



**MINNESOTA ZOO**  
Changing how you see the world

# Conservation SSP Animal Sudoku Pre Visit Activity

## **MN Graduation Standards supported:**

Grade 7 Strand IV.C  
The student will understand that within ecosystems, complex interactions exist between organisms and the physical environment.

Grades 8-12 Strand III.A  
The student will investigate the impact humans have the environment.

Grades 9-12 Strand IV.C  
The student will describe how the environment and interactions between organisms can affect the number of species and the diversity of species in an ecosystem.

## **Vocabulary:**

Fragmentation  
Territory  
Encroachment  
Poaching  
Eradication  
Habitat loss and degradation

## **Links:**

Minnesota Zoo website  
[www.mnzoo.org](http://www.mnzoo.org)

## **Introduction:**

A picture is worth a thousand words and in this activity the students will have fun solving a Sudoku puzzle while learning about the specific threats to their survival.

## **Objectives:**

At the end of this lesson, the students will:

1. Determined the list of primary threats to numerous animals in the SSP program.

## **Procedure:**

1. Print the Sudoku activity for each student.
2. The students are to complete the picture Sudoku and matching section on the second page.
3. The students should use the Minnesota Zoo website to assist them in the activity. Have them look under the conservation tab, then National Programs, and finally the SSP list link.
4. Have them answer the questions at the end of the matching section listing some common or recurring issues these animals are facing in the wild.
5. Have them list what these animals face or faced if they are no longer found in the wild.