

LIVIN' THE GREEN LIFE

Dan Sanders thinks he is moving his family to Oregon to live the green life, but his job to develop a forest preserve is threatening their greatest chance to experience it. Fill in the letters of each word that are missing to show what the Sanders family's new green "To Do" List might look like once the animals who fight back in *Furry Vengeance* have taught Dan a lesson.



SANDERS FAMILY'S GREEN "TO DO" LIST

1. Wash clothes in _o_d water.
2. Turn off _i__t_ when leaving a room.
3. _o__os_ leftover veggies.
4. Unplug e_e_tro__cs when not in use.
5. Buy in b_lk.
Remember, we want to cut down on packaging trash!
6. Shop the _a_m__'s_a__et for veggies and fruits.
7. Set up a _ain__arre_.
We'll store it and use it on the garden during dry times.
8. Look online for a b__e_y recycling center.
9. Stay away from _e_ti__ides and _o_ic cleaners.
10. _a_k more and dri__ less.
11. Eat less _e_t.

DAILY ECO-ACTION

Visit Internet resources to find out more ways you and your family can go green. Record the ideas you want to try on your family list below. Choose a weekend to perform as many of these eco-actions as you can. It's not as hard as you might think!

FAMILY'S GREEN "TO DO" LIST

Morning	Afternoon	Evening
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

FURRY VENGEANCE

He came. He saw. They conquered.

OPENS IN THEATERS ON APRIL 30, 2010.

Answers: 1. cold, 2. lights, 3. Compost, 4. electronics, 5. bulk, 6. farmer's market, 7. rain barrel, 8. battery, 9. drive, 10. Walk, 11. meat



www.furryvengeance-movie.com

FURRY VENGEANCE

He came. He saw. They conquered.



Dear Parent, Teacher, or Caregiver:

Your child has been learning about the importance of protecting wildlife habitats with the help of the animal characters who star in the hilarious movie *Furry Vengeance*. How much do you know about the wildlife in your neighborhood, state, or on planet Earth? Help your child with the activities in this booklet for a fun learning experience the whole family can enjoy—and be sure to see *Furry Vengeance* when it opens in theaters on April 30, 2010.

ECO-ACTION BOOKLET

GOING GREEN OR GOING WRONG?

In the film *Furry Vengeance*, Tammy Sanders must plan this year's traditional Forest Festival to celebrate the beauty of the forest preserve; the problem is that her husband's company is tearing the forest down in order to build a housing complex with a mall and two golf courses!

The next time you are at a community event such as a farmer's market, religious gathering, or a festival, notice what people are doing around you. Which of their actions are eco-friendly? Which are anti-green? Put an X in the column you think best describes the action.

Action	Going Green	Going Wrong
1. Carrying non-reusable water bottles		
2. Using cloth bags to carry goods		
3. Recycling empty soda cans		
4. Tossing an apple core in the trash		
5. Using balloons for decoration		
6. Arriving by car pool, public transit, or on foot		
7. Buying food from a local farmer		
8. Buying food from a fast-food vendor		
9. Serving more vegetarian foods and less meat		
10. Using non-toxic cleaning products		

GOING GREEN ECO-ACTION

Go green all the way at your next holiday celebration or birthday party:

Instead of:

- Balloons and confetti
- Disposable plates, utensils, and napkins
- Juice boxes
- Individual birthday or holiday gifts

Try:

- Earth-friendly decorations like arrangements of flowers, stones, leaves, and whole fruits
- Real plates and silverware along with cloth napkins or compostable/biodegradable cutlery, plates, etc.
- Real cups in which juices or drinks are poured from larger bottles
- A gently used book, clothing, or toy swap for everyone, OR collect monetary donations from guests to help adopt an endangered animal

Ranger Rick's GreenZone at www.nwf.org/rrgreenzone has fun activities to help kids get greener and find out what *not* to do!

WHAT'S YOUR BIOME?

In the film *Furry Vengeance*, Dan Sanders and his family come face to face with nature when they move from Chicago to Rocky Springs, Oregon. The region they encounter is part of a temperate forest biome—a large geographical area whose animal inhabitants have adapted to the unique climate and geography found there.



Do you know your biome? Complete the Biome Challenge with your family to better understand your natural surroundings.

Biome Challenge

- Name three birds native to your area.
- Identify four fruits and vegetables that are in season now (prepare some for dinner this week!)
- Identify the closest body of water to you.
- Name your state flower or bird.
- When did you last encounter wildlife in your neighborhood?
- Name the geological conditions that define the land in your area, such as bodies of water or valleys, etc.
- How often does the weather in your region affect your activities?
- What are the natural signs of the change of seasons in your area? What do you like best and least about each one?

BIOME ECO-ACTION

- Choose a weekend morning or afternoon and quietly explore your own backyard or neighborhood. Listen for birds, look for animal activity, and pay special attention to the trees, plants, and flowers. Remember—you are there to observe, not to interfere with, the living things you discover.
- Help the National Wildlife Federation track wildlife sightings in your area through NWF's Wildlife Watch at www.nwf.org/wildlifewatch, or join other families for a night of fun by participating in NWF's Great American Backyard Campout at www.nwf.org/gabc.
- Check out www.nwf.org/naturefind for fun local outdoor events, sites, and parks, and Ranger Rick's CampZone at www.nwf.org/rrcampzone for games and puzzles about camping and playing outside.



FIND THEM—BEFORE THEY'RE GONE

The animal stars in *Furry Vengeance* find themselves locked inside a large pen to prevent them from creating havoc for Dan Sanders' development company. Although this leads to a lively and hilarious ending, this part of the story is also a symbol for the way animals in real life are left with less and less native habitat as humans move in.

The Endangered Species Coalition has identified several endangered and threatened animals in the United States. Parts of their names are hidden within the word puzzle at right. The rest of their names are listed below the puzzle. Can you find them—before they're gone?



Now complete the full name of each animal by matching the part of it that you found in the puzzle with the rest of its name:

Bald _____ Pacific _____ American _____
 _____ Lynx Spotted _____ Otter
 _____ Wolf _____ Crane Humpback _____
 Grizzly _____ Panther _____

ENDANGERED ANIMAL ECO-ACTION

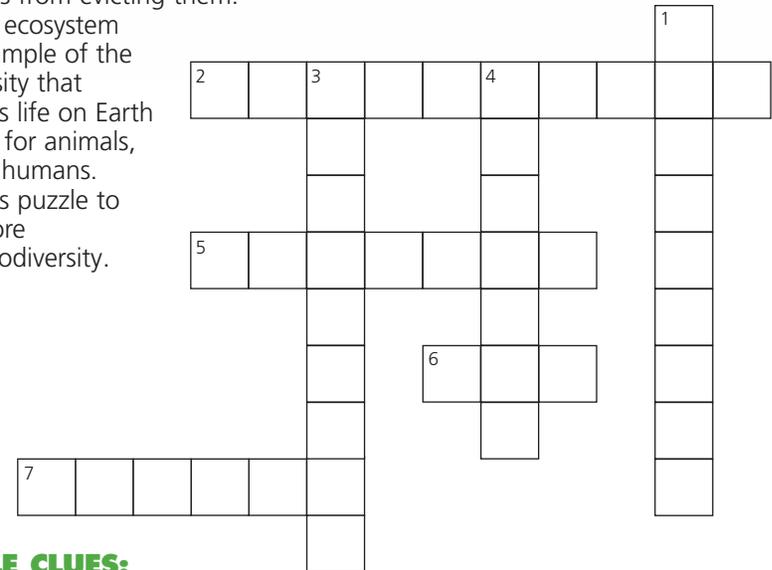
Threatened means the animal is facing endangerment in the very near future if habitat conditions do not improve. *Endangered* means there is still time to save these animals if recovery actions are taken immediately. *Extinct* means it is gone forever.

Learn more by visiting the Endangered Species Coalition website at www.stopextinction.org. Here you'll find information about celebrating Endangered Species Day each May and Ten Easy Things You Can Do at Home to protect wildlife. The National Wildlife Federation considers global warming to be "the most dangerous threat to the future of wildlife." Find out more at www.nwf.org/wildlifeandglobalwarming.

BIODIVERSITY—THE SPICE OF LIFE

The forest preserve threatened with development in *Furry Vengeance* is home to an amazing variety of animals, all of which seem determined to stop Lyman Industries from evicting them.

This rich ecosystem is an example of the biodiversity that enhances life on Earth not only for animals, but also humans. Solve this puzzle to learn more about biodiversity.



PUZZLE CLUES:

ACROSS:

- Laws like the _____ Species Act in the U.S. help protect biodiversity.
- Beavers, trees, and ladybugs represent this kind of biodiversity.
- Life.
- Preserving biodiversity helps keep the _____ healthy.

DOWN:

- Using too many nonrenewable _____ like wood and coal is harmful to biodiversity.
- Variety.
- Gray, red, and Arctic wolves are examples of this kind of biodiversity.

BIODIVERSITY ECO-ACTION

Visit www.nwf.org for a "how-to" guide in developing a schoolyard habitat, as well as for definitions and concepts of biodiversity. Make a Family Nature Scrapbook with sketches of animals you see. Create a backyard garden habitat, and soon you'll be seeing biodiversity at your own doorstep. The National Wildlife Federation can help you design a backyard garden to attract and support the native animal population in your area, while discouraging invasive plants that overwhelm the native vegetation needed to do this. NWF will even certify your garden. Visit www.nwf.org/gardenforwildlife to learn more.



THREATENED!

In *Furry Vengeance*, Dan Sanders' son Tyler and his friends start a petition to city officials to protest the building of homes in the middle of the forest.

Shown below is an example of another way they could have taken action. Unscramble the letters to reveal a letter to the editor of the Rocky Springs newspaper that would also have helped persuade officials to examine the pending threat to habitat more carefully.

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am writing to **toprste** the Lyman Industries building development.

This development is in the middle of an important **msosteecy** that supports **evdreis srgioamsn**. Many animals are in **grenad** of losing their **oofd** sources, areas for **lthseer**, and places to raise their **gyuno**. Those losses will lead to **toinxetcin**.

But it won't just be the animals that **fsufre**. We will lose air **auqliyt** because there will be fewer **seetr** to produce **xgoeny** and absorb **onbarc dioxide**. The **yetabu** of the area will be destroyed.

I urge you to review **poreerst** from geologists, environmental **puorgs**, and **olalc** residents to get the facts. This development must be stopped!

Sincerely,

Tyler Sanders

Concerned resident of Rocky Springs, Oregon



CITIZEN ECO-ACTION

- Speak up for wildlife. Visit NWF at www.nwf.org/actioncenter and ESC's Activist Toolbox with your parents to find ways to take environmental action as a family, including signing online petitions and writing letters to the editor of your local newspaper. You can also make calls to the offices of your local city council members, senators, and representatives.
- You *can* make a difference! Just look at Alec Loorz of Ventura, California. When he was 12 years old, Alec founded Kids vs. Global Warming, an organization that “empowers youth to cool the Earth.” Now just two years later, Alec’s work is making a difference! Read more about him and how you can get involved at www.kids-vs-global-warming.com/Home.html.
- Learn how you can green your classroom, school, and community by becoming an Eco-School at www.eco-schoolsusa.org.

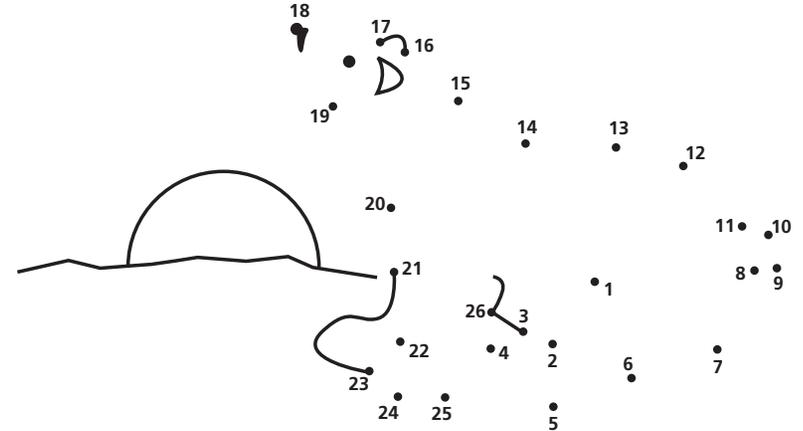
Answers: protest, ecosystem, diverse, organisms, danger, food, shelter, young, extinction, suffer, quality, trees, oxygen, carbon, beauty, reports, groups, local

GREENHOUSE WHAT?

Land developments like those featured in *Furry Vengeance* contribute to greenhouse gas emissions that lead to climate change, or global warming. Climate change is the number one cause of habitat loss, and human activities create the most impact on climate change.

The greenhouse gas effect is a natural process that occurs in the atmosphere. Acting like a real greenhouse that traps light and heat from the sun, greenhouse gases like carbon dioxide and methane in the Earth’s atmosphere provide a blanket of warmth that is just right for sustaining life. But the blanket allows very little heat to escape and when the gases build up, they warm the Earth too much, leading to climate change. Human activities like burning coal, natural gas, and oil, unsustainable farming practices, and deforestation are all major contributors to greenhouse gas build-up. See www.greenfacts.org/climate-change/greenhouse-effect/greenhouse-effect.htm for more information.

The Arctic is one of the areas on Earth most affected by climate change and habitat loss. One example of an animal in jeopardy is pictured in the dot-to-dot puzzle below. This animal depends on summer sea ice to move and hunt. As the ice disappears, so does the animal’s habitat range. Currently this animal is classified as a threatened species; however, many argue that it is already endangered. Complete the puzzle to restore this animal to its habitat.



CARBON FOOTPRINT ECO-ACTION

We can all take action to help cut down on greenhouse gas emissions that lead to climate change and habitat loss. Visit www.myfootprint.org to calculate your family’s carbon footprint—the way in which your lifestyle impacts the build-up of greenhouse gases—and find out ways to reduce the size of your family’s footprint. Visit www.climateclassroom.org to learn about the causes of and remedies for climate change.