

EARTH—ENDANGERED SPECIES:

Earth was formed over 4.5 billion years ago. Earth has a moon that orbits it, called Luna. The moon is very important as it affects our tides in the ocean, and is possibly one of the reasons that there is life on Earth.

It took a billion years for life to form on Earth. Some scientists estimate that 99% of the species, that have ever lived, are now extinct. There are still over 10 million species living on Earth today, but as Xander tells us in the first episode of RESET, we are losing them fast.

ACTIVITY:

- 1) Watch the first webisode of RESET, when the kids are all at the school Science Fair. What statistics does Xander tell us about extinction when his Extinction Clock alarm goes off?
- 2) List ten species that you can think of. Are any of them endangered?
- 3) Find out which species are listed as being close to **extinction** or **endangered**. The World Wildlife Organisation has a species directory that lists their extinction status. *Link: https://www.worldwildlife.org/species/directory?direction=desc&sort=extinction_status*
- 4) What is the difference between Extinct, Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable, Near Threatened, and Least Concern? How does the World Wildlife Organisation define each category?
- 5) Extension: Find out how many individual creatures are left of each of the top five Critically Endangered list.
- 6) Extension 2: Look up how many endangered species there are in New Zealand today. List the top ten. Do you notice anything about them that they have in common? Find out what the dangers are for these species. Is there anything that you can do to help them before they become extinct?

