

TIGERS

SIXTH GRADE:

1. Which tiger subspecies are extinct?

Answer: Three of 8 subspecies are extinct. These are Javan, Bali and Caspian.

2. How has human behavior impacted the tiger population?

Answer: The overall tiger population has decreased due to hunting for pelts & the Asian medicine market. Several species of tigers are now extinct and currently more Tigers exist in captivity than in the wild.

SEVENTH GRADE:

1. Why would white tigers never survive in the wild?

Answer: In addition to their fur providing poor camouflage the white coat is produced through severe inbreeding & many suffer congenital birth defects.

2. How long do tigers live in sanctuaries versus the wild?
How can this difference be explained?

Answer: >26 years in captivity versus 15 years in the wild.
In captivity the tigers can be protected from human and animal predators, be given a healthy, consistent diet and receive veterinary care.

For an extra challenge: Discuss the merits of life in the wild versus life in captivity.

EIGHTH GRADE:

1. What behavioral adaptations do tigers display?

Answer: Tigers are adept swimmers, live in diverse habitats and are nocturnal hunters

2. What physical adaptations aid in the tiger's survival?

Answer: Size & strength, protective coloration, claws and sharp teeth

