



The Nation's Favorite Fun Family Newspaper  
Kidsville News! Brainworks Worksheet  
April Enrichment Activities  
Grades 3-6

**Kidsville**  
**CONNECTIONS**

Students: After reading "Connections," answer the following questions about the text. Use the back side of the paper if you need more room for your answers.

1. How do humans contribute to the extinction and endangerment of animal species?
2. Explain the meaning of mass extinctions.
3. Give details and evidence from the article to support what scientists say is the sixth mass extinction, one they believe is currently happening.
4. How does the human population impact the animal species population?
5. What fact from the article interests you the most?



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**Students: Use the "Around the World" article to complete the cause and effect relationships below. The cause is given for you.**

## Cause

The National Audubon Society was founded in 1905 by John James Audubon.

Over the years the society has grown to have 600,000 members.

Harriet Hemenway and Minna B. Hall set out to get the use of bird feathers in fashion banned.

The Endangered Species Act was written.

The Christmas Bird Count began in 1900.

Frank Chapman challenged the tradition of hunting birds on Christmas Day.

Audubon was interested in protecting the Everglades in Florida.

Audubon conservationists have learned a great deal about the Earth.

## Effect





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Answer Key



Students: After reading "Connections," answer the following questions about the text. Use the back side of the paper if you need more room for your answers.  
Teachers: See answers below.

**1. How do humans contribute to the extinction and endangerment of animal species?**

Humans contribute to the extinction and endangerment of animals by hunting them and by destroying their habitats due to their own growth and expansion.

**2. Explain the meaning of mass extinctions.**

A mass extinction is when 93% of all the species of the Earth are wiped out at once. This event happens, according to scientists, every 50-100 million years.

**3. Give details and evidence from the article to support what scientists' say is the sixth mass extinction, one that is currently happening.**

Many scientists agree that we are facing the sixth mass extinction the Earth has seen and it is being caused by the habits of humans. American lions have decreased by nearly 50 %, mostly due to trophy hunting. Elephants have been hunted for their valuable ivory tusks and are also threatened. The lemurs of Madagascar have lost habitat. A recorded 93% of the species are endangered, critically endangered or threatened.

**4. How does the human population impact the animal species population?**

Humans require land for housing and food, thus pushing out animal species who live on and eat food from the same lands. Humans also endanger and kill animals through hunting and poaching.

**5. What fact from the article interests you the most?** Answers will vary.



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Answer Key

Students: Use the “Around the World” article to complete the cause and effect relationships below. The cause is given for you. Teachers: Answers are below.

Cause

Effect

The National Audubon Society was founded in 1905 by John James Audubon.

The Earth's birds and wildlife populations are in better health.

Over the years the society has grown to have 600,000 members.

The society has a national presence.

Harriet Hemenway and Minna B. Hall set out to band the use of bird feathers in fashion.

The first Audubon Society was born in Massachusetts from their efforts.

The Endangered Species Act was written.

The Audubon Society championed this act, which protects hundreds of threatened and endangered species.

The Christmas Bird Count began in 1900.

It has become the longest-running bird watch in the world.

Frank Chapman challenged the tradition of hunting birds on Christmas Day.

The ornithologist started the Christmas Day bird count with this challenge.

Audubon was interested in protecting the Everglades in Florida.

The Everglades Protection and Restoration Act was developed by Audubon, and it became the largest wetland restoration ever in the U.S.

Audubon conservationists have learned a great deal about the Earth.

The Earth looks a lot different. Birds, wildlife populations and the Earth's ecosystems are better protected.



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Answer Key



Students: After reading "Wildville," complete the tree map below to provide key attributes about the red-cockaded woodpecker. Try to list six short answers under each heading. Example: Red-cockaded woodpeckers are clever. Teachers: Possible answers are below.

Red-Cockaded Woodpeckers

can	have	are
peck peck holes in trees to release sticky resin to ward off snakes _____	dwindled in numbers due to the loss of so many pine forests _____	making a comeback along with the longleaf pine tree _____
climb trees _____	a small red stripe on the side of their head if they are male _____	named after the small red stripe found on the heads of males _____
breed once a year _____	doubled in number in the last three decades _____	black and white in color for both male and female _____
only live as far north as Virginia _____	a favorite tree to live in — the pine _____	on the endangered species list currently and since 1973 _____
only live as far south as Texas and Florida _____	the mother and father birds helping raise the young after the eggs hatch _____	less likely to become extinct in the future now _____
easily peck the decaying heart wood of a tree, especially old trees _____	a special way to attract females if they are male — they flutter their wings, call and tap on wood _____	monogamous, which means to have one mate for all of life _____