

Reece	Hello, we are from St Bernard's Primary and Nursery School in Ellesmere Port and we are here to talk to you about a very important conservation issue and how you can help.
Zoey	We want to tell you about deforestation. Deforestation is the total removal of trees or other vegetation from land. It can be caused by human activity such as logging or agriculture, but also natural disasters like forest fires. It has a negative impact on many species because it causes habitat fragmentation and loss.
Sofia	Since 2016, 28 million hectares of forest have been cut down every year on average. That's one football field of forest lost every SECOND of every day, year in and year out.
Dominik	The UK is not protecting its forests. Between 2001 & 2021, the UK lost 105,000 hectares of tree cover. This equates to a 6.9% decrease in tree cover that is home to millions of animals.
Dakota	The farming industry needs to clear land for cattle in order to keep up with global demand for beef. An estimated 80,000 square miles of forest land is lost every year for meat production, 80% of which occurs in the Amazon.
Evelyn	Deforestation is affecting all the animals across the world but it is mostly affecting the following animals.
Reece	This is a Jaguar. It is being affected by deforestation because us humans are chopping down trees for wood and paper which means their habitat is getting smaller which means there is less prey for them to hunt. Did you know jaguars are the 3rd largest cat in the world and they are the largest cat in south America? Jaguars can live up to 12-15 years of age until it dies. Did you know that 137,000 jaguars are left in the world. Jaguars mark their territory by putting their waste there or clawing trees around it home. We need to protect these magnificent big cats.

Zoey	<p>This is a giant otter. It is being affected by deforestation because the river banks that the otters live and depend on can be badly affected by deforestation.</p> <p>Did you know that there are no more than 5,000 giant otters left in the world due to deforestation?</p> <p>They live on the banks of the Amazon River in South America.</p> <p>Otters are mammals and they are carnivores who can grow up to 6 feet and weigh up to 75 pounds.</p> <p>The otters rank of extinction is endangered.</p> <p>We can't let these beautiful creatures become extinct.</p>
Sofia	<p>This is a spider monkey.</p> <p>It is being affected by deforestation because it's habitat is being fragmented.</p> <p>They were named spider monkeys because they look like spiders as they hang upside down from their tails with their arms and legs dangling.</p> <p>Did you know that they don't have thumbs?</p> <p>All seven species of spider monkey are threatened with extinction, with all but one species (the red-faced spider monkey) being either "Endangered" or "Critically Endangered".</p> <p>We really need to protect these endangered monkeys.</p>
Dominik	<p>This is a Sumatran tiger.</p> <p>It is being affected by deforestation because their rainforest habitat is being chopped down so they are wandering into human communities and they are being killed.</p> <p>Did you know sumatran tigers are the smallest wild cats on earth and they only eat meat that means they are carnivores and they mostly hunt at night. It can run up to 40 mph which makes them great hunters. They are only found in the south of Indonesia on the island of Sumatra. They are EXTREMELY ENDANGERED and are on the red list.</p> <p>We need to stop deforestation to keep these tigers safe.</p>
Dakota	<p>This is a hyacinth macaw.</p> <p>Conservation experts say the ongoing deforestation in the Amazon and central Brazil are causing the destruction of the habitat of these beautiful birds. Because they don't have enough places for nests it affects their population. Did you know the lifespan of a hyacinth macaw is 40-50 years? It is the largest species of parrot. They eat palm nuts but only after the nuts have passed through the digestive system of a cow. We need to protect these beautiful birds.</p>

Evelyn	<p>This is an orangutan.</p> <p>It is being affected by deforestation because of people illegally logging and burning trees to make way for farms and palm oil plantations. Their habitat is being fragmented which means they can't travel around easily to find food. It also means poachers can find them easily.</p> <p>Did you know that orangutans have an arm span to 2.2m (over 7ft) long. Young orangutans stay with their mum until there 7 years old. They learn everything from her like what to eat and not to eat.</p> <p>We need protect these fascinating animals so they don't become extinct.</p>
Reece	<p>Many of these beautiful animals you can see here at Chester Zoo. We are spreading the word today to act for wildlife and save them from becoming extinct.</p>
Zoey	<p>So what can we do to help reduce deforestation?</p> <p>Here are some helpful tips.</p>
Sofia	<p>Planting more trees can help grow our forests. Visit the Woodland Trust website to find out about how you can get involved in tree planting.</p>
Dominik	<p>You can go paperless. Try and avoid printing things out on paper and do things electronically.</p>
Dakota	<p>You can support responsible companies who no not destroy the forest. If you visit the Realm of the Red Ape you can find out lots of information about choosing sustainable palm oil products.</p>
Evelyn	<p>When buying wood products look for the FSC symbol which stands for Forset Stewardship Council. They help businesses and consumers to choose wood, paper and other forest products made with materials that support responsible forestry.</p>
Reece	<p>You can re-use paper instead of throwing it out. Create a scap paper fraw at home. You can cut it up to use as a notepad, or recycle the paper you use.</p>
Zoey	<p>Finally, you can educate others. Tell your friends and family about what you have heard us talk about today and encourage them to think about our forests.</p>
Sofia	<p>We hope you can help us and sign a pledge today to promise to do your bit to reduce deforestation.Please scan the QR code and write down one little change you are going to make.</p>
Dominik	<p>Please help us to protect our forests and save these beautiful animals.</p> <p>Thank you for listening.</p>

