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| **The Benefits of Zoos Name:** |

**1**

Zoos provide animals with an "enriched and stimulating environment," says Zara Gaspar with the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums, in London.

"Many studies have demonstrated that animals prefer their enclosures to include complexity, variety, challenge and options, rather than just space. Where would you prefer to live: an empty warehouse, or a fully furnished small house with a telephone, television, a computer and the regular arrival of new things?" Because of this, London Zoo provides its gorillas with fruit hidden in big blocks of ice in the summer months and a 'termite mound' for its chimps, which they can dip into with sticks to get treats.

-“How Zoos are Saving our Animals”by John Pickrell August 2010

**3**

**2**

Zoo professionals are experts on breeding small populations of endangered species. That knowledge, too, has become valuable to scientists working with wildlife populations. Nowadays animals in wild habitats are often found in small, fragmented groups because of agriculture, logging or other human activity. No other university, conservation organization or research facility has been working with small population management as long or as well as zoos.

-“Why Zoos Matter” www.stlzoo.org

-Zoos & Aquariums take conservation action all over the world. Zoos and aquariums support nearly 700 field conservation and research projects in 80 countries

-Zoos and aquariums invest $51 million in scientific research each year, and since 1990, zoo and aquarium scientists have collaborated for more than 4,000 published articles

-Zoos and aquariums are dedicated to the highest standards of animal care. On a given day, more than 800,000 animals are cared for, many of which are the last representatives of endangered species

-www.pittsburghzoo.org

**4**

The California zoo is famous for its work helping to save China's giant panda. Three panda cubs have been born at the zoo already. The San Diego Zoo now has the largest population of giant pandas outside mainland China.

But the zoo has many other projects few people hear about. Scientists with the zoo are working to save iguanas in the Turks and Caicos Islands in the North Atlantic Ocean. They study African wild dogs in Zambia and forest birds in Hawaii.

Farmers in Africa think the spotted cheetah is an annoying pest. So they trap and kill them. Now cheetahs are in danger of disappearing forever. The National Zoo in Washington, D.C. is trying to change that through the Cheetah Conservation Fund in Namibia, Africa. Scientists there are showing farmers that they don't have to kill cheetahs to keep them off their farms.

-“What Zoos Do” by Amy Miller

www.scholastic.com

**5**

The London zoo has been taking black vultures Guido and Jaffar on daily walks together. Guido is 9 years old, and a pro at the zoo, while 10-year-old Jaffar is a newbie. The pair will work together in a spring exhibit called "Deadly Birds," and zookeepers have determined the walks are a great way for the pair to bond in friendship.

"The walks are really beneficial for these incredibly intelligent birds," handler Grant Kother explained on the zoo's website. "Not only are they forming a great bond with each other, but Jaffar loves getting attention from his keepers and is really enjoying his new training here at ZSL London Zoo."

-news.discovery.com

1. If writing is **biased**, the author has let emotional factors impact his/her writing. In this type of writing, the author lets his/her opinion show through. Find at least 5 **loaded words** (words with strong meaning) that reveal the author’s bias toward zoos:

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1. In the article titled “Animal Rights: Zoos” the author makes the following claim:

*In fact, zoos regularly waste many millions of dollars.*

 Find a piece of text evidence on this handout that one might use to disprove the fact that zoos are wasting money.

1. How does excerpt #5 show that zoos treat animals with care and compassion?
2. According to the texts, how do zoos help save and protect endangered species?
3. How is the idea that zoos help educate people illustrated in the texts?
4. Excerpt #1 states that animals in zoos are provided with an *enriched* and *stimulating* environment. Based on your reading of *The One and Only Ivan*, would you describe Ivan’s domain in this way? Why or why not?
5. In your opinion, which excerpt presents the strongest argument for zoos? Why?