

Endangered Animals Color and Learn Book

Color The Pictures While You
Learn Why These Species Are at Risk
and What We Can Do to Save Them

By Jonni Good

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If you would like to purchase the nicely printed version to give as a gift to your favorite animal-lover, it's still available on Amazon.com



Come say "hi" to Jonni and check out the hundreds of great tutorials on her blog at:

<http://www.UltimatePaperMache.com>

And if you're interested in making stuff, be sure to check out Jonni's YouTube channel, where you'll find a ton of fun tutorials:

<http://www.youtube.com/UltimatePaperMache>

Flatback Turtle

Scientific Name: *Natator depressus*

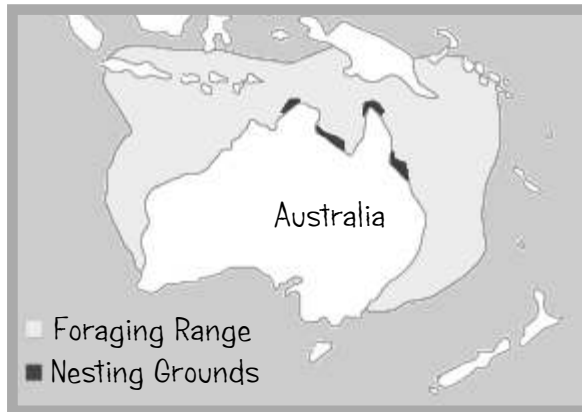
Status: Vulnerable

Flatback turtles live in shallow water, bays, lagoons and coral reefs on the northern coast of Australia and off the coast of Papua New Guinea. They lay their eggs in nesting sites along the northern coast of Australia. The flatback turtle has not been studied much because its habitat is so remote.

Adult turtles weigh up to 200 pounds. They are sometimes eaten by saltwater crocodiles, the world's largest reptile.

Major threats to sea turtles around the world include the destruction of marine habitats, fishing nets, boats that run into turtles, and plastic garbage floating in the water.

Many threatened and endangered sea turtles are illegally caught and sold for meat or for their decorative shells, and nesting sites are threatened by beach development.



What We Can Do to Save Them

Reducing the amount of plastic garbage that ends up in our oceans will help save the sea turtles. Turtles and other wildlife eat the plastic because they think it's food.

Interesting Facts:

There is now an island of plastic garbage as big as Texas floating in the North Pacific. It even has a name - the "Great Pacific Garbage Patch."

In 2001 the average American used over 200 lbs of plastic.

Related Species at Risk:

All seven species of sea turtle are endangered or threatened.

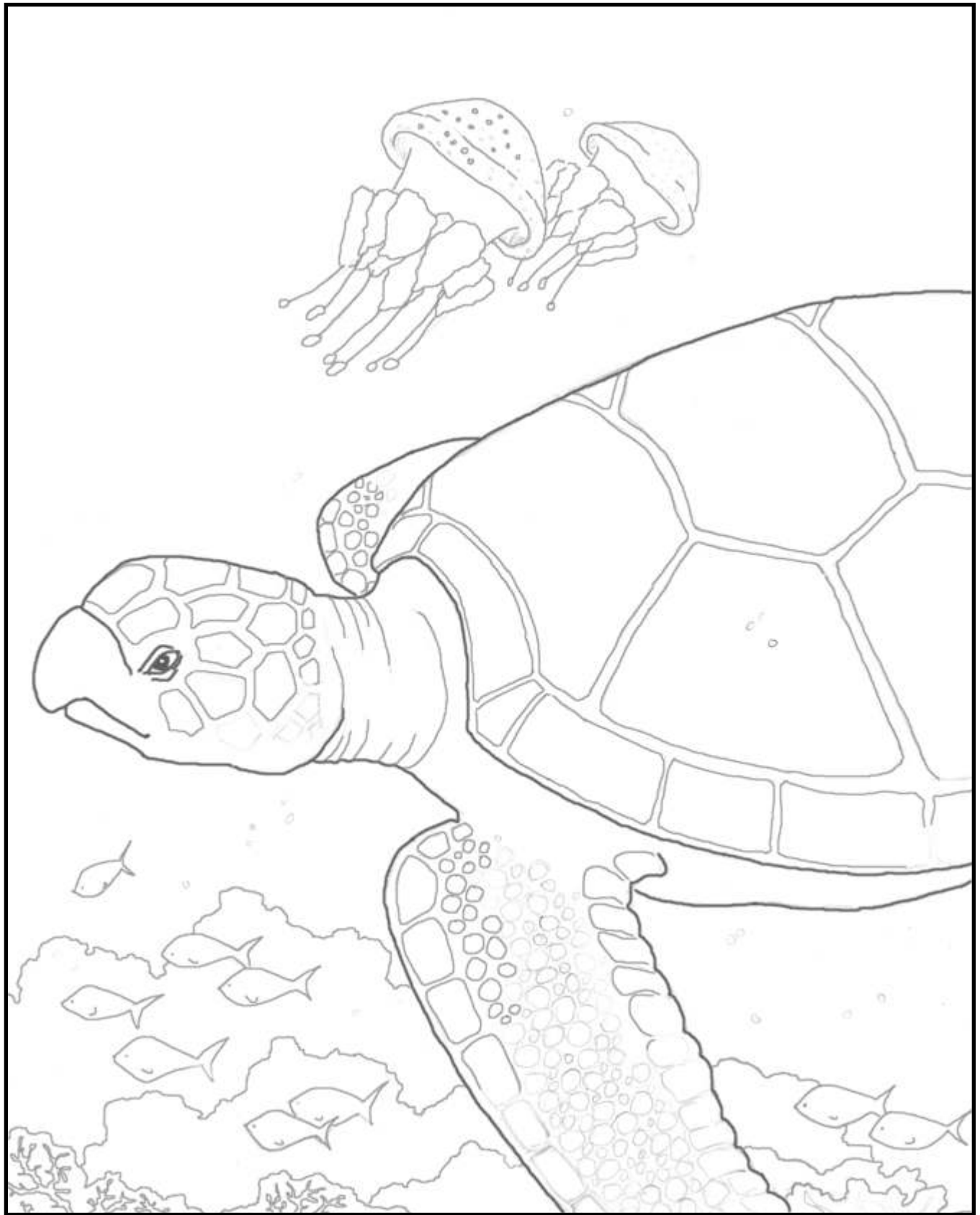
Something to Think About ...

Many of the plastic bags, broken toys and bottle caps that we throw away end up in the sea. However, the kind of plastic used in these products wasn't even invented until 1933. Before that, people lived quite well without using any plastic at all. How could you cut down on the amount of plastic that ends up in your garbage can?

Learn More About Sea Turtles:

MarineBio--

<http://marinebio.org/species.asp?id=316>



Flatback Sea Turtle

Goodfellow's Tree Kangaroo

Scientific Name:

Dendrolagus goodfellowi

Status: Endangered

These kangaroos live high in the trees of Papua New Guinea's rainforest.

Like their larger kangaroo cousins in Australia, tree kangaroos are marsupials. The newborn babies are tiny, about the size of a lima bean. After they're born, they spend up to a year growing inside the mother's pouch.

Even when a baby tree kangaroo is old enough to live outside its mother's pouch, it will still climb back in for safety and warmth until it has grown too big to fit. When they're about 18 months old, the young kangaroos leave their mothers and establish territories of their own. Adult tree kangaroos prefer to live alone.

What We Can Do to Save Them

Some tree kangaroos are killed by hunters, but the main threat to their survival is the destruction of their habitat due to logging, mining, and agriculture. Their survival depends upon local and international efforts to save the rainforest habitat. Many acres of New Guinea rainforest have been cut down to raise palm oil, which is used in convenience foods and baked goods.



Interesting Facts

In 2009, more than 200 new species were discovered in the remote mountains of Papua New Guinea. The new discoveries are helping local leaders fight deforestation.

Related Species at Risk:

There are 12 species of tree kangaroo, and all but two of them are at risk. The tenkile, dingiso, and golden-mantled tree kangaroos are the most critically endangered.

Something to Think About ...

The habitat of tree kangaroos, orangutans and other endangered species is being destroyed, in part, so we can buy products we don't really need. Can you see how choices we make every day can affect endangered animals that live thousands of miles away?

Learn More About Tree Kangaroos:

The Tenkile Conservation Alliance

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



Goodfellow's Tree Kangaroo

African Wild Dog

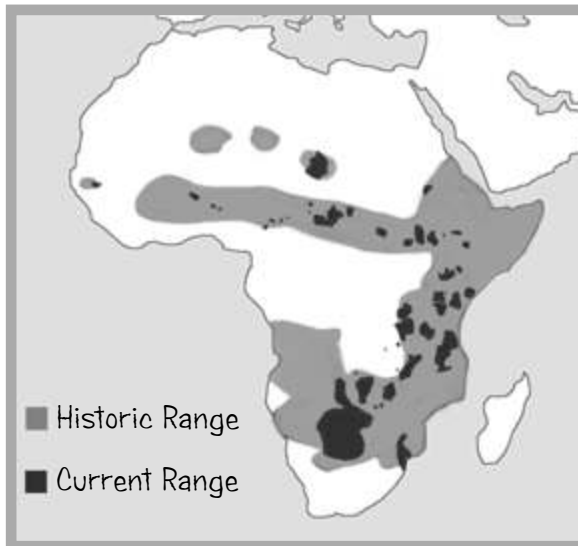
Scientific Name: *Lycaon pictus*

Status: Endangered

Some conservationists prefer to call this animal the African painted dog, because they think a nicer name will encourage us to help save them. The scientific name means “painted wolf.”

There were once approximately 500,000 wild dogs in Africa, but now there may be less than 6,000. They have become extinct in much of their historic range.

A wild dog pack needs a very large hunting ground to survive. Unfortunately, most nature preserves and wildlife parks are not big enough for them. When they stray outside park boundaries, the dogs are often killed to protect domestic animals. Human overpopulation, habitat loss and hunting are the major threats.



What We Can Do to Save Them

Several organizations work with local communities to reduce conflicts between people and wild dogs.

Zoos around the world also help with captured breeding programs.

Interesting Facts:

Only one female per pack will have a litter of pups during a breeding season. All other pack members, including the males, help to raise them.

It's important to save large carnivores like the painted dog because

they're actually important for the animals they hunt. When weak animals are removed from a herd, the stronger, faster and smarter animals have more to eat. This gives them a better chance of passing on their genes to the next generation, and helps the species to survive.

Related Species at Risk:

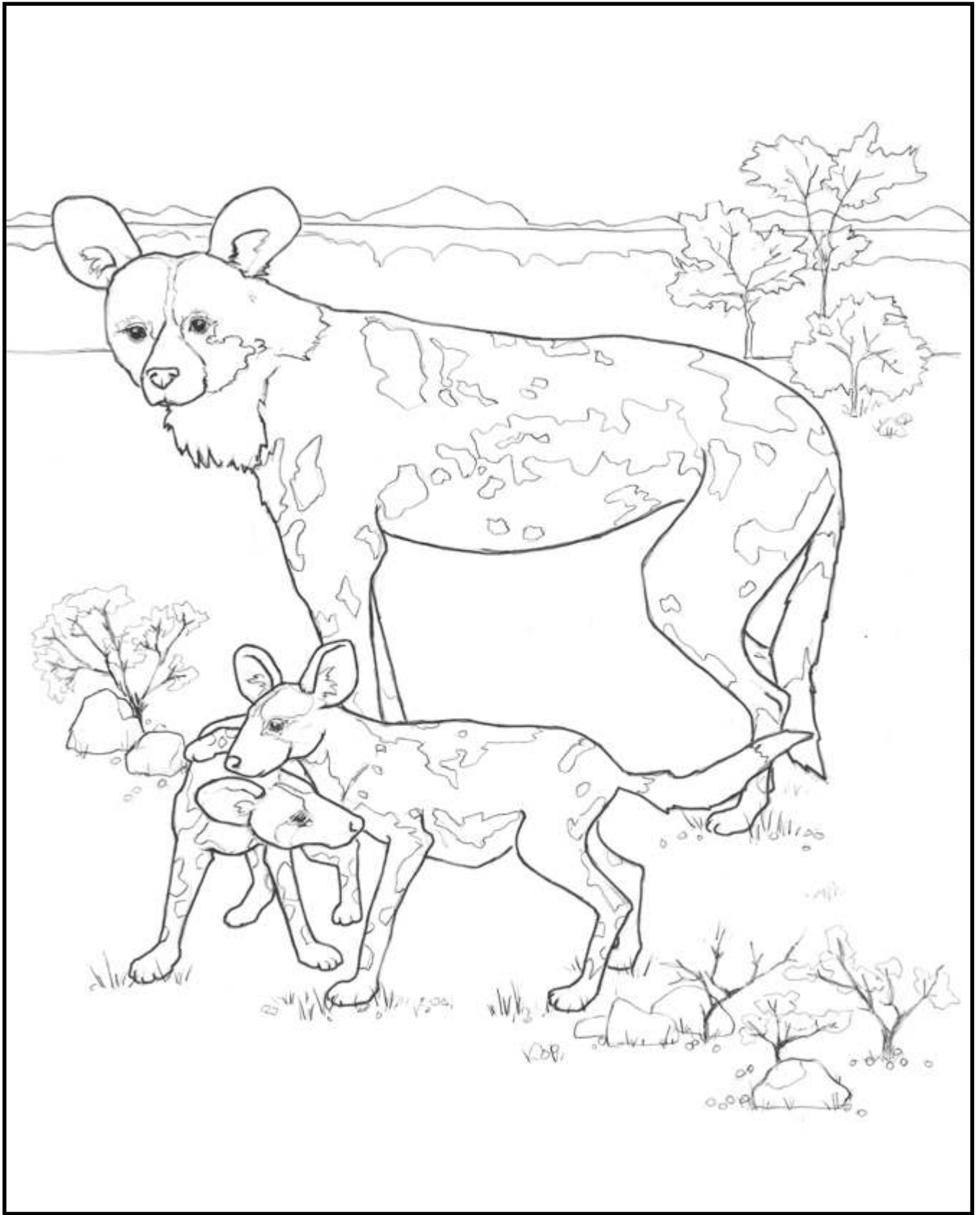
The African wild dog is distantly related to the maned wolf from South America, which is threatened. The maned wolf is sometimes called “a fox on stilts.”

Something to Think About ...

Some species, like the orangutan, may soon be extinct in the wild. They will continue to exist only because of zoos and their captive breeding programs - which are very expensive. Some people think the money should be used to protect wild habitats, instead. What do you think?

Learn More About the African Wild Dog:

Zambian Carnivore Programme --
<http://www.zambiacarnivores.org/>



African Wild Dog

Chimpanzee

Scientific Names:

Common Chimpanzee: *Pan troglodytes*

Bonobo: *Pan paniscus*

Status: Endangered

Chimpanzees are highly intelligent apes. They make and use tools, they live in large social communities, and individual troops have distinct cultures that they pass on to their children.

Illegal hunting may be the greatest threat to the chimpanzee's survival. Chimps and gorillas are hunted for "bush meat," which is then sold in markets in Africa and Europe. Loss of habitat, civil wars, and diseases caused by closer association with humans also threaten the chimpanzee.

There were 1 to 2 million chimpanzees in the wild at the beginning of the 20th century.

Now there are less than 150,000, and their numbers are dropping every year.

What We Can Do to Help

Several organizations work with local communities to help save wild chimps and their habitat; others work to reduce the number of chimpanzees used in medical research, and to help repair habitat damage caused by civil wars.

Interesting Facts:

Chimpanzees are our closest relatives.

Female chimps give birth for the first time when they are between 12 and 15 years old. The newborn stays with its mother until after its 7th birthday.



Related Species at Risk:

All of the great apes, including the chimps, bonobos (pigmy chimps), gorillas and orangutans, face serious threats and are at risk of extinction in the wild.

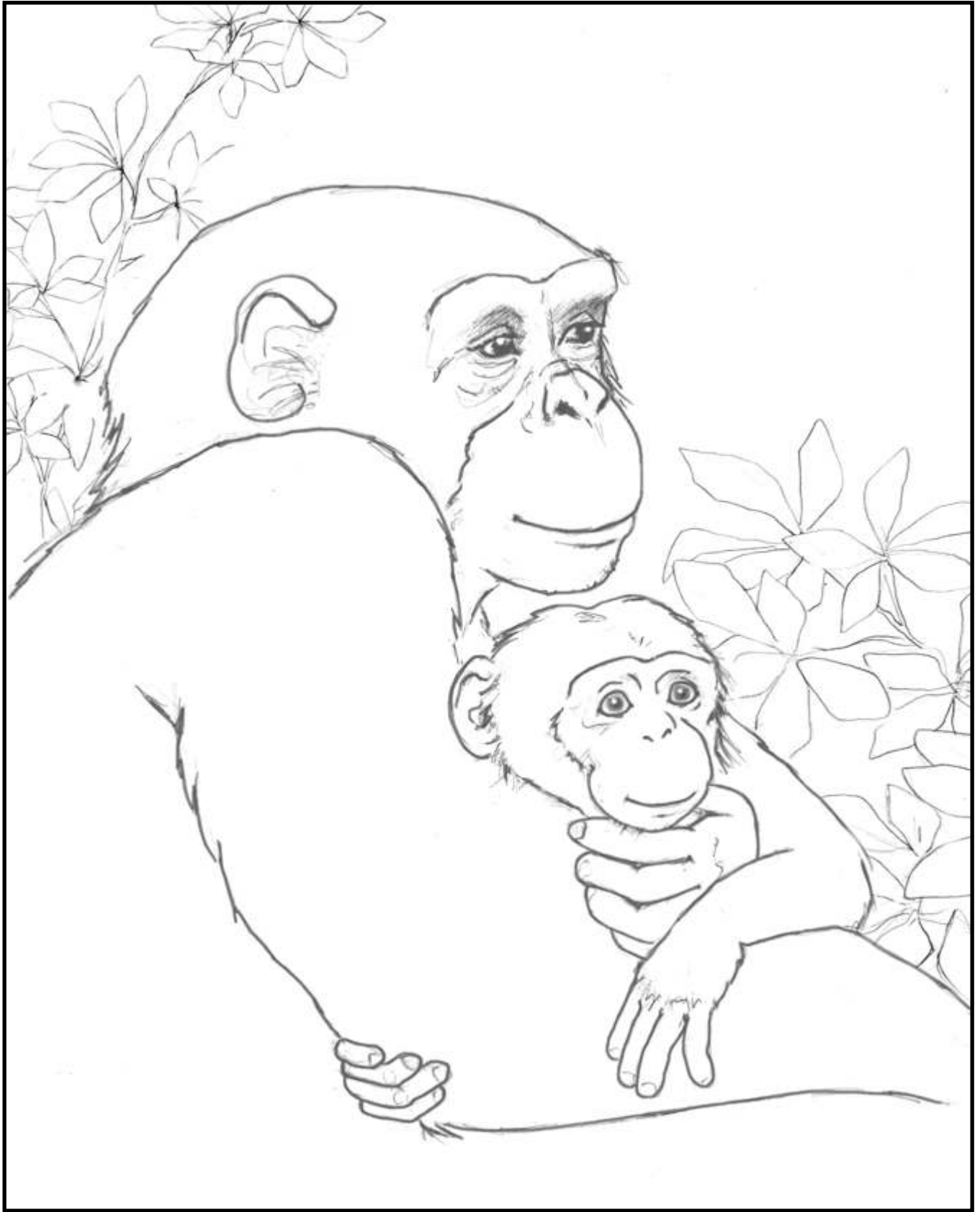
Something to Think About ...

The use of chimpanzees for medical research is extremely controversial. Researchers believe the practice saves many human lives. On the opposite side, people believe that most research projects that use animals are not really necessary, and the rights of this highly intelligent species are being violated. Both sides have good points, so it isn't easy to decide who's right. What do you think - is this good science, or animal abuse?

Learn More About Chimpanzees:

The Jane Goodall Institute --

<http://www.janegoodall.org/chimpanzees>



Chimpanzee

African Elephant

Scientific Name: *Loxodonta africana*

Status: Vulnerable

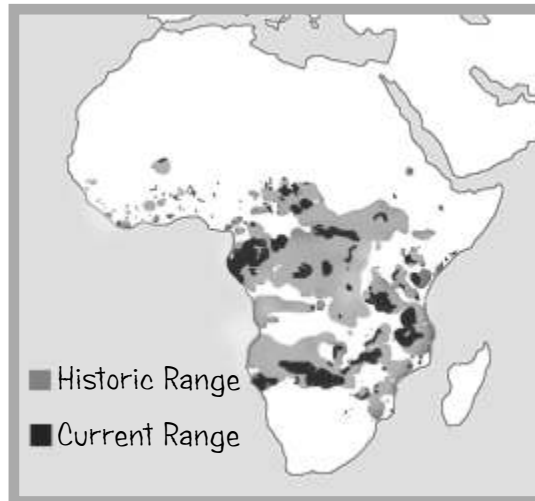
African elephants are the largest land animals on earth. Males can reach over 13 feet high at the shoulder, and can weigh over 13,000 pounds. Females are somewhat smaller.

Elephants live in large social groups, and need to travel over wide distances to find food. They mostly eat leaves and branches from trees.

The African elephant once ranged across most of the African continent. The elephant populations in southern Africa are rebounding, but elsewhere on the continent they are still threatened.

In the 1930s and 1940s there may have been as many as 5 million elephants in Africa. Today there may be no more than 40,000

left in the wild. Intensive hunting for trophies and tusks greatly reduced their numbers. Also, local people often come into conflict with elephants that roam outside the boundaries of nature preserves, because elephants can be very destructive to gardens and farms.



What We Can Do to Help

Local governments need support to help them reduce habitat loss, limit conflicts between humans and elephants, and to stop the illegal ivory trade.

Interesting Facts:

The Asian elephant is more closely related to the extinct mammoth than to the African elephant.

The last woolly mammoth may have died around 1700 BC on Wrangle Island, which lies in the Arctic Ocean north of Russia.

Related Species at Risk:

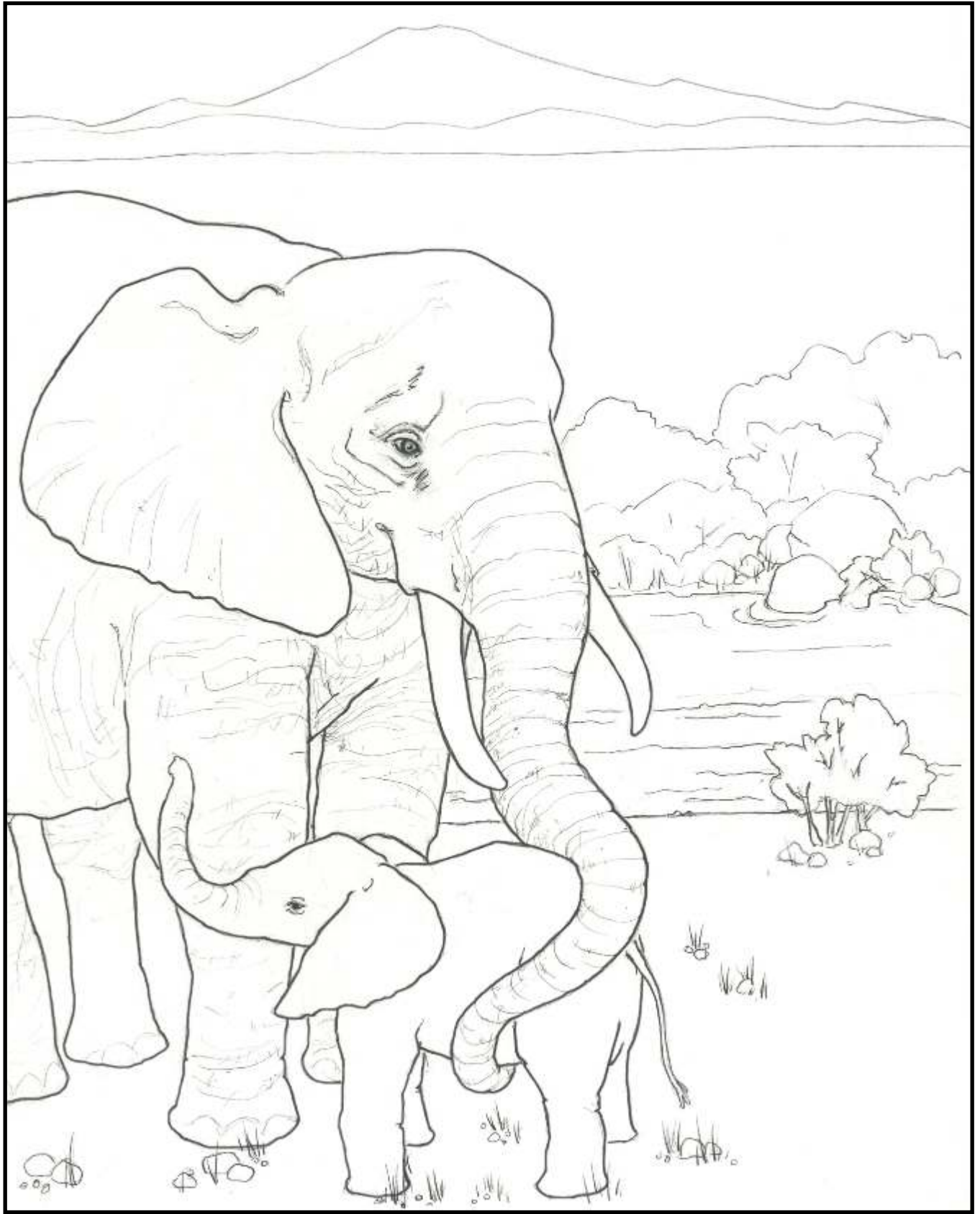
The Asian elephant is also endangered. The closest relatives of the African elephant are manatees and dugongs. Both of these marine mammals are listed as vulnerable.

Something to Think About ...

Ivory was used in the past to make things like ceremonial daggers, piano keys and billiard balls. Some people believe that the international ban on the sale of ivory should be lifted, because elephant populations are rebounding in some areas. How do you feel about this issue?

Learn More About African and Asian Elephants:

International Elephant Foundation --
<http://www.elephantconservation.org/>



African Elephant

White Rhinoceros

Scientific Name: *Ceratotherium simum*

Status: Near Threatened

White rhinos are very large animals. Adults may be 13 feet long and weigh as much as 2.25 tons. The white rhino is actually gray, not white.

Back in 1895, it was feared that the white rhino was extinct throughout its range, but a small population of 20 to 50 animals were found living in South Africa.

Because they are now protected in national parks and reserves, the southern white rhino is the least endangered of the four rhino species - there may now be more than 11,000 of these animals in the wild. A subspecies, called the northern white rhino, is probably extinct.

All rhino species are threatened by loss of habitat and poaching. Poachers kill the

animals for their horns, which can bring very high prices (as much as \$26,000 a pound) on the black market.

What We Can Do to Save Them

Law enforcement agencies and local communities need support in their efforts to stop illegal poaching.

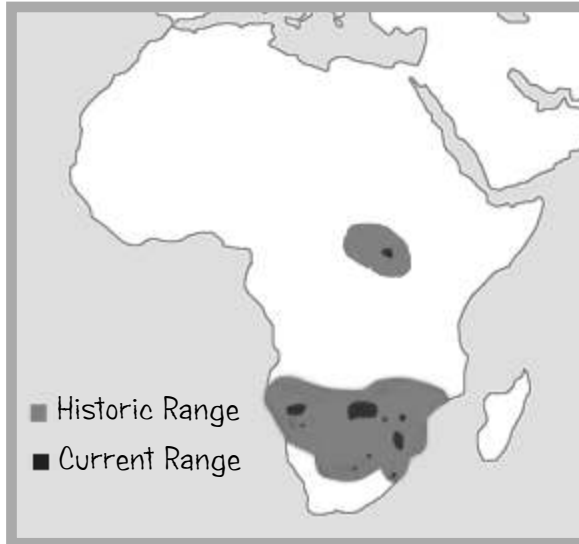
Interesting Facts:

The rhino's horn is made of hair and the same kind of protein found in fingernails.

Most rhino horns sold illegally are used in traditional Chinese medicine to reduce

fevers and headaches.

Fossil records show that an ancient rhino was the largest mammal to ever walk on earth.



Related Species at Risk:

The black rhinoceros, Javan rhinoceros and Sumatran rhinoceros are all critically endangered and at risk of extinction.

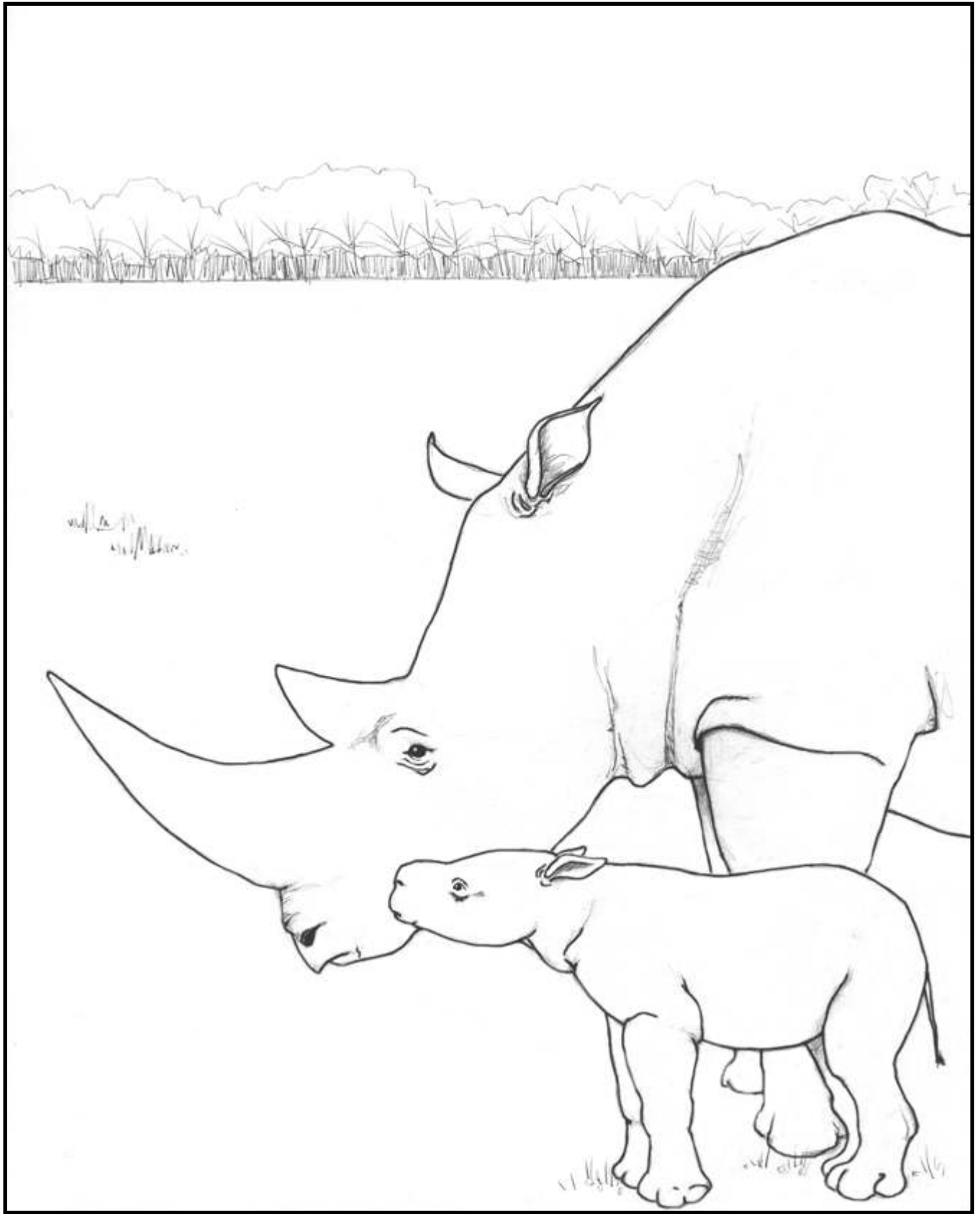
Something to Think About ...

Using rhino horns for medicine is obviously harmful, but we take many of our own traditions for granted, too. In this way, all people are the same. For instance, some cultures don't approve of keeping dogs as pets, but we never question it. Have you ever heard anyone ask where the meat comes from that ends up in dog food? Since traditions are rarely questioned, can you see why it's hard to change them, even when they might be damaging the environment?

Learn More About Rhinos:

The David Sheldrick Wildlife Trust --

http://www.sheldrickwildlifetrust.org/html/rhino_conservation.html



White Rhinoceros

Okapi

Scientific Name: *Okapia johnstoni*

Status: Near Threatened

The Okapi is a very rare animal that was unknown to science until 1901. The animal is so elusive that few people have ever seen one in the wild.

The okapi looks like a cross between a deer and a zebra. An adult okapi is about the size of a horse.

The okapi lives deep in the Ituri Forest of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The same area is inhabited by two other rare species that live nowhere else on earth - the Bonobo (pigmy chimp) and the Congo peafowl.

Unfortunately, the okapi's forest is within an area where people have been fighting each other for years. The so-called Great War of Africa began in 1998 and officially ended in

2003, but the hostilities have still not completely ended. War and civil unrest make it difficult for local communities to protect their precious wildlife habitats.

What We Can Do to Save Them

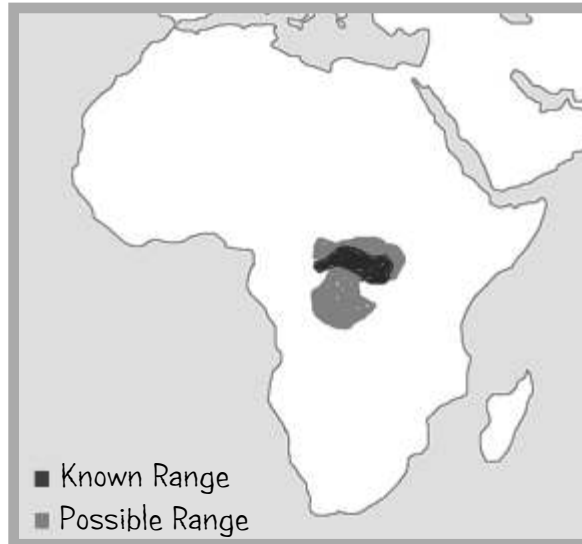
The Okapi Wildlife Reserve was established in 1992. The Reserve represents a global effort to preserve rare plant and animal life.

Stronger international control of the sale of light weapons could also help—the weapons trade

helps fuel the ongoing civil strife in central Africa. International weapon sales are a billion-dollar business.

Interesting Facts:

The okapi is the only living relative of the giraffe.



Related Species at Risk:

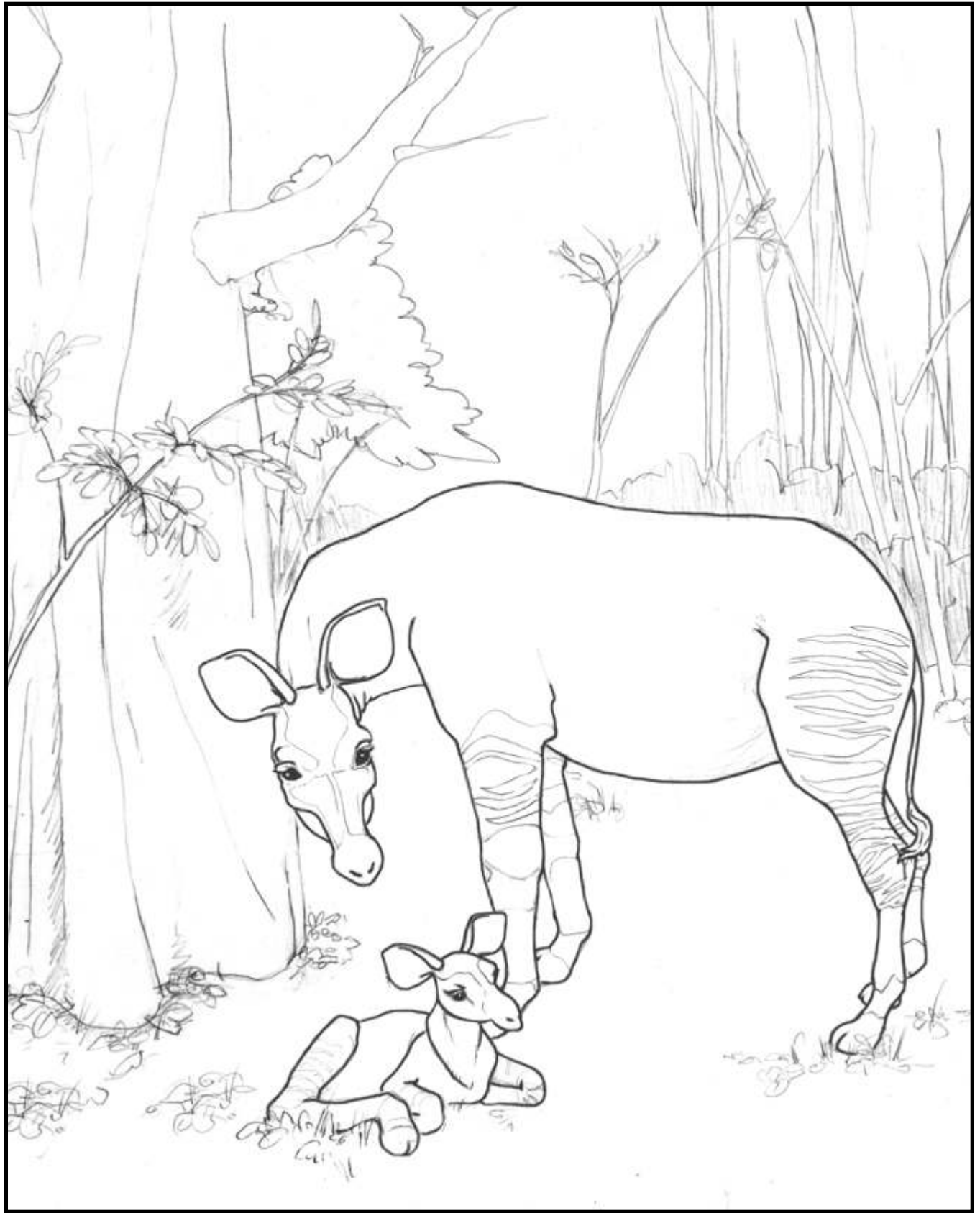
The Niger Giraffe and Rothschild's Giraffe are both endangered.

Something to Think About ...

Modern war is responsible for some of the world's worst environmental disasters. Everyone hates war, but people keep starting wars, anyway. If you were in charge of the world, how would you keep people from fighting each other?

Learn More About the Okapi:

The Okapi Wildlife Reserve --
<http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/718>



Okapi

Grevy's Zebra

Scientific Name: *Equus grevy*

Status: Endangered

In spite of its stripes, the Grevy's Zebra may be more closely related to the wild ass than it is to other zebras. Herds once ranged over large areas of eastern Africa.

There are now less than 6,000 of these animals in the wild. They live in arid and semi-arid habitat in Ethiopia and Kenya, where they try to stay close to permanent sources of water.

They are threatened by competition with domestic cattle, habitat destruction, and by disturbance of water holes by agriculture. Human overpopulation is considered one of its primary threats.

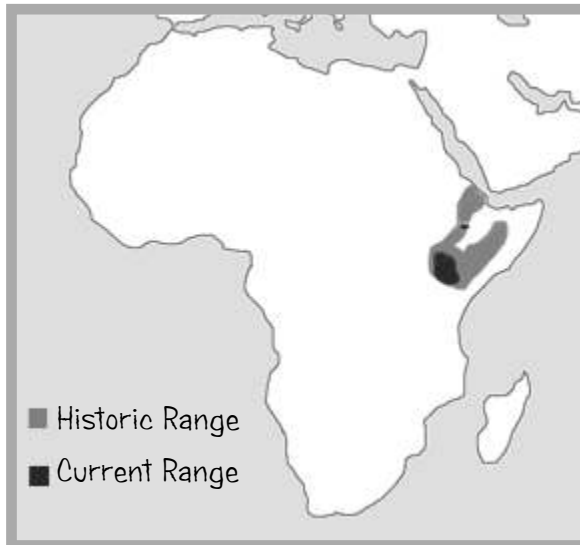
What We Can Do To Save Them

Conservation groups are working with local communities to revive traditional grazing techniques that are less damaging to the environment.

Much work is also being done to monitor the zebra population, and to enact local laws that will permanently protect the zebras from hunting. Captive breeding programs around the world are also helping.

Interesting Fact:

The Grevy's Zebra is the largest wild relative of the domestic horse.



Scientists identify individual zebras by using computer software to analyze the pattern of stripes on the zebra's rump.

Related Species at Risk:

The African wild ass and the Mongolian wild horse are critically endangered. the Asiatic wild ass is endangered, and the mountain zebra is vulnerable

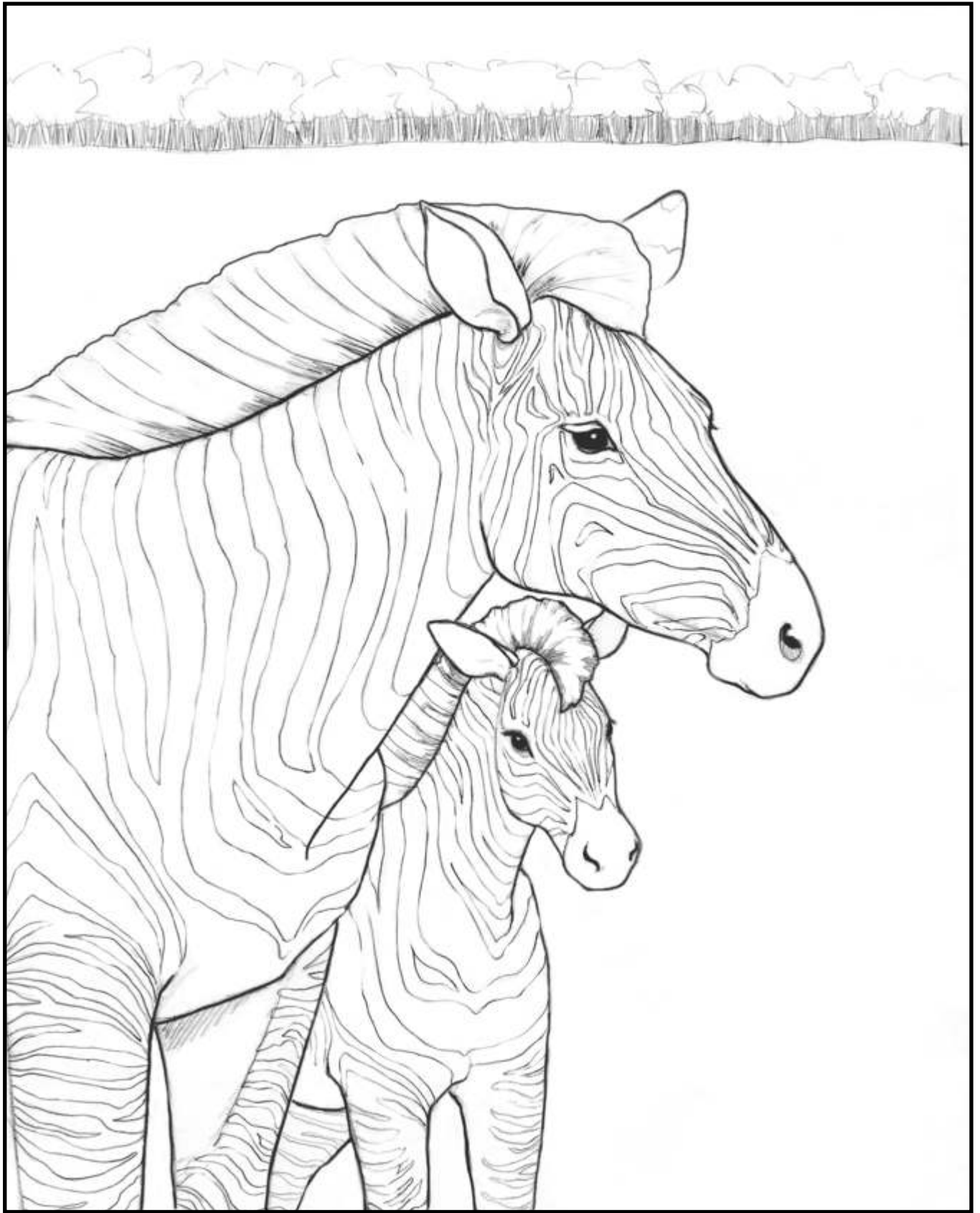
Something to Think About ...

Many people believe that cattle cause too much damage to wildlife habitats, and that we should all switch to being vegetarians. Since most people won't agree to do that, can you think of ways that we could reduce the damage to wildlife habitat that's caused by the millions of grazing cows, without giving up meat in our diets?

Learn More About Grevy's Zebras:

Grevy's Zebra Trust --

<http://www.grevyzebratrust.org/about-grevy-zebra.html>



Grevy's Zebra

African Lion

Scientific Name: *Panthera leo*

Status: Vulnerable

Lions once hunted across northern Africa, southern Europe, southwest Asia and India. Lions became extinct in Europe around 2,000 years ago, and disappeared from most of southwest Asia in the last 150 years.

A small, isolated population of Asian lions still lives in the Gir Forest National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary in India, but lions have been extinct in north Africa since the 1940's. Lion populations are still declining.

Lions are primarily threatened because humans kill them to protect their families and their domestic livestock. Lions are protected within national reserves, but when they stray outside the park boundaries they

can cause considerable damage to domestic flocks. They're a danger to people, as well.

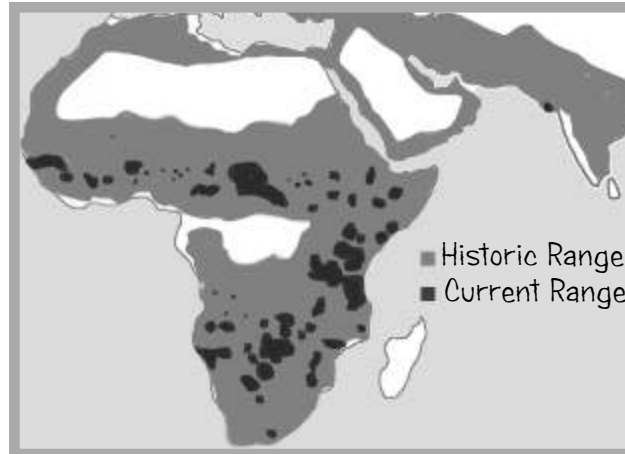
What We Can Do to Save Them

Lions are extremely popular with tourists, and the money from tourism provides a strong incentive for park managers and local communities to save the lions and other wildlife.

The Asiatic Lion Reintroduction Project is attempting to establish a second population of lions in India.

Interesting Fact:

A cross between a tiger and a lion is called a liger. Ligers are bigger than either parent, making them the largest cats in the world. This cross only occurs in captivity, because wild lions and tigers never meet.



Related Species at Risk:

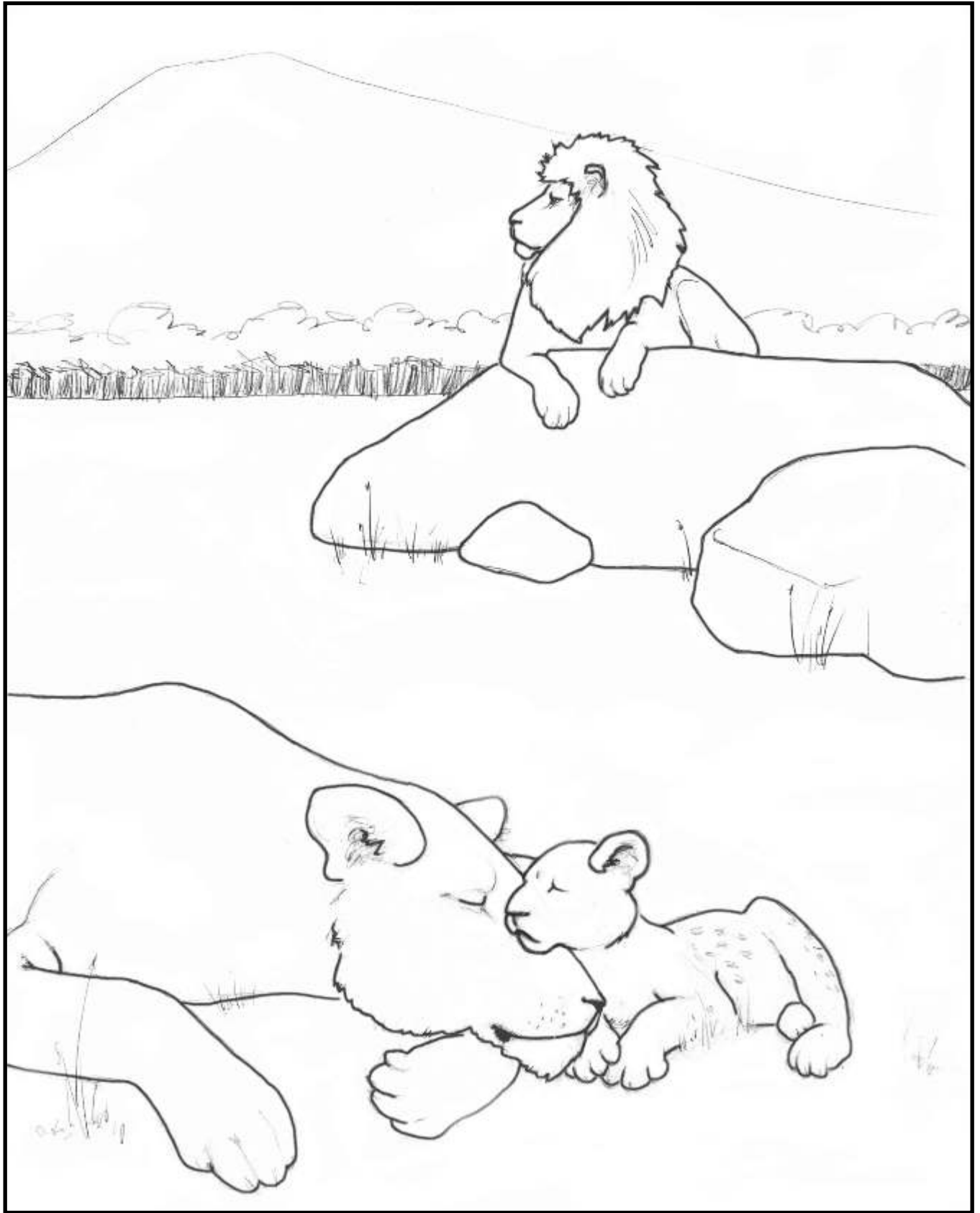
The tiger and the snow leopard are both endangered.

Something to Think About ...

It's easy to love the beautiful lion from a distance, but these are some of the most dangerous animals on earth. Can you imagine why some people don't want lions living in their neighborhoods? Would you want them living in yours? If there were lions roaming near your house, how would you protect yourself and your family without harming the lions?

Learn More About Lions:

Laikipia Predator Project --
<http://www.lionconservation.org/>



African Lion

Cheetah

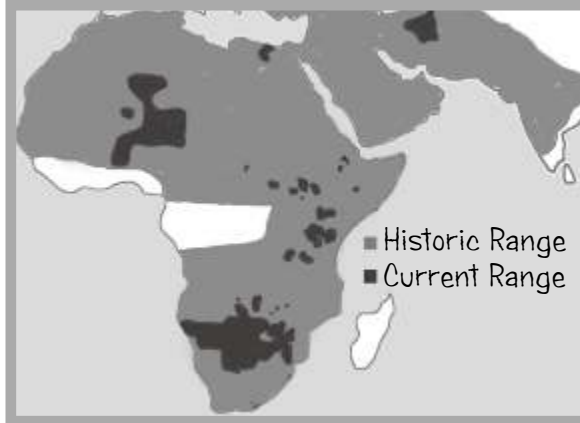
Scientific Name: *Acinonyx jubatus*

Status: Vulnerable

Cheetahs once roamed over a wide area of Africa, southern Europe, and southwest Asia. They remain only in scattered pockets across their historic range. One isolated population of Asian cheetahs, which are critically endangered, may still survive in Iran.

The cheetah is the fastest land animal on earth, at least in short sprints. They hunt impalas and other fast-moving prey.

Cheetahs need a very large hunting range, but there are few national parks or reserves large enough for them. Like all large carnivores, when they stray outside park boundaries they come into conflict with local human populations and their domestic flocks.



What We Can Do To Save Them

Conservation groups work with local communities to reduce the conflict between the big cats and domestic livestock.

One program gives livestock guarding dogs to local herdsman. The dogs scare away the cheetahs without harming them.

Interesting Fact:

All cheetahs are very closely related to each other. This makes scientists believe the cheetah came very close

to extinction about 10,000 years ago, at the end of the last ice age.

Captive cheetahs were kept as pets in ancient Egypt, and have been tamed to hunt with humans and dogs. The cheetah is traditionally associated with royalty.

Related Species at Risk:

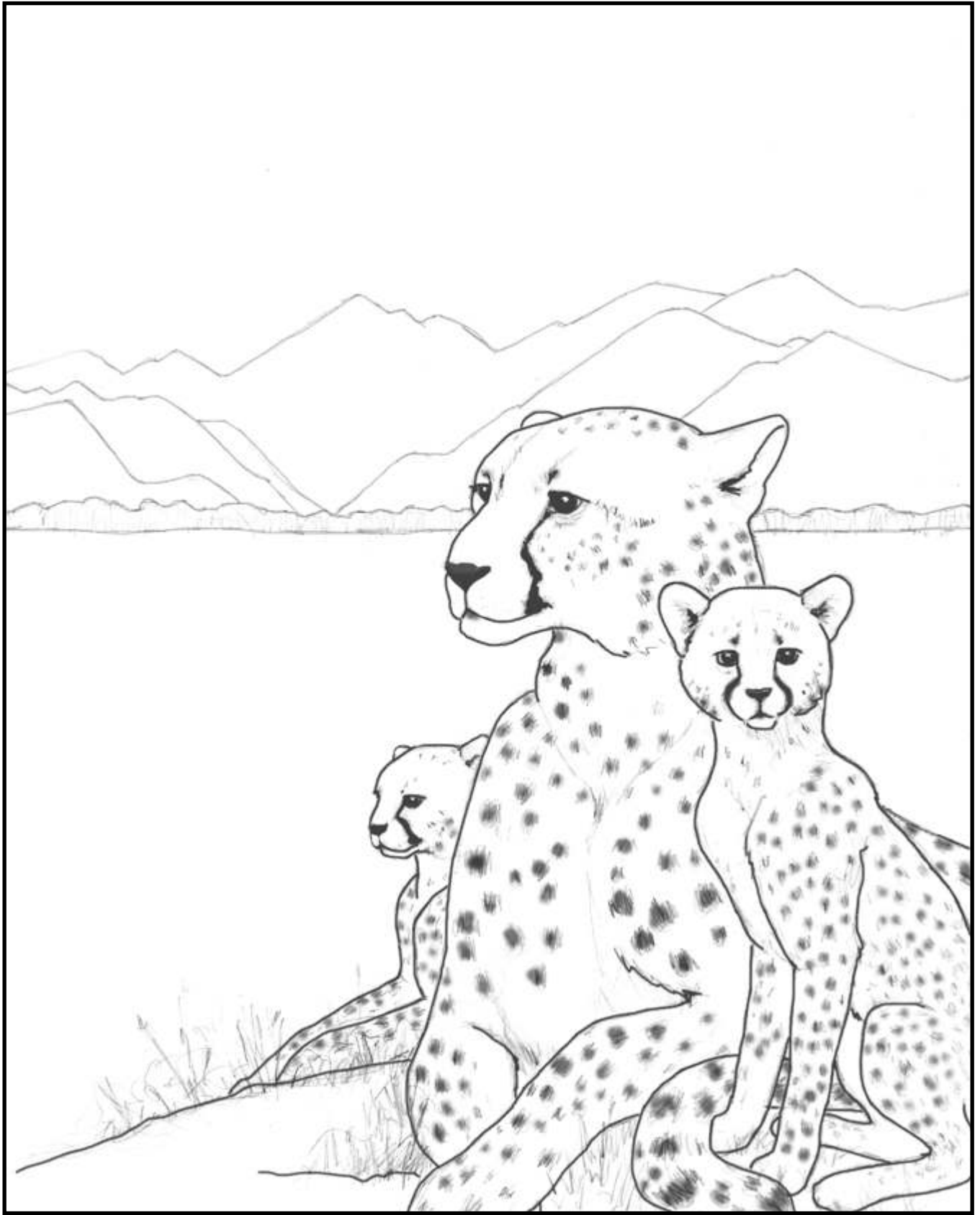
The cheetah is related to the mountain lion (also called puma or cougar) of North and South America. The Florida panther, a subspecies, is critically endangered.

Something to Think About ...

People who work to save the cheetah and other animals have very rewarding careers. Conservation groups around the world need volunteers, interns, biologists, and other specialists to work with the animals and local communities. Can you imagine dedicating your life to a career saving wildlife? If so, which animals would you try to save?

Learn More About Cheetahs:

Cheetah Conservation Fund --
<http://cheetah.org/>



Cheetah

Cayman Blue Iguana

Scientific Name: *Cyclura lewisi*

Status: Critically Endangered

This large lizard, which is colored a beautiful soft gray-blue, lives only on the island of Grand Cayman. The island is shown on the map as a small speck just below Cuba in the Caribbean Sea.

The blue iguana is the largest wild land animal on the island. Adults can weigh as much as 30 pounds, and can be 60 inches long from their nose to the tip of their tail.

The health of the forest on the island is directly tied to the iguana's lifestyle because they evolved together. Seeds that pass through the Cayman blue iguana sprout faster than those that don't, giving the baby trees a better chance at survival.

Cayman blue iguanas are threatened because their habitat is destroyed when trees

are cut for cattle ranching, roads, and housing developments. The lizards are also killed by rats and domestic cats and dogs.

In 2003, only 15 blue iguanas were left in the wild, and by 2005 the wild lizards were considered functionally extinct.

What We Can Do to Save Them

Captive-bred lizards have been released into protected areas. The wild population has now increased to over 300 individuals, and many more live in captivity on the island. A number of zoos in the United States and elsewhere also have captive breeding programs.



Interesting Facts:

The Cayman blue iguana may be one of the longest-living species of lizard. One of these lizards, named Godzilla, lived for 67 years. He died at the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, Texas in 1997.

Related Species at Risk:

The Lesser Cayman iguana and the Jamaican iguana are critically endangered. The five-keeled spiny-tailed iguana is endangered.

Something to Think About ...

Many acres of tropical rainforest are cut down and burned to make way for cattle. Some of the beef ends up in American fast food hamburgers, canned soup, and pet food. It isn't easy to know if the food we buy is "rainforest safe." Do you think restaurants and grocery stores should be required to label their products so we can make more informed choices?

Learn More About the Cayman Blue Iguana:

The Zoological Society --

<http://www.zoosociety.org/MultiMedia/Stories/BlueIguana.php>



Cayman Blue Iguana

Florida Panther

Scientific Name: *Puma concolor coryi*

Status: Endangered

The Florida panther is a subspecies of the mountain lion, (also called the cougar or puma). The Florida panther once roamed over much of the southeast United States, but is now located only in a small section of southern Florida.

Although some Florida panthers are killed by their only natural enemy, the alligator, the main threat to this large cat is human overpopulation in sensitive habitat areas. Some Florida panthers are also hit by cars.

What We Can Do To Save Them

Florida panthers hunt white tailed deer, small mammals, and birds, but they also prey on domestic animals and pets—which brings them into direct conflict with the growing human population in southern Florida.

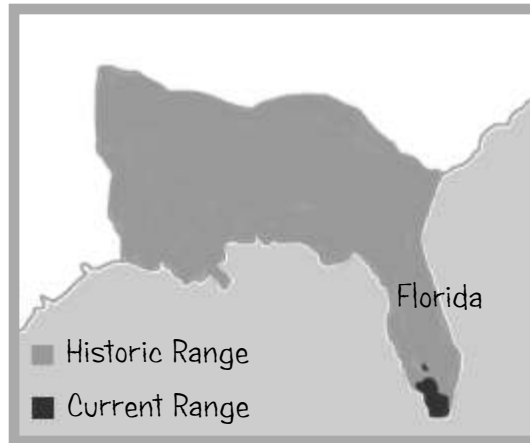
Local landowners and conservationists have formed the Florida Panther Protection Program to help save this beautiful cat. They hope to protect the panther's habitat and make it easier for the animals to move from one range to another without being hit by cars.

Captive breeding programs are also helping to save the panther.

Interesting Facts:

There is some controversy about whether or not this is a unique subspecies, because the Florida panther's DNA is very similar to other cougars.

In 1995, there were only 25 panthers left in south Florida. Eight female cougars from Texas were imported to breed with Florida panthers. The program has been successful, and the population of wild panthers has increased to around 100.



Related Species at Risk:

The jaguar is rare in the United States and is endangered. It can be found in the American southwest, Mexico, and Central and South America.

Something to Think About ...

The Florida panther and other wildlife is threatened because people build houses, roads and factories where animals once roamed free. Do you think we'll ever be able to design our homes and cities so they protect wildlife habitat, while keeping people safe, too? Would you like to live in a city like that? Would you like to help design that kind of world?

Learn More About the Florida Panther:

Florida Panther Protection Program --
<http://www.floridapantherprotection.com/>



Florida Panther

Gray Wolf

Scientific Name: *Canis lupus*

Status: Endangered (disputed)

Gray wolves once lived throughout North America and Eurasia, but they were hunted to extinction in many areas when they came into conflict with humans.

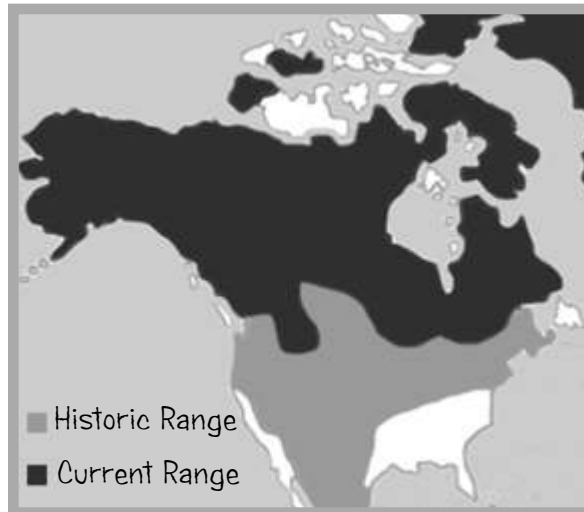
By the time European settlers came to North America, the wolf had already disappeared from most of Europe—wolves became extinct in England in 1486.

As settlers moved west across America, they eradicated the gray wolf and the buffalo (American bison)—the two wild species that threatened and competed with their domestic cattle and sheep.

Today, bison are found only on national parks and private ranches. The wolf has been reintroduced to some areas, but they

come into conflict with local ranchers when they kill calves and sheep.

What We Can Do To Save Them



Gray wolves have been reintroduced into several northern states, but the program is controversial and it makes many ranchers unhappy. The wolf recently lost its protected status under the Endangered Species Act, but the courts may reverse that decision. There are now discussions about reintroducing the wolf

to the Scottish Highlands, Denmark, Germany and Italy, but the idea is controversial there, as well.

Interesting Facts:

The domestic dog is a subspecies of the gray wolf. The dog has lived with humans for at least 15,000 years.

Related Species at Risk:

The red wolf and the eastern timber wolf are critically endangered. The Mexican wolf was considered functionally extinct in the wild, but has been reintroduced.

Something to Think About ...

Some people think that wolves should not be protected or reintroduced in the United States because so many gray wolves live wild in Canada, Russia and Asia. What do you think? If it was your pets at risk, instead of someone else's sheep, would you feel the same way?

Learn More About the Gray Wolf:

National Wildlife Federation --

<http://www.nwf.org/Wildlife/Wildlife-Library/Mammals/Gray-Wolf.aspx>



Gray Wolf

Polar Bear

Scientific Name: *Ursus maritimus*

Status: Vulnerable

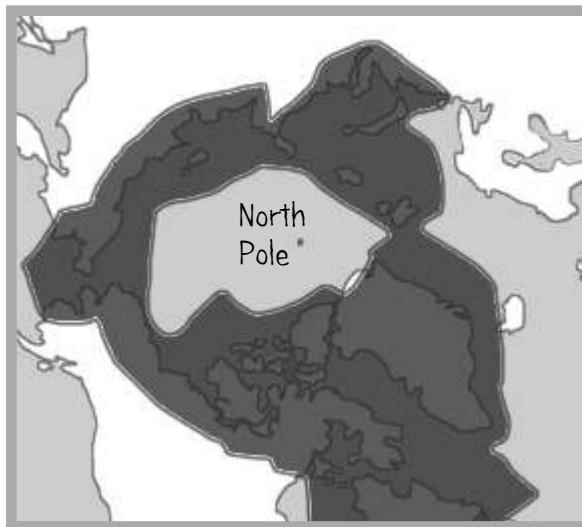
The polar bear is the world's largest bear. An adult male can weigh as much as 1,500 pounds.

Polar bears eat seals, which they hunt on the ice shelves in the Arctic ocean.

At one time the polar bear was threatened because of unrestricted hunting, but populations rebounded when international efforts controlled the number of bears taken by hunters. Now the greatest threat to polar bears is climate change.

If the polar ice continues to melt with global warming, some scientists predict that the polar bear may be gone within the next century. When the ice melts, the seals go further out to sea and the bears can't find enough food to feed their cubs. Early

thawing can also expose the maternal dens that protect young cubs and their mothers from the elements and predators.



What We Can Do To Save Them

Global warming is caused primarily by the use of fossil fuels like oil and gasoline. We need to quickly reduce our use of fossil fuels and move towards wind and solar energy. Both governments and individuals can make choices that will help protect the polar ice.

Interesting Facts:

Adult polar bears sometimes live without food for several months during the summer, while the seals are far out to sea. Unfortunately, cubs can't go very long without food because they don't have enough fat on their bodies.

Related Species at Risk:

The giant panda is the world's most threatened bear species. The sun bear, the Asiatic black bear, the sloth bear, and the Andean bear are also vulnerable.

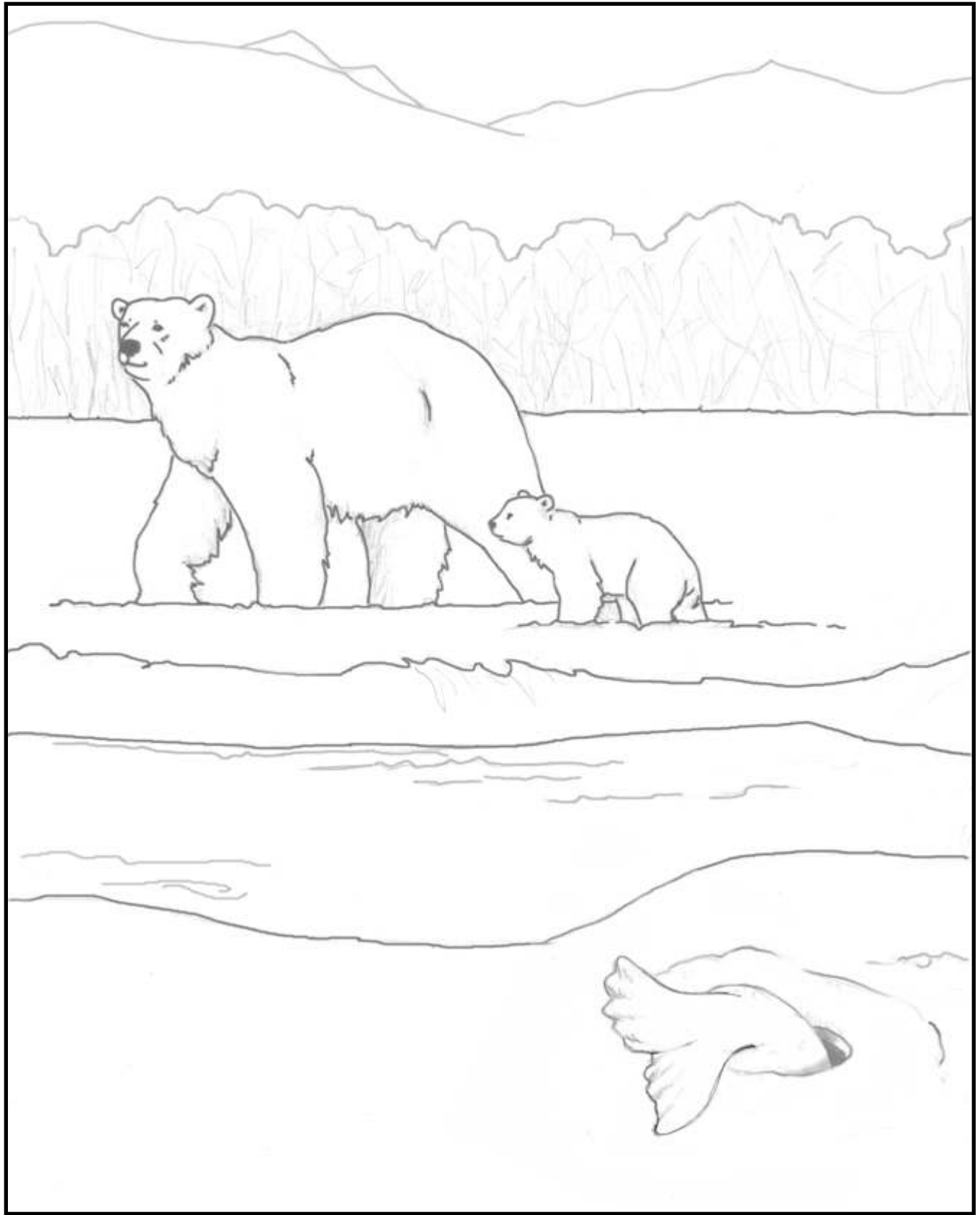
Something to Think About ...

We now use a lot more oil per person than we did in past generations, partly because houses are so much bigger than they were just 50 years ago. Would you be willing to live in a much smaller house if you thought it would help save the polar bears? Would you be willing to walk or bike more often, instead of riding in the car?

Learn More About Polar Bears:

World Wildlife Fund --

<http://worldwildlife.org/species/polar-bear>



Polar Bear

Beluga Whale

Scientific Name: *Delphinapterus leucas*

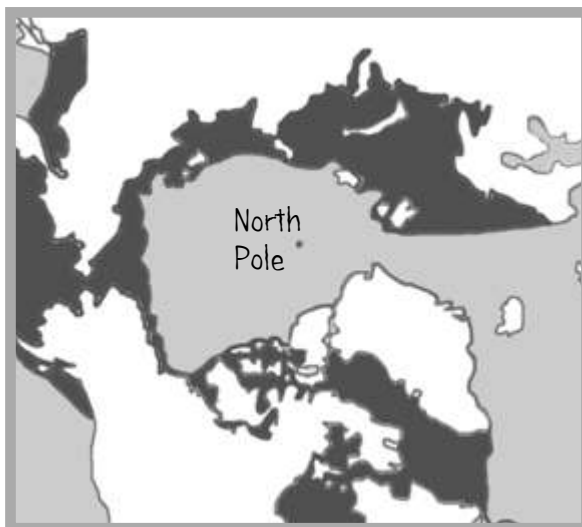
Status: Near Threatened (Cook Inlet subspecies critically endangered)

The beluga are small whales, 13 to 18 feet long, that live in arctic and sub-arctic regions. They spend their summers in shallow bays and inlets.

Beluga whales live in “pods,” or groups. Males live separately from females and calves. The natural enemies of beluga whales are polar bears, (which sometimes find a beluga trapped by ice), and killer whales.

Captive beluga whales are popular in sea-life parks because they have such expressive faces. They are extremely intelligent and social, and they appear to enjoy the company of people. There have been several reports of belugas saving their aquarium keepers from drowning.

The whales are now threatened by polluted water in the bays and inlets where the whales spend the summer. In some areas, beluga whale carcasses contain so many dangerous chemicals they must be treated as toxic waste.



What We Can Do To Save Them

Alaskan and Canadian governments are trying to relocate industrial sites that pollute the whales’ summer gathering sites. Commercial hunting has been banned, and subsistence hunting by local communities is being regulated. Habitat restoration is critical.

Interesting Facts:

Belugas can change the shape of their heads by filling their nasal cavities with air.

Related Species at Risk:

The beluga whale is most closely related to the narwhal, which is listed as near threatened. Narwhal tusks were sold in Europe during the Middle Ages as unicorn horns.

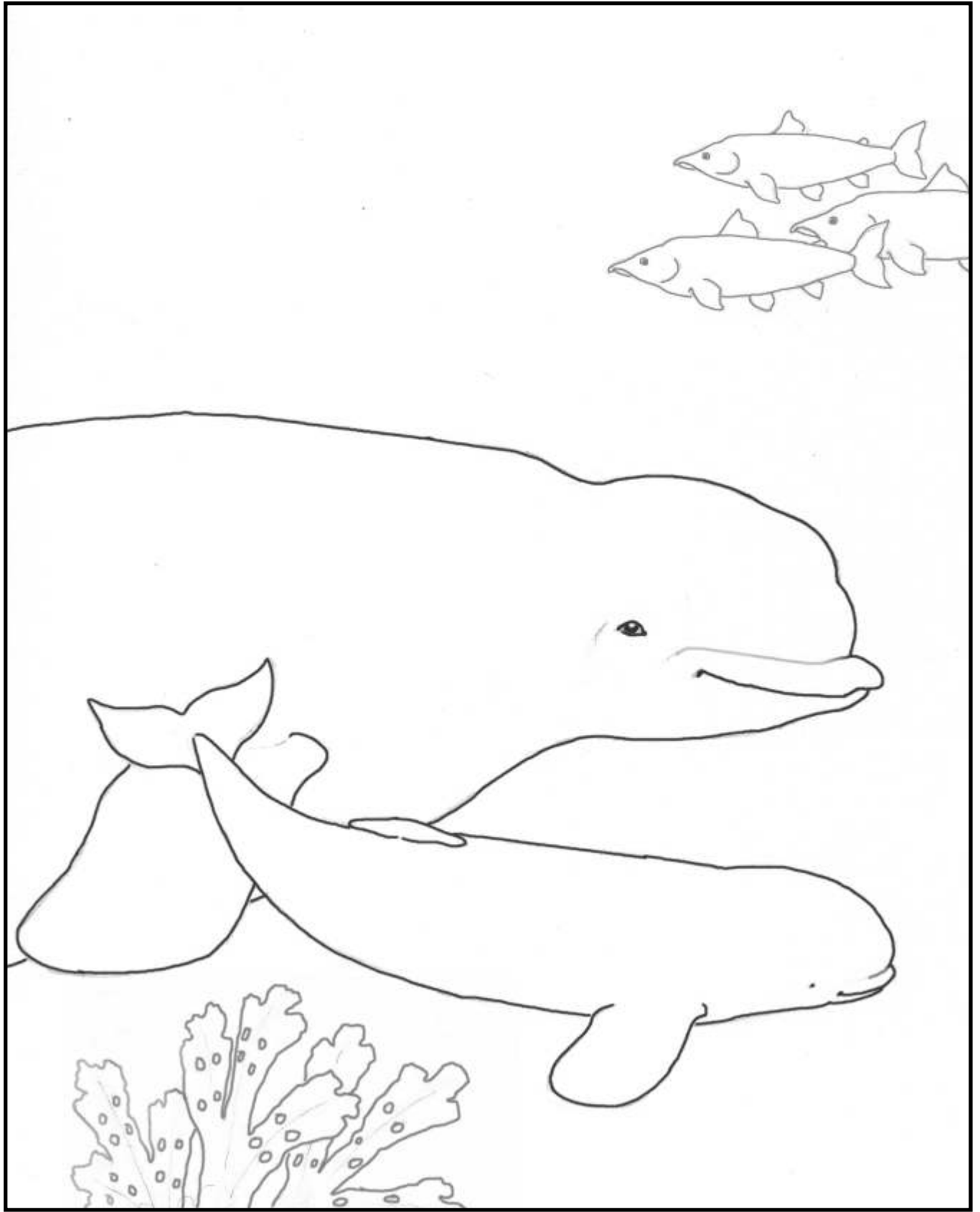
Something to Think About ...

In addition to industrial pollution, beluga whales are threatened by agricultural fertilizers and pesticides that wash down rivers and into the sea. Growing our own food organically in our own back yards could help save many animals in our rivers and oceans - and it might make us healthier, too. Would you enjoy growing a garden instead of mowing grass?

Learn More About Beluga Whales:

National Geographic --

<http://animals.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/beluga-whale/>



Beluga Whale

Snow Leopard

Scientific Name: *Panthera uncia*

Status: Endangered

Snow leopards live in the high mountains and plateaus of Central Asia. They're rarely seen by humans, so it's not possible to know exactly how many are left.

The snow leopards have very large paws that help them climb rocky, dangerous mountainsides in search of prey. They hunt both small and large animals, including the markhor goat (seen in the picture), which is also endangered.

Snow leopards are decreasing in numbers due to the reduction of prey species, illegal hunting, and conflicts with local people and their domestic livestock. The leopard's natural range extends across many national boundaries, including war-torn northern Afghanistan, which makes conservation efforts difficult. Ironically, illegal hunting



has increased since the Taliban regime was toppled in the Afghan war.

Snow leopards are hunted illegally for pelts, and for bones that are used in traditional Chinese medicine. They are also live-caught and sold to zoos and circuses.

What We Can Do To Save Them

People have been known to pay up to \$50,000 for an illegally-caught live leopard, or for the chance to shoot one in the wild - and the

local people are poor. Wildlife organizations are trying to find ways for local people to make money while saving the leopard instead of hunting it.

Interesting Facts:

The snow leopard is sometimes called “the ghost cat” or “mountain ghost” because it is so elusive.

Related Species at Risk:

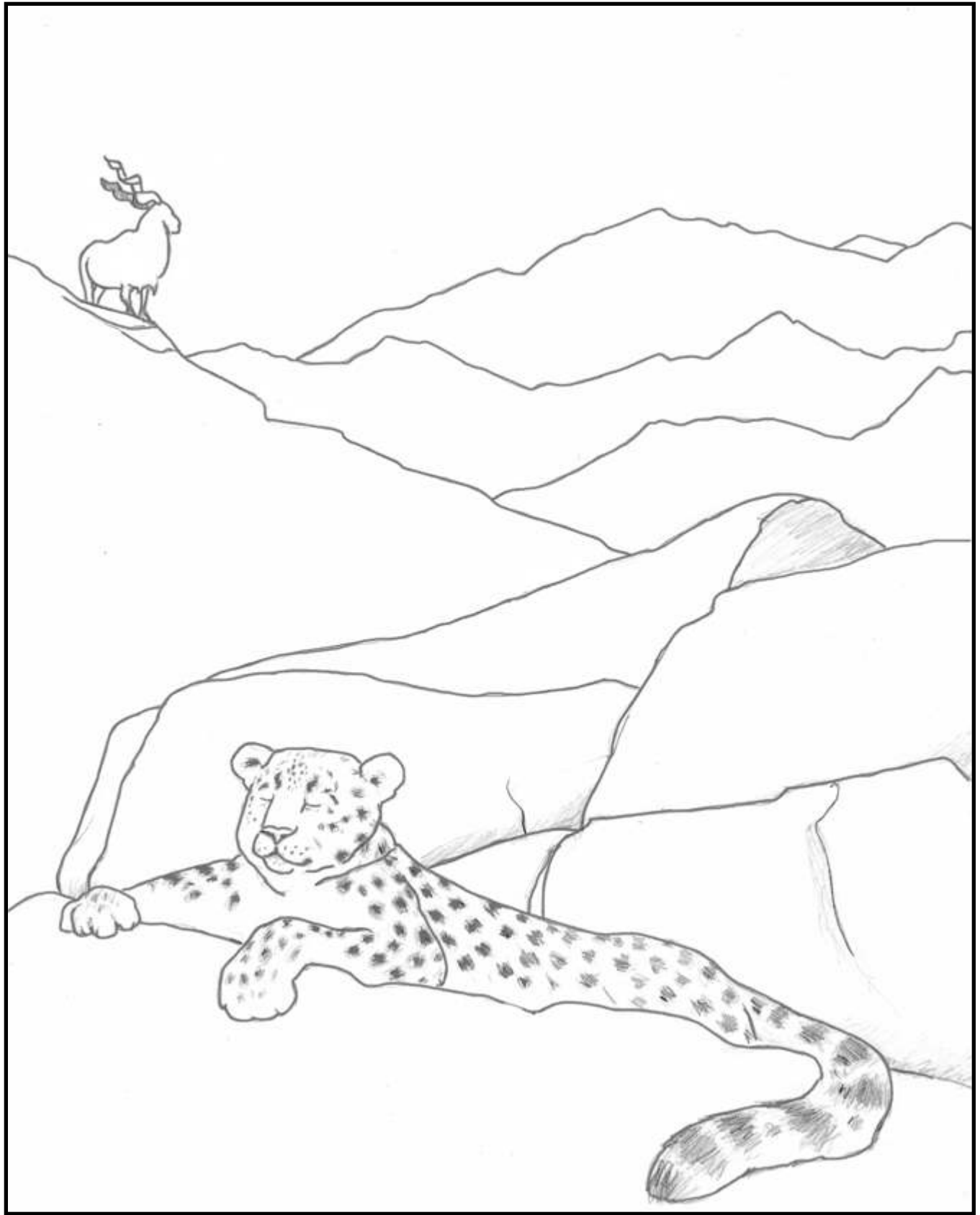
The snow leopard is most closely related to the tiger, which is also endangered.

Something to Think About ...

Many rare wild animals, including the snow leopard, the chimpanzee, and the Cayman blue iguana, have been illegally caught and sold to zoos and wildlife parks. Some are sold to individuals for pets. Even though it is usually illegal to buy a rare animal for a pet, people still do it. Do you think that education or publicity would help? If not, what would?

Learn More About the Snow Leopard:

Snow Leopard Conservancy --
<http://snowleopardconservancy.org/about-us/>



Snow Leopard

Giant Panda

Scientific Name: *Ailuropoda melanoleuca*

Status: Endangered

The giant panda is a bear that lives only in China. It has become one of the most well-loved animals on earth, and also one of the rarest. It is estimated that there are fewer than 2,500 adult pandas left in the wild.

Pandas once lived in most of southern and eastern China. By 1900, extensive farming and hunting had reduced their range to the Qinling Mountains and the edge of the Tibetan plateau.

Panda populations have become isolated from each other, making conservation efforts more difficult.

What We Can Do To Save Them

Pandas are still threatened by habitat loss, human overpopulation, and poaching.

The Chinese government has taken steps to protect the wild pandas in over 50 reserves, and panda habitats are patrolled to prevent poaching and illegal logging.

International treaties ban commercial trading of pandas.

Captive breeding programs can be found in zoos in over 20 different countries. Pandas have a very low birth rate, so each new baby is precious.

Interesting Facts:

A baby panda weights less than half a pound when it's born.

Red pandas also live in China and eat bamboo, but they're not related to the giant panda. They look a bit like red raccoons, but may be more closely related to weasels. They are listed as vulnerable.



Related Species at Risk:

The giant panda's closest relative is the spectacled bear of South America, which is listed as vulnerable.

Something to Think About ...

It's easy to love the beautiful panda, but it's harder to be interested in saving ugly animals - even though they may be just as important to the environment. Can you imagine hordes of people visiting the National Zoo to see a purple frog? (Google it, and you'll see what I mean.) How do you think we could increase public awareness of all endangered species, even the ones that aren't pretty? Do you think it matters?

Learn More About the Giant Panda:

World Wildlife Fund --
<http://worldwildlife.org/species/giant-panda>



Giant Panda

Yangtze River Dolphin

Scientific Name: *Lipotes vexillifer*

Status: Critically Endangered, Possibly Extinct

The Yangtze River dolphin is (was?) a light blue color on its back, with a white underbelly.

The dolphin was threatened by pollution caused by agriculture and industry, dams that prevent the migration of fish, and a local fishing method that kills dolphins as well as fish.

What Can We Do To Save Them?

Perhaps the best thing we can do now is cross our fingers and hope - the Yangtze river dolphin is considered to be functionally extinct.

One "large white animal" was filmed in the Yangtze river in 2007. It's possible that there are enough dolphins left to breed, but most

scientists consider it unlikely. If there *are* some dolphins left, they may have a chance if the river is cleaned up and fishing is regulated. Unfortunately, human overpopulation in the area makes it difficult for the government to take these important steps, even though the dolphin is considered a national treasure. The government did try to breed the dolphins in captivity, but they were not successful. The last captive dolphin died in 2002



Interesting Facts:

In Chinese folklore, the Yangtze river dolphin was said to be the reincarnation of a drowned princess, and local fishermen believed the "goddess of the Yangtze" kept them safe. Because of this tradition the dolphins were never hunted until modern times.

Related Species at Risk:

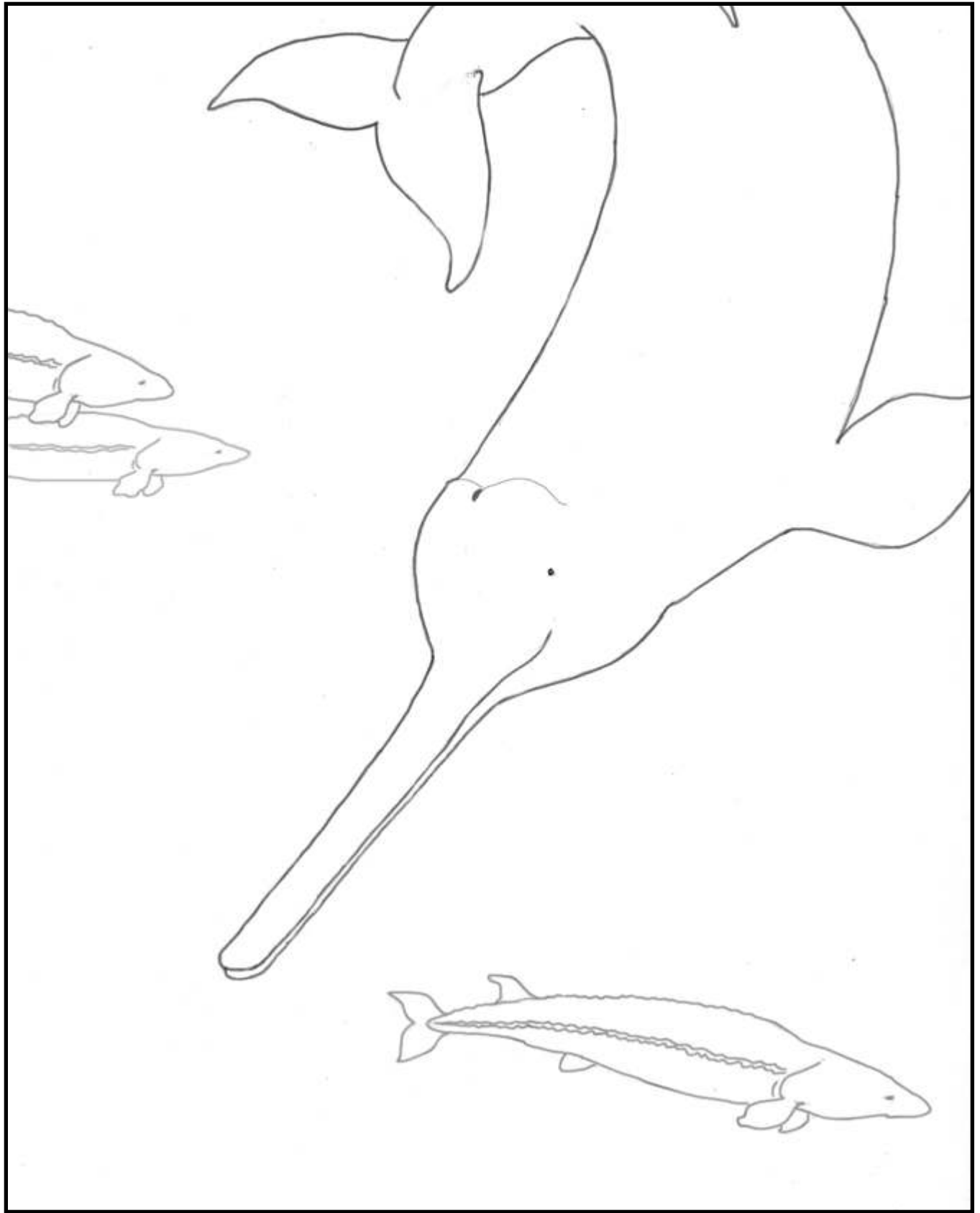
Many Cetaceans, the whales and dolphins, are endangered, including the Gulf of California Harbor Porpoise, Indus River Dolphin, and the Pantropical Spotted Dolphin.

Something to Think About ...

The loss of this dolphin shows us how vital it is for us to do whatever we can to protect the animals that are left. What is the biggest change you think we should make? Do you think we'll be able to do it in time?

Learn More About the Yangtze River Dolphin:

Wikipedia:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Baiji>



Yangtze River Dolphin

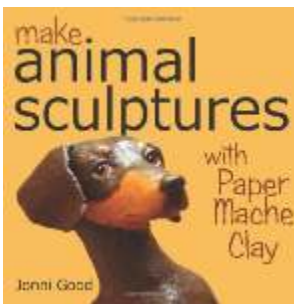
Why am I giving this eBook away?

Of all the books I've written and illustrated, the Endangered Animals Color and Learn Book is one of my favorites. I enjoyed learning about all the different animals, (I'd never heard of tree kangaroos before writing this book!) and it was fun to make all the drawings, write the copy, and design the book. I wish there had been a book like this one back when I was a kid.

But the book hasn't sold very well. There's a lot of competition from other coloring books, and it takes a lot of work to get a book noticed on Amazon.com. Somehow, I just never got around to doing that work - probably because I was too busy writing my next book, on making masks. Now I'm in the middle of writing *another* book (on sculpting small paper mache dogs) – and I'm still either too busy (or too lazy) to spend time marketing this one.

But I still really like this book, and I'd like to share it, even if I can't sell it. That's why I decided to go ahead and give it away as a downloadable eBook. If you like it, too, feel free to share it with your friends (after reading the copyright notice, of course).

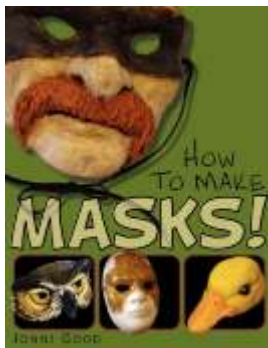
Then check out the other books I've written, below. They're available on your favorite online bookstore.



Make Animal Sculptures with Paper Mache Clay

★★★★★ 49 customer reviews

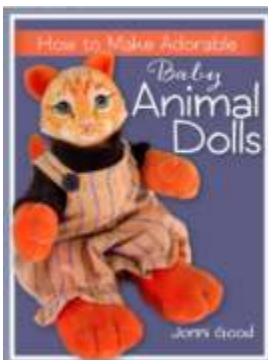
Currently one of the most popular books about paper mache on Amazon.com. If you've always wanted to create life-like animal sculptures, but you think it's "too hard" or "too expensive," you're in for a very pleasant surprise. This book contains step-by-step instructions and over 250 photos to guide you through the enjoyable process of making your first animal sculptures with your own home-made paper mache clay. Plus, the patterns included in each chapter help make your sculptures perfectly proportioned from the very start. Creating life-like animal sculptures has never been so easy, or so much fun! [Available on Amazon.com](#)



How to Make Masks!

★★★★★ 27 customer reviews

This book teaches new techniques that anyone can use to create fabulous masks easily and quickly. Make one of the 12 popular mask styles in the book following the detailed instructions and over 300 step-by-step photos – or use these easy new methods to create your own unique designs. Jonni shows you exactly how to sculpt the features of your masks so they truly represent the character and expression you're looking for. The innovative methods in this book are easy, the materials cost just pennies per mask, and your new creations will be just as much fun to make than they are to wear. [Available on Amazon.com](#)



How to Make Adorable Baby Animal Dolls

★★★★★ 5 customer reviews

This book shows you exactly how to make adorable baby animal dolls, leading you through the entire process every step of the way. Since no two dolls ever come out exactly alike, each doll will have its own personality and character. Each doll-head is hand-sculpted over a simple armature using home-made air-dry clay. The resulting heads are seamless, hollow, and surprisingly strong. The bodies and ears are made out of soft, huggable cotton velour, and the toes are sculpted with a few easy stitches. Adorable! [Available on Amazon.com](#)