

Animal Crackers

Scenario:

The Animal Planet Cable Network is looking for a new program investigating the impact of global warming on endangered species. Your media production company has an idea for just such a program: "Endangered Animal of the Week." Your plan is to travel the world to tell the story of animals in danger of extinction. The Network Programming Director has announced a request for proposals. Your presentation should describe the pilot episode. You must select one animal that your research shows is endangered and how it has been affected by global warming.

Possible topics to cover (these are only suggestions and are not a requirement for a superior presentation):

1. What is global warming?
2. What is extinction?
3. What animal would you feature on the first episode and why?
4. What critical factors are affecting the survival of the animal?
5. What evidence is there that global warming is affecting the animal's environment?
6. What is the animal's primary food source and how does global warming impact the food source?
7. What impact would the loss of your animal have on other animals and humans in the area?
8. If the climate of the habitat changes, what animals might thrive in the new environment?
9. How will this program be marketed?
10. Who will be the target audience?
11. What features of the show will make it interesting?
12. Who will be the host of the show and why?

Possible Sources

Library books, wildlife experts, climatologists, videos, encyclopedias, science textbooks
ERS Portal sources: EBSCO, United Streaming, California Streaming, Brainpop, Associate Press
Extensive Photo Archive and Marco Polo Science NetLinks <http://www.erslibrary.org>
Internet websites:

<http://www.animaloftheweek.co.uk/>

<http://www.worldwildlife.org/endangered/>

<http://www.endangeredspecie.com/>

<http://www.kidsplanet.org/factsheets/map.html>

<http://www.solcomhouse.com/species.htm>

<http://www.biologicaldiversity.org/swcbd/species/polarbear/index.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/globalwarming/kids/index.html>

Bibliography

Be sure to have a printed bibliography to hand to the judges before you begin your presentation. You are encouraged to cite all of your sources including graphics. A simple web tool to organize your bibliography can be found at <http://citationmachine.net/>.