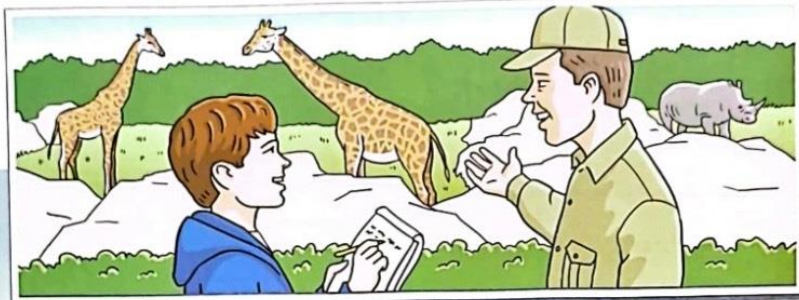


14 Listen and read. Why are tigers endangered animals?

## READING



**Robbie:** What's an endangered animal?

**Naturalist:** An animal is called endangered when there aren't many of them still living on our planet. In the future, these animals could become extinct.

**Robbie:** 'Extinct' means to disappear, doesn't it?

**Naturalist:** Yes, it does. If we haven't seen an animal in the wild for 50 years or more, it has become extinct. About 11,000 years ago there were woolly rhinoceroses in Europe. They're extinct now and so they will never come back. They were like the rhinoceroses you can see here today but much hairier.

**Robbie:** Which animals are endangered?

**Naturalist:** There are lots of animals that may become extinct. Mammals like the

giant panda and the tiger are in danger. In fact, the tiger is the most endangered animal in the world.

**Robbie:** Why are tigers disappearing?

**Naturalist:** There are people who hunt the tiger for its fur. There are only about 3,200 tigers left in the wild.

**Robbie:** Are there any endangered reptiles?

**Naturalist:** Yes, there are. Some types of tortoises, snakes and lizards in North America are in danger of extinction.

**Robbie:** What can we do to help the animals?

**Naturalist:** It's good to support organisations that help protect endangered animals in the wild.

**Robbie:** Thank you very much. I've learnt a lot about endangered animals today.

15 Read and answer *True*, *False* or *I don't know*.

- 1 If an animal is extinct, there are many of them still living on our planet.
- 2 The tiger is an endangered animal.
- 3 People hunt the giant panda for its fur.
- 4 There aren't any endangered reptiles.
- 5 There are only 3,200 North American lizards left on our planet.
- 6 We can support organisations to protect animals in danger of extinction.
- 7 Robbie wants to help endangered animals.

### HOME-SCHOOL LINK

Tell your family about an endangered animal.

