## WHAT A WORLD OF ANIMALS

Did you know that around 2,000 endangered species go extinct every year? Scientists tell us that we are losing animals to extinction today faster than at any other time in earth's history. A lot of this is because of how humans use earth's natural resources.

You can help change things. To start, be a voice for animals. Let others know how important they are to the places they live and why they are endangered by problems like climate change, habitat loss, and pollution.

## **Facts About Endangered Animals**

Here are just a few of the endangered or vulnerable animal species that need help. Test your animal knowledge by matching each fact with the animal in the word bank it describes.

## **Animal Facts**

- 1. I am the largest land carnivore. I can live up to 30 years. There are only 30,000 of me left in the world.
- 2. My species has been in existence for more than 400 million years! As a pup, I weigh as much as a car and can hunt as soon as I'm born.
- 3. I live in every continent except Antarctica. I can flap my wings over 200 times per second. I do a waggle dance to communicate with my friends.
- 4. I am frugivorous, which means I only eat fruit. I make a chirp sound when I talk to my friends and love to nap upside down.
- 5. I am a type of crocodile. I am very shy and hide from humans. I have over 110 razor-sharp teeth. My snout is long and skinny and has a bulb on the end of it!

## **Word Bank**

black rhino monarch butterfly tiger blue whale great white shark gharial polar bear caribou honeybee golden-crowned flying fox

- 6. I am the largest and loudest animal on the planet and can live to be 110 years old! The ocean is my home.
- 7. I only live for 2-6 weeks and use the sun to know where I need to go. I smell with my antennae and am poisonous to predators like birds, frogs, and mice.
- 8. My horn comes in handy for digging for food and also for looking tough when I'm up against a predator.
- 9. There are fewer than 4,000 of me in the world. A group of me is called an ambush or a streak. No two of my kind have the same stripe pattern.
- 10. I make one of the longest animal migrations on the planet! I use my hooves to dig in the snow for my favorite food, lichen, a plant-like organism made of fungus and bluegreen algae.

