



DURRELL

# GREEN NEWS

Test your creative writing skills!  
Share your love for wildlife  
by creating a news article or  
magazine.

**REWILD OUR FORESTS**  
BY STEVE BROWN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

At the recent Durrell London Lecture, held at the Royal Institution, we focused on our work in forests around the world. Forests are Earth's most dominant land-based ecosystem and can hold great significance to people. They often feature in myths and legends, inspiring how we interpret our world and our control to childhood stories such as Little Red Riding Hood.

It not only benefits individuals but the climate, the soil and the oceans. The forests have the ability to store carbon in their trunks and branches. In fact, they store more carbon than all the cars on the road. They also provide habitat for a vast range of plants and animals. In fact, it is estimated that there are 16 million species of plants and animals in the world's forests. They are also a source of oxygen and play a vital role in the water cycle.

Deforestation is a global emergency. In 2015, the United Nations declared that deforestation was the world's fastest disappearing natural resource. In fact, we are losing the equivalent of 100 football pitches of forest every minute. This is a crisis that we must act on now.

At the Durrell London Lecture, we heard from experts in the field of forest conservation. We learned about the importance of forests in our lives and the impact of deforestation. We also heard about the work that Durrell is doing to protect and restore forests around the world.

It is our responsibility as a global community to protect our forests. We must take action now to prevent further deforestation and to restore the forests that we have lost. Only then can we ensure a sustainable future for ourselves and for the planet.

**AT THE ZOO**

**BEHAVIOUR**  
The bear is known for its strength and its ability to climb trees. It is a solitary animal and spends most of its time alone. It is a very intelligent animal and can learn to solve problems. It is also a very curious animal and will investigate anything that it does not understand.

**DIET**  
The bear is a omnivore and eats a wide variety of foods. It eats plants, fruits, insects, and small mammals. It is a very powerful animal and can eat a large amount of food in a short period of time.

**REPRODUCTION**  
The bear is a seasonal breeder and mates in the spring. The female bear will give birth to one or two cubs in the autumn. The cubs are born very small and are dependent on their mother for several months.

**CONSERVATION KNOWLEDGE**

**TRAINING IN ENHANCED SPECIES RECOVERY**

At the zoo, we have a team of experts who are working to improve the lives of the animals. They are using a variety of techniques to help the animals to thrive in their enclosures. This includes providing them with a variety of enrichment activities and ensuring that they have access to a healthy diet.

**A WILD LIFE**

**RESEARCHERS WITH A MISSION**

The researchers are working to understand the behaviour of the animals in their enclosures. They are using a variety of techniques to collect data on the animals' movements and interactions. This information is then used to improve the animals' lives and to ensure that they are kept in the best possible conditions.

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## METHOD

News articles and magazines are a colourful, fun way for Durrell to communicate latest news to their members and supporters worldwide.

For this activity, chose a topic that you think others should care more about.

Topic ideas:

- How to help the planet by doing something green.
- What's happening to rainforests and how can we help?
- Pick some animals from Jersey Zoo and write articles from their point of view.

Your challenge is to design an eye-catching magazine article to raise awareness of this issue!

## LEVEL ONE

To create your article, use the template below or a large piece of card or paper if you don't have a printer.

## LEVEL TWO

Do some research! Let's add some new, interesting facts to your article. The IUCN Red List is a great tool to help you learn more about the animals featured in your article, for example the number of ploughshare tortoises left in the wild or the threats orangutans are facing in their rainforest homes. Articles need to be informative and interesting!

<https://www.iucnredlist.org>

## LEVEL THREE

Now that you've done your research, it's time to write your article. Use a computer and improve your IT skills or get creative with hand writing and drawing! Add pictures, graphs or thought bubbles to display your information in different, attention-grabbing ways.

Whatever level you choose, try to include the following details in your article:

- A catchy headline to grab the reader's attention. Follow this with a 'hook' so that the reader wants to carry on reading
- Photographs or drawings (so that your news article is interesting to look at)
- Captions to break up large paragraphs of text
- Fascinating facts about your topic
- Think about the language you use. Is it persuasive and descriptive? Include rhetorical questions.
- What people can do to help, e.g. buy palm-oil free products, or reduce the amount of plastic they use. This is the 'take home' message you want the readers to remember!





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