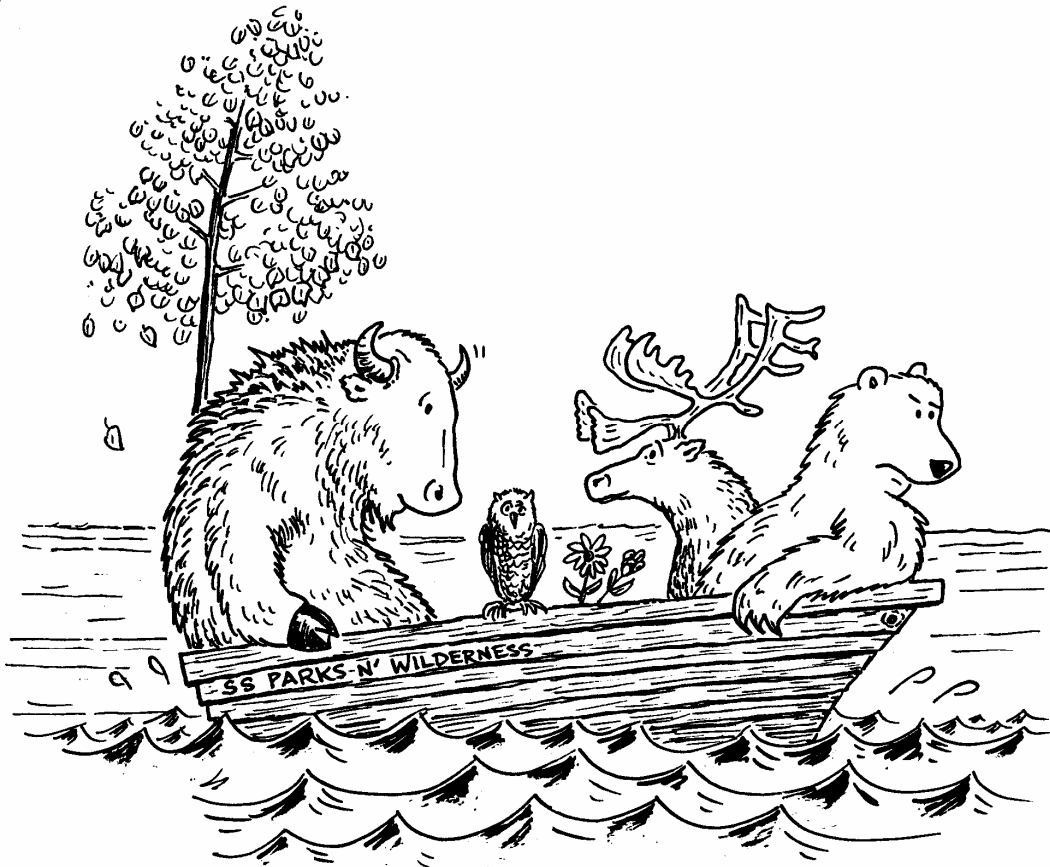


# SOS: Saving Our Species



**Activities to teach about endangered species  
and habitat preservation**

**A collaboration between Puffin Productions &  
Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society**

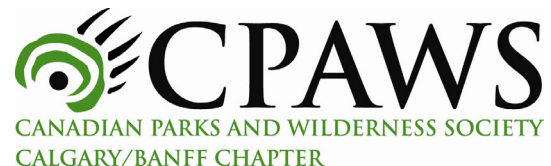
# Hello!

This resource has been developed to help educators teach students about how species become endangered, why extinction is a problem, and most importantly, what to do to solve the problem. Endangered species offer a high-interest entry point for students to learn about habitat, ecosystems, and many key learning outcomes found in core curriculum. With **over 500 species** on Canada's rapidly-growing list of endangered species, we owe it to young people to show them some positive solutions.

This resource was developed by Gareth Thomson in partnership with Peter Lenton of Puffin Productions, and accompanies Peter Puffin's audio CD and tape, *Passengers*. This unique collaboration allows you to work through this resource, AND use music to inspire and educate students about endangered species. You can order the *Passengers* CD or **book a school concert with Peter Puffin** by visiting [www.puffin.ca](http://www.puffin.ca) or calling 1-888-878-2246.

This activity guidebook is a living document and is a vital component of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society's Endangered Species Elementary Education Program. We welcome all feedback and will incorporate suggested changes. For comments, questions and inquiries, please contact the CPAWS Education Team at [education@cpawscalgary.org](mailto:education@cpawscalgary.org). **This document is printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper.**

## About Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS)



The Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society was founded in 1963 and is Canada's true grassroots voice for wilderness. Our mission is to establish new parks and protected areas and ensure that nature comes first in their management. CPAWS has played a key role in saving almost 40 million hectares of Canada's spectacular wildlands. Built from the ground up, we have thirteen chapters across the country, where people passionate about nature can get actively involved.

The CPAWS Calgary-Banff Chapter is the only CPAWS chapter to offer formal education programs. We offer customized workshops and programs for teachers and students, including teaching kits, classroom programs, guided hikes and professional development workshops on a variety of topics. For more information, please visit [www.cpawscalgary.org/education](http://www.cpawscalgary.org/education) or call 403-232-6686.

We gratefully acknowledge these generous organizations for their support of this resource:



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# Curriculum Connections

**SOS: Saving our Species** is an activity guide that deals with an important environmental topic. As with complex environmental issues themselves, it crosses content area lines and is a multidisciplinary, cross-curricular topic. Teachers might need to make slight adaptations to activities to suit their particular group or curriculum. Luckily, teachers are fabulously skilled at doing just that! Some of the more striking connections with the Alberta curriculum are shown below.

Grade	Curriculum Connections
Grade 3	Science: Animal Life Cycles (specifically mentions endangered species) Social Studies: Global Citizenship Language Arts
Grade 4	Science: Waste in our World; Plant Growth & Changes Social Studies: Alberta: the Land, People & Stories Language Arts
Grade 5	Science: Wetland Ecosystems Social Studies: Canada: its Geography and People Mathematics Language Arts
Grade 6	Science: Trees and Forests Social Studies: Local Government Language Arts

## CPAWS' Education Principles

### Science-Based

Our education is based on sciences such as conservation biology; it is grounded in fact.

### Student-Centered

All activities are learner-centered and experiential in nature.

### Bias-Balanced

Our education programs are bias-balanced. Although the CPAWS point of view is clearly expressed, other points of view are discussed and respectfully considered.

### Curriculum-Tied

Programs for students are closely tied to Alberta curriculum content areas such as science and social studies.

### Empowering

Educational programs lead participants through the process of awareness and understanding, and allow them to take action through personal lifestyle changes or through democratic, citizenship-building processes such as letter-writing.