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| **Animal Rights: Zoos Name:** |



**Directions:** Fill in the **Questions** column as you read the article about zoos. Highlight words and phrases that help you to answer each question.

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| **Zoo Article** | **Questions:** |
| PETA opposes zoos because cages and cramped enclosures at zoos deprive animals of the opportunity to satisfy their most basic needs. The zoo community regards the animals it keeps as **commodities**, and animals are regularly bought, sold, borrowed, and traded without any regard for established relationships. Zoos breed animals because the presence of babies draws zoo visitors and boosts revenue. But the animals’ fate is often bleak once they outgrow their “cuteness.” And some zoos still import animals from the wild. | Make a connection to *The One and Only Ivan*: |
| In general, zoos and wildlife parks preclude or severely restrict natural behavior, such as flying, swimming, running, hunting, climbing, scavenging, foraging, digging, exploring, and selecting a partner. The physical and mental frustrations of captivity often lead to abnormal, anxious, and even self-destructive behavior, such as pacing, swaying, head-bobbing, and bar-biting. | In your own words, what is an argument against zoos? |
| Even large, well-known, and popular zoos engage in **unscrupulous** practices, such as dumping unwanted  animals or taking animals from the wild. In 2003, the San Diego Zoo and Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo captured and imported 11 African elephants from Swaziland. In 2006, zoos in Denver; Houston; Litchfield Park, Arizona; San Antonio; San Diego; and Tampa, Florida, imported 33 monkeys who had been illegally trafficked by poachers in Africa, rather than working with wildlife rehabilitators to return the primates to their natural habitat. | What did you already know about poachers?  What did you learn in this paragraph about poachers? |
| **Proponents** of zoos like to claim that zoos protect species from extinction—seemingly a noble goal. However, wild-animal parks and zoos almost always favor large and charismatic animals who draw large crowds of visitors, but they neglect less popular species that also need to be protected. Most animals in zoos are not endangered, and while confining animals to zoos keeps them alive, it does nothing to protect wild populations and their habitats. | In your own words, what is an argument that people make for zoos? |
| Returning captive-bred animals to the wild is almost impossible because animals that are raised in zoos are denied the opportunity to learn survival skills, can transmit diseases to animals in the wild, and often have no natural habitat left to return to because of destruction by humans. Breeding programs simply produce cute baby animals to attract zoo visitors and generate income, creating many unwanted adult animals. As a result, zoos often become extremely crowded. Older animals may be “warehoused” behind the scenes or shuffled off to shabby roadside zoos, animal dealers, or auctions. | Write a reaction to a fact in this paragraph: |
| According to a 2004 report by the World Conservation Union, human activities are causing pollution, climate change, and destruction of animals’ habitats. Capturing animals does nothing to address these serious problems, which currently put more than 7,000 animal species in jeopardy of extinction. In fact, zoos regularly waste many millions of dollars. They are redesigning enclosures that do little to improve animal wellbeing, constructing additional statues and amusement rides, and building gift shops and concession stands. The money would do far more to help animals if spent on preserving animals’ habitats. | What is one thing that zoos spend money on?  What does the author suggest zoos spend money on instead? |
| Warehousing animals for life is not the way to save them from extinction. Their rescue lies in protecting habitats, not in creating animal prisons. Instead of patronizing zoos, you can help animals by supporting organizations that work to protect captive animals and preserve habitats. | To what does the author compare zoos?  How does this impact the author’s argument? |

1. Based on paragraph 1, what is the meaning of the word **commodities**?

Meaning:

Clues:

1. Based on paragraph 3, what is the meaning of the word **unscrupulous**?

Meaning:

Clues:

1. Based on paragraph 4, what is the meaning of the word **proponent**?

Meaning:

Clues:

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| **Author’s Purpose:** This is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ an author writes. | Fill in the author’s purpose chart for the article you just read: |