INTERPOL IFAW

12 All of us can help to end wildlife trade by not buying wild animals or wildlife products.

TRUE FALSE



ANSWERS
1. True. 2. Africa. 3. 7,000 tonnes. 4. True. 5. Japan, Norway, Iceland. 6. False. 7. True. 8. Africa and Asia. 9. Canada. 10. False. 11. Interpol. 12. True.





Photo: Jon Hrusa

Young chimpanzee

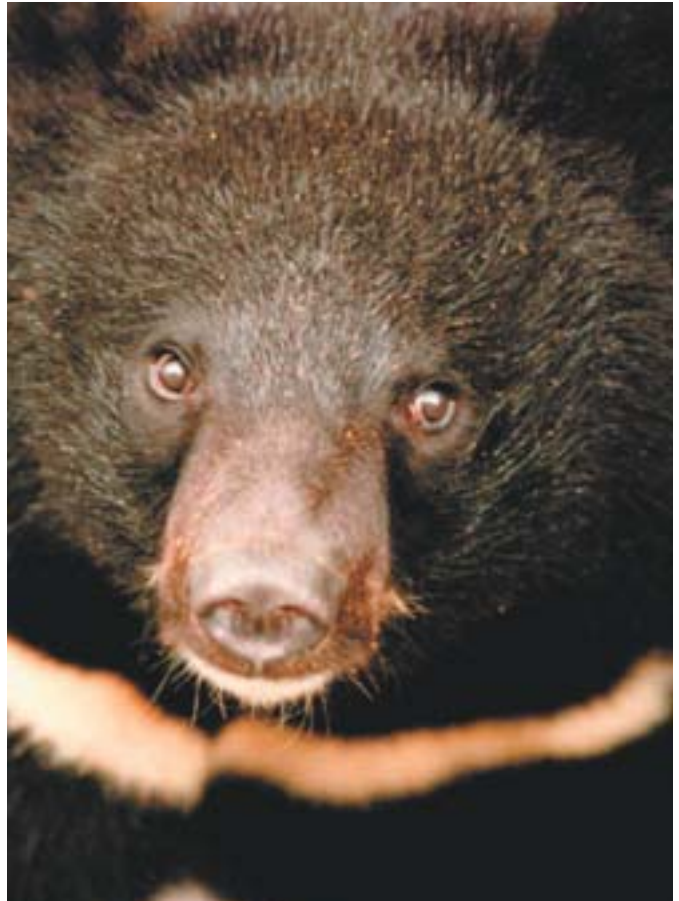


Photo: IFAW

Young Asiatic black bear



Photo: Jon Hrusa

Leopard



Photo: Richard Sobol

African elephant

Wild animals for food – what's your view?

Please note: This activity can be done as a **whole class** or in **small groups**.

Learning objective: To further develop listening skills; to express views, and to establish a basic understanding of issues (cause and effect) surrounding the trade in wild animals for food.

Outcome: Students should have achieved the objective by observing the citizenship ground rules. They should also be prepared for the next session where they will be required to discuss how an issue can be addressed through international co-operation, national and local laws.

Resources: To do this activity in small groups you will need copies of *What's your view* worksheet (page 9). For a whole class activity you will also need two large signs: **Agree, Disagree**.

Whole class activity

Pin up two signs – **Agree, Disagree** – around the room, Read out the different statements from the worksheet and ask students to stand under the appropriate sign.

After each statement ask people why they chose to stand where they did.

After listening to other people's decisions, some students may change their minds and move to stand under a different sign. Their reasons for doing so should also encourage further discussion and debate.

Group activity

Give small groups the worksheet and ask them to cut out the statements and sort them into two piles – **Agree or Disagree**

Ask all the groups to feed back their decisions to the class.

Finally, ask the class what conclusions they have reached. Did any of the discussions make them change their minds on various issues? How would they summarize the usefulness of this exercise?

Note: If your students are from predominately urban areas with little experience or knowledge of wildlife you could preface *What's your view* with the following:

- What do we mean by wild animals?
- What are common wild animals in this country?
- What do we know about wild animals abroad?
- Who in the class has seen a whale, a rhino and how often?



Photo: Mark van Derip

Hunted for meat: Skull of western lowland gorilla.

Discussion points for worksheet statements on page 9

Not eating meat: What would happen if everyone decided to eat less meat? What impact would that have on people and animals? What would we do for food if we couldn't go to supermarkets and butchers and buy meat?

Note: It is important to be sensitive to the fact that some students will not eat meat or other animal products for religious, cultural or personal reasons.

Hunting to feed families: People who live in forests have traditionally hunted for food to feed themselves and their families using basic weapons and traps. What effect could traditional hunting have on animals and the environment?

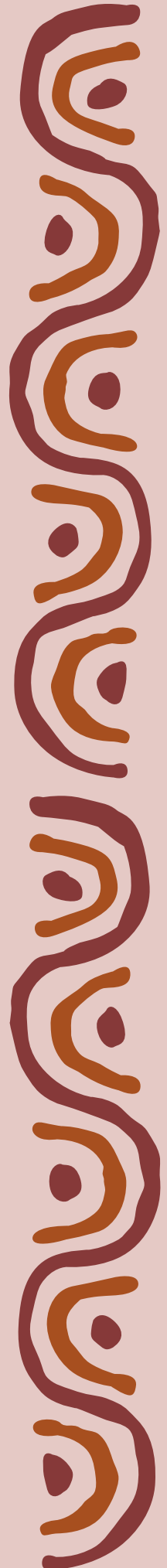
Today, bigger, powerful weapons are available and people in the cities want to buy food from animals caught in the wild. What could be the effects of this on animals, local people and the environment?

Clearing forests: Logging and mining companies create roads through the forest where there were none before. What effect can this have on wildlife? Why do logging and mining companies from Europe go into other countries like those in Africa? Who gives them permission to go there?

Another country's business: Overhunting can make forests empty of animals. What could happen to local people when forests are chopped down and the animals in them killed? How can changes in another country's environment affect our own? Past examples are: acid rain, greenhouse gasses etc. Are there ways we can influence what other countries do?

Protecting endangered animals: Should we do this? How can we do this when it is not happening on our own doorsteps? What do we think the law in our countries and other countries can do?

Respecting cultural differences: What cultural differences are there over food? If it is an important part of someone's culture to eat endangered animals is it acceptable? If it is not acceptable how can the views of a culture be changed?



What's your view?

Cut along the dashed line



It is wrong to kill any animal for meat	It is OK to hunt and kill any wild animal to feed your family
It is wrong to get involved in another country's business	It is OK to clear rainforests and jungles for logging and mining
Endangered animals need protecting	Cultural differences must be respected
AGREE	DISAGREE



Wildlife in crisis – the bushmeat trade

In Africa, South America and Asia, one of the greatest threats to wildlife is the over-hunting and commercial trade in wild animals for meat. In Africa, this trade in bushmeat, if left unchecked, could lead to the total extinction of some species including gorillas and bonobos (pygmy chimpanzees) within the next 20 years.



Photo: Mark van Dorp

What is bushmeat?

- In Africa, forest and shrub land is often referred to as 'bush'. All species taken from it as food – ranging from cane rats to gorillas – is called bushmeat.
- Bushmeat has long been a part of the staple diet of forest dwelling people and may be their only source of protein.
- Similar crises of overhunting have already taken place in other parts of the world. In the UK, the wild boar was hunted to extinction by the year 1683. In the US, overhunting has led to the extinction of the passenger pigeon and the decimation of the American bison.

Other animals that have been wiped out by overhunting include the dodo and the moa, both species of birds.

How did something traditional become a problem?

- Most hunting used to be done for subsistence, but growing human populations are now demanding more bushmeat than is sustainable. As Africa becomes more urban and some incomes are rising, demand for bushmeat grows. It is seen as a cultural link and a symbol of luxury. Elephant trunks, monkey brains and gorilla hands sell in some African city restaurants as an expensive delicacy.
- Traditional methods of hunting, such as bows, arrows and nets, have been replaced by less selective methods. Snares, traditionally made from plant material but now made with tougher wire, are non-selective and can inflict great damage on many species. High-powered automatic weapons such as AK47s have had a devastating effect on wildlife. Roads built by logging companies have made it easier for poachers to get into remote areas of forest.
- Poachers often come into local communities from other areas to hunt large numbers of animals and take the meat for sale at lucrative city markets or to be traded internationally. Consequently local communities are losing their traditional food source.



Photo: John Hrusa

Implications for the UK

- Many communities in the UK still like to eat food from their country of origin.
- Bushmeat is shipped around the world by criminals making huge profits. An estimated 7,431 tonnes of illegal meat, including bushmeat, and other meat products enter Britain each year (reference: Veterinary Laboratories Agency, March 2003)

Can the law stop the trade?

International law

- Many animals hunted for bushmeat are protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). All primates, and many other species, are listed on CITES Appendix I, which prohibits any international trade, or on Appendix II, which means all trade must be closely monitored and regulated. Some other hunted animals are also listed on these appendices but some species such as the cane rat are still very common and are not considered to be threatened at the moment.

- All Central and West African countries are signatories to CITES. However, lack of funds and/or political will, mean implementation and enforcement of the convention is often weak. CITES cannot stop animals being hunted and eaten **within** a country – it can only stop them being traded **across** borders.

National laws

- Many African countries have national wildlife protection legislation which makes bushmeat hunting and trade illegal or requires hunters to have a permit. In many countries it is legal to hunt for subsistence but not commercial purposes. It is illegal to hunt certain endangered species, including great apes and leopards, in all countries where they are found. Despite such laws, enforcement is expensive and often overlooked.

UK laws

- EU regulations make it illegal to import any meat for personal consumption into the UK unless it comes from certain countries within Europe. Anyone found importing bushmeat from CITES-listed species into the UK could face an unlimited fine and/or up to seven years imprisonment.
- However, Customs do not have enough resources to enforce this effectively. For example, in early 2004 there were only six sniffer dogs used to check for bushmeat in the whole of the UK.



Wildlife in crisis – the bushmeat trade

The scale of the crisis

- It is estimated that hunting levels are already six times the maximum sustainable rate in Central Africa, (reference: Wilkie, D.S. and Carpenter, J.F. (1999) *Bushmeat hunting in the Congo Basin: an assessment of impacts and options for mitigation*. *Biodiv. Cons.* 8, 927-955).
- Miss Waldron's red colobus monkey is believed to be the first primate to become extinct as a result of hunting.
- In many heavily hunted areas, local extinctions are already occurring. This could have serious long-term implications for forests, as the ecosystem relies on animal populations for pollination and seed dispersal.
- Local people are losing their traditional food supply to large-scale commercial hunting. Many people who are already very poor risk becoming even poorer if they lose this supply.
- Bushmeat can only be a temporary solution to serious problems of poverty, food security and lack of economic opportunities. Experts agree that the current level of bushmeat trade is unsustainable and will not solve poverty or hunger. Other solutions must be implemented to ensure human welfare and protect wildlife.

Logging and mining – the critical impact

- Massive logging companies – including European and Malaysian companies – are felling up to four million hectares of Congo Basin forest each year, opening up hundreds of kilometres of roads into previously impenetrable areas.
- Logging companies often employ thousands of people from other parts of the country, or even other countries, and do not provide them with food. This means they must hunt for bushmeat to supplement their diet. Company vehicles are often used to transport surplus meat to be sold at local markets.
- Mining for coltan, a mineral used in the manufacture of mobile telephones, has also opened up large areas of forest in central Africa and has been linked to a drastic decline in eastern lowland gorillas in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Logging is driven by demand for tropical hardwoods – of which the top importers include the UK, other European countries and the USA.

Bushmeat and human health

- Illegally transported meat is not subject to health and hygiene checks and bushmeat is transported long distances in unsanitary conditions.
- There is evidence that diseases that animals can pass on to humans include HIV, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), Ebola and monkey pox. *BBC News Online* reported in January 2004, that western central Africa had suffered five human Ebola outbreaks in which 264 people died and large numbers of gorillas and chimpanzees were wiped out.



Photo: Robert J Ross

Emergency inquiry into the bushmeat crisis

This activity addresses all areas outlined in the QCA's scheme of work for key stage 3, unit 5, section 4, featured below and on the DFES website:

www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/schemes2/citizenship

Citizenship at key stage 3 year 7-9

Unit 05: How the law protects animals – a local to global study

Section 4: How is animal welfare of concern internationally?

Learning objectives

Pupils should learn:

- 1 About the need for international cooperation in order to address matters of global concern
- 2 To describe the methods by which international agreements can be implemented in the absence of an international court.

Throughout the inquiry activity the pupils will actively consider the following questions from the QCA scheme of work:

- Why is the animal/animals threatened?
- How serious is the threat?
- Why is a global problem like this particularly difficult to resolve?
- What has been agreed internationally on the issue and by whom?
- What action can be taken to enforce international agreements?
- How is this process different from enforcing national and European laws (these are enforced through courts of law)?
- What kinds of pressures can be brought to bear on people/countries which break international codes of conduct?
- What can pressure groups and individuals who support their work do?
- What international efforts are being made to protect the animal/animals under threat?

Learning outcomes

Pupils should be able to:

- Identify reasons why some issues need to be addressed though international cooperation
- Distinguish between laws operating at a local and national level and international agreements which do not have the weight of law
- Know about and describe the role of voluntary organizations and pressure groups that operate internationally.



Photo: Ian Redmond

Rare meat: Gorilla hands for sale in Brazzaville, Congo.

Emergency inquiry

Resources

<i>It's the law</i>	page 14
<i>Bushmeat – an international problem</i>	page 15
<i>Roles for bushmeat inquiry activity</i>	pages 16–17
<i>Clear voices</i>	page 18
<i>Online action</i>	page 19

Part one – introduction

You may wish to lead off the activity by using the *It's the law* quiz on page 14. This can be used by asking the questions to the class as a whole, giving it as an individual handout or using it for discussion in table groups.

Part two – group preparation

Divide the class into groups and give them copies of the *Bushmeat – an international problem* student factsheet (page 15), the roles for inquiry exercise (pages 16-17) and any of the other factsheets from pages 14-19 that you feel appropriate.

Each group could then choose a chairperson, a secretary, a spokesperson and researchers.

Explain that they will be taking part in a government inquiry chaired by the UK environment minister to present local, national and international concerns raised by the trade in wild animals caught for food.

Allocate each group **one clearly defined role** from the list on pages 16 and 17 whose views they will research and represent. Give them a set time to prepare their case for presentation to the UK environment minister.

Part three – presentation

Give each spokesperson a set time to present their group's case and allow a set time for questions from the chair (UK environment minister).

Chairing the activity

With advance planning a local politician could be invited to take the role of the UK environment minister – chair the inquiry as part of their constituency days. An additional copy of this pack can be sent to them on request to IFAW.

Alternatively, a member of the school's senior management team, a governor, local authority citizenship advisor or a senior student could be invited to attend and chair.

Please contact IFAW's wildlife trade team on 0207 587 6700 for help in approaching a relevant politician.

Part four – conclusions

Ask the students to come out of their groups/roles and, as a class, discuss possible international/national solutions to the problems caused by the bushmeat trade. Discuss what they, as individuals or as a class, think they can do about it.

Any solutions agreed by the group could then form the basis of a well-reasoned letter to the prime minister/MP asking him/her to address the bushmeat crisis. This could be done within class time or as homework. It is important to bear in mind that the UK government has already made some efforts to tackle these issues and raise them with other governments.

The following steps put forward by IFAW to the UK government could make useful discussion points. The class could be asked how, in their view, these points could be achieved.

IFAW believes that to combat the bushmeat crisis the following steps are essential:

- Reduce bushmeat hunting to levels that don't threaten the survival of animal populations and species
- Laws must be in place and enforced to ensure endangered animals are not hunted or traded
- Logging and other industries must neither encourage nor facilitate the bushmeat trade
- Economic and social development should involve managing the world's natural resources responsibly and protecting the creatures that depend on them
- Law enforcement agencies in all countries must be given the resources to fight the illegal trade.

Emergency inquiry into the bushmeat crisis

Extension activities/ Homework ideas

1 From the *Clear voices* fact sheet think about the young hunter described by his mother. Research and write a report on how the international community might work with the government in Gabon to give the young hunter greater choice in ways of earning a living.

2 Visit some of the pressure group websites listed in the *Bushmeat – an international problem* fact sheet. Write a report commenting on their strengths and weaknesses in terms of quality of information given, credibility of arguments presented and effectiveness of visual imagery.

3 You have just visited a city market and have discovered a stall openly selling bushmeat. Write a report/create a story board about what you think you should do/can do next.

4 Visit IFAW's Animal Action Week website and take the *Wildlife crimebusters challenge*.

5 Try out the *It's the law* quiz on your friends and family.

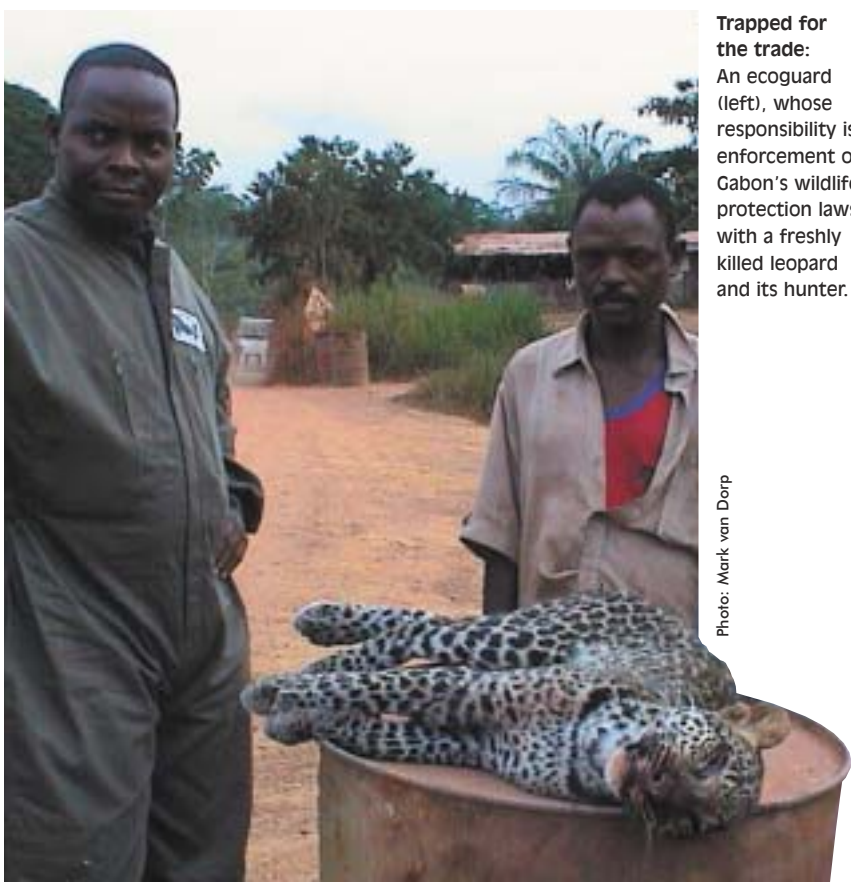
Assessment/expectations

At the end of this pack:

Most students: have a broad understanding of the importance and level of impact of different types of legislation – national and international laws. They can understand the ways in which individuals and groups can influence legislation. They can research and discuss the issues raised, present their ideas and reflect on their opinions and those of others.

Some students have not made so much progress and: are aware that laws are made at local, national and global level. They discuss the issues raised and give some examples of how the law is important in protecting the welfare of animals.

Some students have progressed further and: understand the role of different levels of government from local to global and describe how they interrelate. They understand how voluntary organisations and groups can influence decision making. They are aware of the different bases on which international agreements operate and have some idea of how international treaties are enforced. They can research and discuss the issues raised, present their ideas and reflect on their opinions and those of others.



Trapped for the trade: An ecoguard (left), whose responsibility is enforcement of Gabon's wildlife protection laws, with a freshly killed leopard and its hunter.

Photo: Mark van Dorp

It's the law!

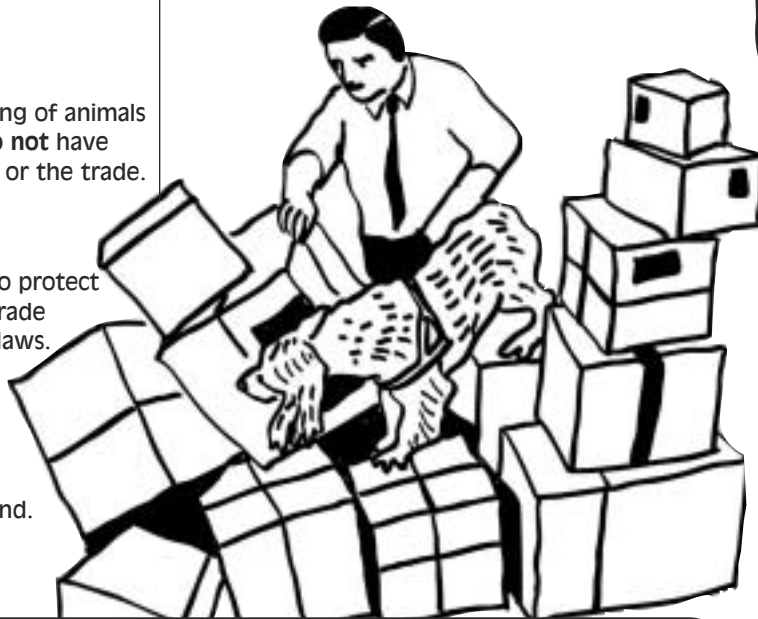
What do you think?

Answer true or false to the following (Tick the correct answers below).

- 1 There are no international laws protecting animals from being killed for the bushmeat trade.
True False
- 2 Most countries where the killing of animals for bushmeat is a problem **do not** have national laws against hunting or the trade.
True False
- 3 Countries that **do** have laws to protect animals from the bushmeat trade find it easy to enforce those laws.
True False
- 4 It is illegal to hunt certain endangered species in all countries where they are found.
True False

- 5 EU regulations make it illegal to import any meat for our own use into the UK unless it comes from certain countries within Europe.
True False

- 6 There are six sniffer dogs used to check for bushmeat in the UK.
True False



prosecute individuals by using their national laws, then the other CITES parties can agree to take action against them. They may, for example, suspend trade in all or some CITES-listed species.

2. False
Many African countries have very good laws to protect wildlife. Such laws say that the bushmeat trade is illegal or that hunters must have a permit.

3. False
Enforcing the law is a problem because it is expensive to fund the extra police, rangers and other necessary officials required to carry them out.

4. True
Anyone found importing bushmeat from CITES-listed species into the UK could face an unlimited fine and/or up to seven years imprisonment.

5. True
There are about 200 airport seizures of bushmeat per month. But this may be only one tenth of the actual amount being smuggled into the country.

1. False
Many animals hunted for bushmeat are protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). A convention is an international law which governments can choose to sign and implement. More than 160 governments are members of CITES.

Many primates, as well as many other species, are listed on CITES Appendix I which prohibits any international trade. Many other hunted animals are listed on Appendix II – trade must be closely monitored and regulated.

Some species such as the cane rat are still very common and are not considered to be threatened at the moment so the trade in their meat is not regulated.

CITES cannot stop the animals being hunted and traded in a country – it only works if the animals are traded across borders from one country to another.

All Central and West African countries have signed up to CITES, but lack of funds and political will means that enforcement is not properly carried out.

CITES holds governments to account, not individuals. If governments are not doing enough within their own countries to stop illegal CITES trade across borders or

Answers



Bushmeat – an international problem

What is bushmeat?

Any wild animal taken and eaten from the African bush (forest and shrub land) is called bushmeat. This term includes small animals like cane rats and large rare ones like gorillas.

Bushmeat is the usual food for people living in rural areas. The animals used to be caught with bows and arrows and nets. They were also caught for subsistence. This means taking what the villagers needed to survive – not for selling in large numbers.

Why has it got so out of control?

Bushmeat traders can make a lot of money. Poachers armed with high-powered automatic weapons kill a lot more animals than traditional ways of hunting. They make a big profit by selling the meat. The number of people in many countries is growing rapidly, so more food is needed to feed them.

Logging and mining companies have put roads through previously untouched forests making it easier to hunt and kill the animals that live there. Logging company workers shoot the animals for their own food, but also sell the meat to others.

In some African cities, bushmeat is a luxury food. Gorilla hands or pieces of elephant trunk sell in some city restaurants as expensive delicacies.

Bushmeat is also transported illegally and sold in Britain and other parts of Europe where it can fetch a high price.

More than 7,000 tonnes of illegal meat and meat products, including bushmeat, are seized at UK airports each year. These illegal imports are not subject to health checks and could spread disease throughout the EU. There is evidence

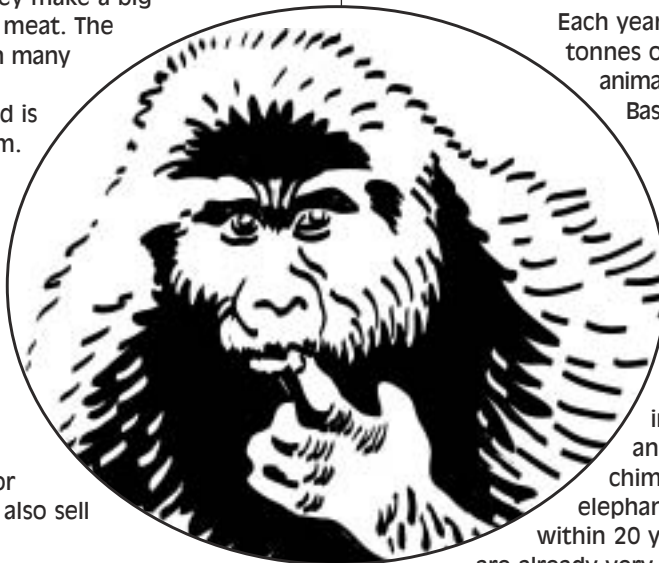


that some diseases like HIV, SARS (Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome), Ebola and monkey pox can pass from animals to humans.

How does the future look?

Each year up to five million tonnes of meat from wild animals is eaten in the Congo Basin alone.

Campaigning groups like the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) believe that if the current rate of hunting is not stopped by local, national and international laws, animals like gorillas, chimpanzees and forest elephants could be wiped out within 20 years. Local people who are already very poor could also starve as the forest empties around them.



IT'S A FACT

Logging is driven by the demand for tropical hardwoods. People living in the EU, Japan and the USA all want more and more tropical hardwoods for furniture and building products.

Roles for bushmeat inquiry activity

Photocopy and distribute roles – one role per table group.

Pressure group leader

YOU are in charge of a pressure group – the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) – in the UK. Your scientists and campaigners have spent many years in Africa researching the impact of wild animals being caught for food. You have very good statistics to illustrate the problem and believe that the current level of trade in wild animals caught for food will have a devastating effect on African people and animals. This is an issue of great importance to your millions of supporters too. They want you to convince the government to do something now.

Cut along the dashed line



President of Logging UK

YOU are in charge of Logging UK, one of the biggest logging companies in the world. Your company chops down trees to supply people in Europe and the USA with tropical hardwoods like mahogany and teak to make fashionable and expensive furniture. If your company cuts down on logging, you believe it will not make enough money to survive. Because of this, the people you employ, both in the UK and in the countries where the logging takes place, will lose their jobs. You think logging is important to developing countries – it brings roads and employment. You believe your company behaves as responsibly as it can under the circumstances.

Cut along the dashed line



Minister for environment and forestry of an African state

YOU are very concerned about the devastation caused to the forests of your country. Before moving to the city, you once lived in a village in a forest and remember how full it was of wildlife. Now, whenever you go back to visit your family, you are shocked by the forest's emptiness.

Research shows a big drop in numbers of some of your country's rarest creatures. Pressure groups in countries outside Africa have been urging their governments to make your government stop your citizens killing and eating rare wild animals.

Your country has very good animal protection laws, but it is very expensive to employ the rangers and policemen to enforce them. Your people may not have any other sources of food or employment. Your government is also under pressure to create jobs, and to build roads, the very things that logging companies supply. You believe there are things you can do to make things better, but you need help from the international community.

Cut along the dashed line



Roles for bushmeat inquiry activity

Photocopy and distribute roles – one role per table group.

Local leader from African state

YOU live in one of the remaining forested areas of your country. The people from your area have always depended on the wild animals in the forest for food, but the animals are becoming harder to find. There are over 4,000 workers who have moved to the area and are employed by a logging company. The company does not supply them with food, but gives them guns to shoot their own. The workers are killing more animals than they need to eat, and are selling them as bushmeat in the towns to make money. You believe that one day the food in the forest will run out and people will starve. You want the European logging companies and your government to be aware of the problem and protect the forests before it is too late.

Cut along the dashed line



UK Customs official

YOU are in charge of the teams of enforcement officials working at UK airports. Every year your six sniffer dogs detect more than 7,000 tonnes of illegally imported meat and meat products. You know this is probably the tip of the iceberg as your dogs cannot reasonably check every bag that comes in.

Your teams are also responsible for detecting illegal drugs, tobacco, alcohol, and the illegal importation of rare and endangered species in the form of clothing, jewellery, souvenirs and ornaments.

Your team is overworked. You believe that more should be done in other countries to use all available laws and ways of enforcing them to stop the trade before bushmeat even gets to the UK.

Cut along the dashed line



Leader of West African cultural community now living in London

YOU are a British citizen, born in Africa, who moved to London 30 years ago. You are a very well-known figure and a professor at a London university. You have done a great deal to bring African culture – art, music and literature – to Britain and often appear on television talking about it.

You are concerned about the illegal importation of bushmeat into this country and have seen it being sold regularly at a London market near your home. You can understand why people would want to eat something that is part of their culture, but you feel there needs to be an understanding of the risks that eating bushmeat poses to themselves and the effect of the trade on traditional ways of life in many African countries.

Cut along the dashed line



Clear voices

“ When we were young we only had to walk a few metres in the forest to see all sorts of animals: monkeys racing through the trees, porcupines and pangolins digging underground mazes, bush pigs, snakes and antelopes. There were gorillas, chimpanzees, buffaloes and leopards. Now, we have to walk at least one day to find them abundantly. And it almost happened unnoticed as in a dream. When the road was built the first trucks started to arrive. They did not only bring us food and clothes but also took back animals for the city folks. We could sell as many animals as we wanted since it had become much easier to hunt with the arrival of the first guns in the 1960s. ”

Villager from Gabon interviewed by an IFAW researcher

“ Our son was sent to prison for six months because he shot an elephant. But look here, he could not find a job in the city because of the economic crisis. So he came back to the village to become a hunter. He has no choice – it is the only way to earn a living. ”

Woman in Gabon interviewed by an IFAW researcher

“ Unless there is urgent control of the hunting of bushmeat, the ecology of the forests of Africa and many other countries face disaster, leading to a demise in their tourist industry... There is also the potential worldwide disaster from infectious diseases, such as Ebola and new strains of HIV, by the illegal export of bushmeat. ”

British Member of the European Parliament (MEP),
John Corrie

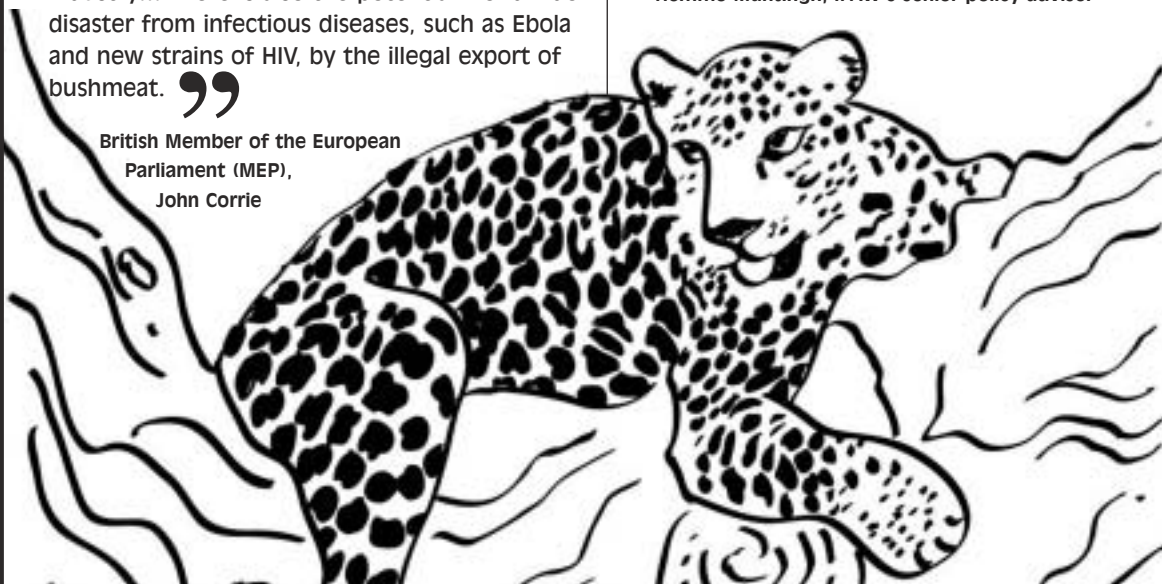


“ Successful conservation in large areas of the forest zone requires the support of the timber industry. Wildlife resources must be fully accommodated by logging companies' operations. ”

Glyn Davies
Conservation director, Zoological Society of London

“ At this very moment in Africa, regionally, locally and nationally, species and populations of species are becoming extinct. It is essential to give absolute priority to the bushmeat issue and allocate considerably more financial support for biodiversity conservation, protected areas and National Parks in the EU budget and in the European Development Fund. ”

Hemmo Muntingh, IFAW's senior policy adviser



Online action

IFAW – the International Fund for Animal Welfare:

www.ifaw.org

Information about IFAW's projects, concerns and recommendations on bushmeat and the endangered species affected. This education pack can be downloaded from the site and individuals can sign up to receive campaign updates.

By clicking on the Animal Action Week link, visitors can receive free screen savers, e-cards and take part in a *Wildlife crimebusters challenge*.

Bushmeat Crisis Task Force:

www.bushmeat.org

A US-based coalition – factsheets on specific issues relating to bushmeat and a *Bushmeat education resource guide* are available. Individuals can sign the *Bushmeat Promise* which provides a way for everyone to take action.

Jane Goodall Institute:

www.janegoodall.org.uk

This organization campaigns to protect chimpanzees and the environment generally, building on Jane Goodall's famous scientific research on chimpanzee behaviour. The institute's *Roots and Shoots* programme aims to inspire young people to take action on behalf of the environment.

The Elephant Listening Project:

www.birds.cornell.edu/brp/elephant/index.html

A research project on elephant communication, with particular information on forest elephants.



MENU *Bushmeat Specials*

...while stocks last

(approx. numbers left in the wild!)

Gorilla 130,000

Chimpanzee 105,000

Bonobo 10,000 to 25,000

Forest Elephant 25,000 – 150,000

Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund:

www.dianfossey.org/

Dedicated to the conservation and protection of gorillas and their habitat in Africa. This organization was founded by Dian Fossey, whose life and work were portrayed in the film *Gorillas in the Mist*.

Overseas Development Institute:

www.odi-bushmeat.org

Information on the human and social dimensions of hunting wild meat for consumptive use in tropical forests.

Ngamba Island Chimpanzee Sanctuary:

www.ngambaisland.org/

One of six international trustees, IFAW supports this sanctuary on an island on Lake Victoria which provides refuge to rescued and orphaned chimpanzees in Uganda. Among other information, the website has details on its residents and education programmes.

AAC Bonobo Sanctuary

<http://bonoboducongo.free.fr>

A sanctuary in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), in central Africa, for rescued and orphaned bonobos. These dwarf chimpanzees are highly endangered and now only found in the DRC.

Further Information

This education pack can be downloaded from the IFAW website www.ifaw.org

If you would like to become more involved in IFAW's work, make a donation, get more information or order extra copies of this pack, please contact IFAW directly using the information given below. On the website you can sign up to receive campaign updates by email.

Keep Wildlife Wild

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