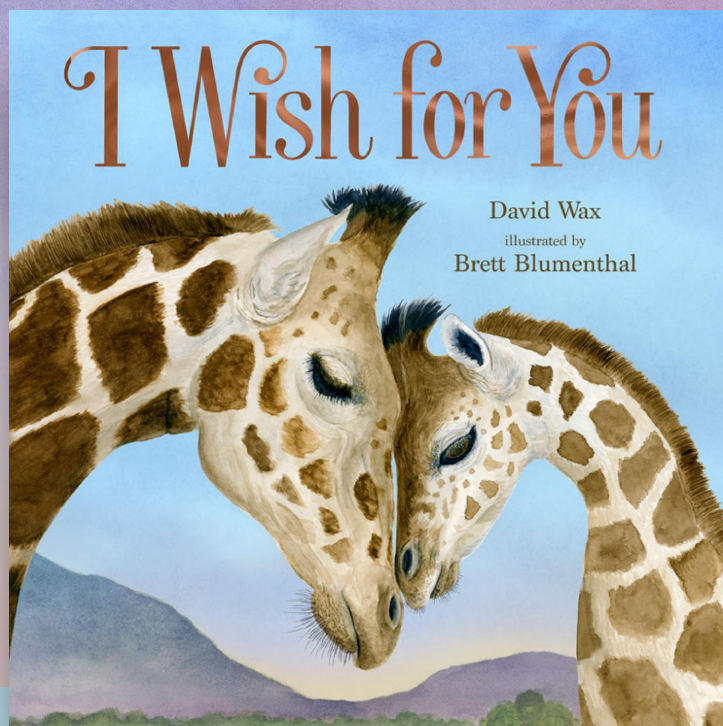


I Wish for You

David Wax

illustrated by
Brett Blumenthal

ISBN: 978-1250822185
Pre-K - 5th Grade / Ages 4 - 11



WILDLIFE TEACHING GUIDE

ABOUT THE BOOK

I Wish for You is a Children's Book exploring the values we hope our children adopt, and how they can be learned from the amazing creatures on this planet.

From courageous lions and wise owls to playful dolphins and wolves finding their voices, *I Wish for You* explores the values we can draw from the wondrous and amazing creatures on this planet.

Gentle and affirming, the lyrical text takes readers through the qualities we wish to instill in our children, helping them grow into resilient, assured, and happy individuals. *I Wish for You* is both a celebration of nature as well as a love letter to a child.

ABOUT THE WILDLIFE TEACHING GUIDE

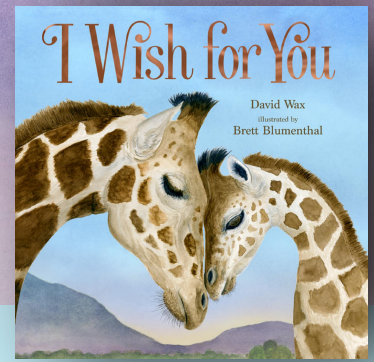
In *I Wish for You* we showcase twelve different animal species, each representing a specific value that we all hope to instill in our children. We believe that biodiversity is an essential component of the health of our planet and encourage you to discuss these animals with your students to help them understand more about these beautiful creatures. Please note that this is just a guide. Some questions may not be age appropriate for all students. Please feel free to modify as you see fit. Answers are provided in italicized font for questions that have a specific answer.

HOW TO USE THE WILDLIFE TEACHING GUIDE

Read through the book, *I Wish for You*, in its entirety. Then take some time to use the following questions and activities to reinforce the importance of wildlife conservation and biodiversity. For the individual species, consider exploring and studying each animal at a time. All of the fact based questions are taken from the backmatter of *I Wish for You*. The Discussion Questions are intended to help students think critically and creatively about each animal and their traits.

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VOCABULARY

The following vocabulary words are a great way to introduce concepts of wildlife conservation to students. Discuss the meaning of each.

- Biodiversity
- Species
- Vulnerable
- Endangered
- Extinct
- Conservation
- Captive
- Preservation
- Wildlife Management
- Habitat

VOCABULARY ACTIVITIES

Frayer Model: Use the Frayer Model to reinforce vocabulary. The Frayer Model is a graphic organizer for building student vocabulary. Create a chart divided into 4 sections. Each section should have a heading or label that includes a variation of the word's definition, attributes, characteristics, synonyms, examples, antonyms, or non-examples. For more info, go to:

<https://www.theteachertoolkit.com/index.php/tool/frayer-model>



GENERAL DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Use the following questions to encourage dialogue about biodiversity, the importance of protecting wildlife and our planet, and what we can do to help wildlife.

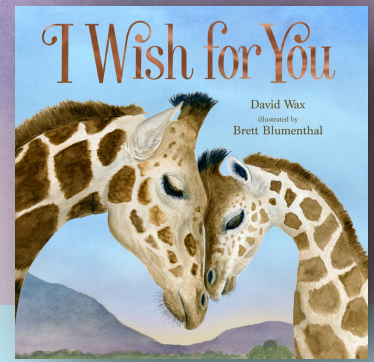
1. What is biodiversity and why is it important for our planet?
2. Why is it important that we protect species who are considered threatened, vulnerable or endangered?
3. What are some ways you can help protect wildlife and the planet?
4. What resources can you use to learn about the status of a species? <https://www.iucnredlist.org/>

GENERAL ACTIVITIES

1. **Conservation Imagery:** Have students draw a picture of what wildlife conservation looks like to them.
2. **Species Activity:** After conducting your Q&A sessions on the animals, have students create a visual board or report on one of the twelve animals represented in the book.
3. **Jigsaw Group Activity:** Divide up the class into Jigsaw groups of 4-6. Assign each student a different animal from the book (or let them choose). They are now the official "Expert" of that animal. Each student should then write down the facts about the animal independently. Once completed, have experts come back and join the other animals' experts from their group. They should then present his or her animal to their Jigsaw group. Each Jigsaw group should then create a summary and presentation to present to the larger class, having each student "expert" present his or her animal to the greater group.

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Each of the individual species are represented on the following pages. The “Fact-based Questions” come from the information provided in the backmatter of *I Wish for You*. Use the “Discussion Questions” to encourage curiosity, creativity and critical thinking among your students as it relates to each species.

HORSES - AMERICAN MUSTANG (EQUUS FERUS CABALLUS)

Fact-based Questions

1. What was the first continent on which horses first evolved? *North America*
2. How long ago did they evolve? *1.1 – 1.2 million years ago*
3. How have horses migrated to other continents? *By using Land Bridges*
4. What is the only continent on which horses do not run free? *Antarctica*
5. What term is used to refer to animals who are not wild? *Domesticated*
6. Are Mustangs in North America and Brumbies in Australia considered wild horses? *No, they are feral horses which are descended from Domesticated horses.*
7. What species of horse is the only true wild horse still in existence today? *Przewalski’s Horse (Equus ferus przewalskii)*



Discussion Questions

1. If you were a horse, would you prefer to be wild or domesticated? Why?
2. Why do you think horses have not migrated to Antarctica?

COMMON BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (TURSIOPS)

Fact-based Questions

1. Name some ways in which Bottlenose dolphins are playful. *They surf waves, play jumping games, use seagrass to decorate themselves.*
2. What are some ways in which dolphins show their intelligence? *They can recognize themselves in the mirror, can understand symbols and can remember other dolphins they meet for up to 20 years.*

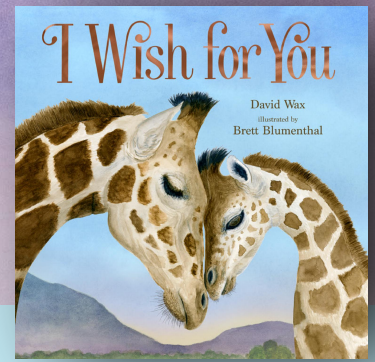


Discussion Questions

1. Do you think dolphins would make good friends? Why?
2. How do you think dolphins sleep?

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GIANT PANDA (AILUROPODA MELANOLEUCA)

Fact-based Questions

1. What makes up most of the Panda's diet? *Bamboo*
2. How much bamboo does the average Panda eat in a day? *20 to 30 pounds*
3. How much time do they require to eat all of that bamboo? *About 19 hours!*



Discussion Questions (PANDA continued)

1. Why do you think Pandas are black and white?
2. Do you think Pandas hibernate?

EMPEROR PENGUIN (APTENODYTES FORSTERI)

Fact-based Questions

1. What makes Penguins friendly? *They work together to nest, protect their young and hunt for food.*
2. Do Penguins fly? *They don't fly in the air, but they do fly through the water.*
3. What is a tight group of several thousand chicks called? *A Crèche.*
4. What is the purpose of a Crèche? *It helps chicks keep each other warm as parents go out to sea for food.*
5. Who takes care of the egg after it is laid? *The father penguin oversees it until it hatches.*
6. How does the Father Penguin take care of the egg, and for how long? *He balances the egg on top of his feet in his brood pouch for up to 120 days.*
7. How cold can it get during this time? *-40 Degrees Fahrenheit*

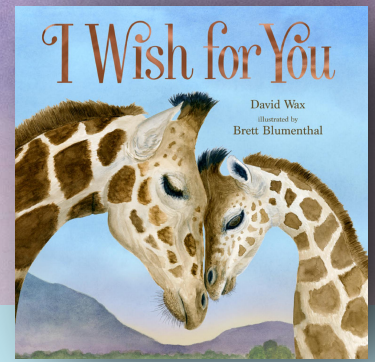


Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think the dad Penguin takes and watches the egg instead of the mom?
2. What do you think the mom does during the 120 days he's watching the egg?
3. What is the coldest temperature you have ever been in?

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BROWN BEAR (URSUS ARCTOS)

Fact-based Questions

1. Are bears stronger than humans? *Yes!*
2. How much stronger are they? *They are up to 5 times as strong!*
3. What kind of food do Brown Bears eat? *They are carnivores but get 90% of their food from vegetation.*
4. What other species of bears can you name besides the Brown Bear? *There are 8 species of bears: Polar Bears, Black Bears, Asiatic Black Bear, Andean Bear, Panda Bear, Sloth Bear, and Sun Bear.*



Discussion Questions

1. Do you think bears really give bear hugs?
2. If you saw a bear in the wild, what do you think would be the right way to react?

PLAINS ZEBRA (EQUUS QUAGGA)

Fact-based Questions

1. How many species of zebras exist and what are they? *Three - Plains, Grévy's, and Mountain*
2. What makes zebras unique and identifiable from one another? *Their pattern of stripes.*
3. Why do Biologists believe that Zebras evolved to have their stripes? *They polarize light which discourages biting flies (Tabanids) from biting the zebras.*
4. What is the base color of a zebra and what is the stripe color? *Black base color with white stripes.*

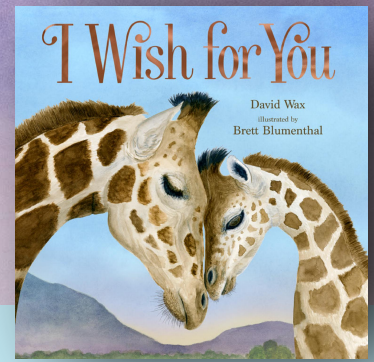


Discussion Questions

1. Name other animals that have unique patterns, markings or traits that make them unique from one another.
2. What animal do you think Zebras are most closely related to?

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KORDOFAN GIRAFFE (GIRAFFA CAMELOPARDALIS ANTIQUORUM)

Fact-based Questions

1. How long does it take for a giraffe to get up and run after birth? *A giraffe calf can get up and run as soon as one or two hours after birth.*
2. How do mom giraffes protect their babies from predators? *They will stand over the calf and deliver powerful kicks to stave off an attack.*
3. How tall can giraffes grow? *They can grow as tall as 19 feet.*
4. How big is a giraffe's heart? *They can weight up to 25 pounds and be as long as 2 feet.*



Discussion Questions

1. What traits do you think makes a giraffe confident?
2. Why do you think giraffes evolved to be so tall?
3. Can you name another animal that is a relative to the giraffe but doesn't look like the giraffe? *The okapi. Known as the "forest giraffe," the okapi looks more like a cross between a deer and a zebra. Nevertheless, it's the giraffe's only living relative.*

MARMOSET (CALLITHRIX JACCHUS)

Fact-based Questions

1. How often do Marmosets give birth to twins? *80% of the time.*
2. What does the dad do that is very human like in raising children? *They sometimes help with childbirth.*
3. What do Marmosets do that make them act like families? *They share food, alert others of predators and help raise children.*

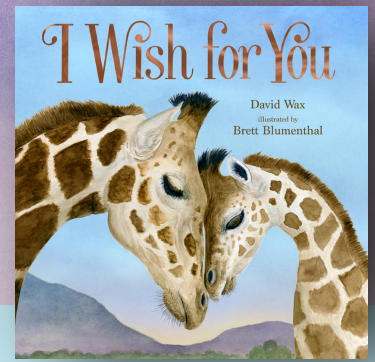


Discussion Questions

1. What makes Marmosets clever?
2. Primates are separated into New World and Old World Monkeys. What do you think makes a monkey a New World monkey?

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GRAY WOLF (CANIS LUPUS)

Fact-based Questions

1. Are wolves social animals? *Yes, they are pack animals. They travel in packs made up of nuclear family members.*
2. How do wolves communicate with one another? *They use howls, growls, barks and whines.*
3. What do they communicate about? *Assembling of packs, sending alarms of danger and to locate one another.*
4. How far away can a howl be heard? *Up to 50 square miles.*
5. Do wolves howl at the moon intentionally? *Although they may howl during a full moon, they also howl at other times, too.*



Discussion Questions

1. Do you think each wolf has a unique voice?
2. Since wolves are pack animals, why do you think a wolf may become a lone wolf? How do you think they feel when they become a lone wolf?

GREAT HORNED OWL (BUBO VIRGINIANUS)

Fact-based Questions

1. What percentage of an owl's brain is dedicated to seeing and hearing? *Up to 75% of the brain.*
2. What are owls good at? *Hunting*
3. What examples can you give that demonstrates that owls are wise? *They freeze food during surpluses for later use. They wait to lay eggs if food is scarce.*
4. Humans can move their eyes to increase their field of vision. How do owls shift their field of vision? *They must move their whole head or rotate their necks to expand their field of vision.*
5. How many degrees can an owl rotate their necks? *270 degrees*

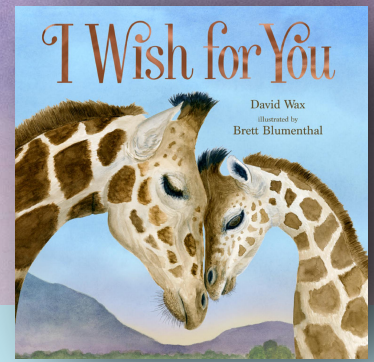


Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think most owl species are nocturnal?
2. Why do you think owls are considered "Birds of Prey?"

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WEST AFRICAN LION (PANTHERA LEO LEO)

Fact-based Questions

1. What is the name of a family of lions? *A Pride.*
2. Are lions really leaders? *They are better at teamwork with each family member having their own role within the pride.*
3. What are the roles of male lions? *Protecting the pride's territory.*
4. What are the roles of the female lions? *Hunting and raising cubs.*
5. Why are females the hunters? *They are faster, better camouflaged and have more stamina than the males.*



Discussion Questions

1. Do you enjoy teamwork or individual work more? Why?
2. Would you rather be the leader of a group or part of the group? Why?

AFRICAN ELEPHANT (LOXODONTA)

Fact-based Questions

1. Describe the family unit of elephants. *They live in tight matriarchal family units where one female leads the group of other females, their daughters and non-adult sons.*
2. How do adult males live in the elephant community? *They do not play a role in child rearing and mostly join large groups of other males. They develop long lasting friendships with other males.*
3. Give an example of how elephants demonstrate bonds with other elephants. *They develop lifelong friendships and familial relationships, and mourn the death of loved ones.*
4. How big are elephant brains? *Their brains can weigh up to 11 pounds and they have the largest brain of any land animal.*
5. Give examples of how elephants demonstrate their intelligence. *They can learn, express emotion, cooperate, communicate and create art and distinguish music.*



Discussion Questions

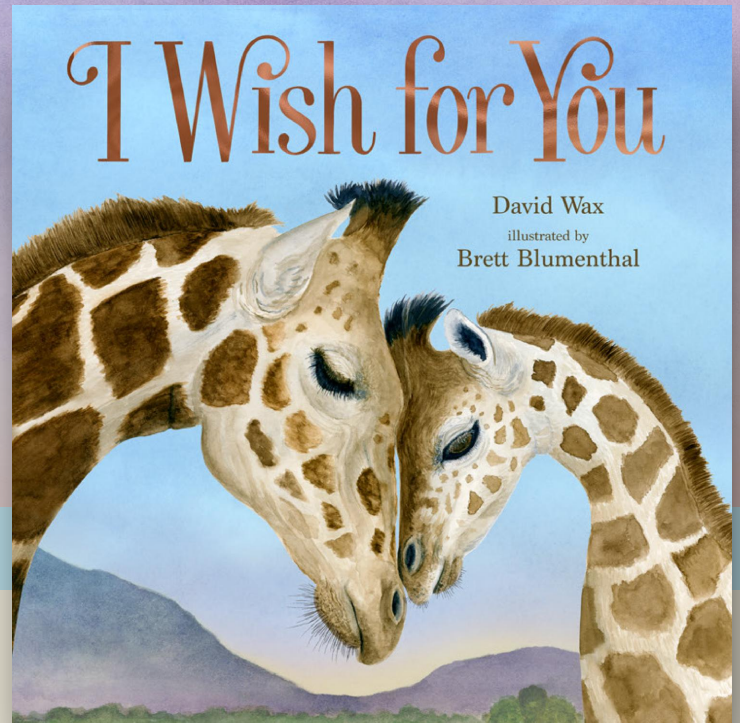
1. Why do you think elephants are endangered?
2. Do you think elephants are the largest land animal?
3. Do you think there is another animal that is larger than elephants in the entire animal kingdom?

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DAVID WAX and **BRETT BLUMENTHAL** are the husband and wife team behind *I Wish for You*. David's a consultant and a creative who enjoys time with his family and dreaming of ways to make the world a better place. Brett is the International Bestselling author of the *52 Small Changes* series and the artist behind Tiny Toes Design. Passionate about wildlife, animals and the environment, Brett uses her art to raise awareness about the importance of biodiversity. You can find her artwork at www.tinytoesdesign.com

David and Brett live in Charlotte, NC and are proud parents to their son, Alexander, and two furbabies: Dakota (Dog) and DaVinci (Cat).



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