

TOPIC 8: PAINS AND GAINS

I Can...

- Evaluate the success and limitations of various local and global strategies for minimizing loss of species diversity
- Investigate and describe the use of biotechnology in environmental, agricultural or forest management, and identify potential impacts and issues

Preserving Biodiversity

What can we do to preserve the biodiversity of our planet?

➤ Zoos

- More than just a place to display plants and animals; zoos are part of a worldwide network that is attempting to protect, preserve, and increase awareness of endangered animals
- By exchanging animals between zoos, the network hopes to maintain the genetic diversity of species (breeding programs)
- Zoos also initiate and support research



Preserving Biodiversity

➤ Seed Banks

- Established to gather and store seeds from plants that are threatened with extinction
- Agricultural and research purposes
- Seeds are stored at below freezing; samples are estimated to last a couple of centuries
- Royal Botanic Gardens in London, England, has one of the largest collections of seeds in the world



A Global Effort

The preservation of biological diversity depends on both local efforts and global co-operation. Global treaties have been drawn up to protect endangered plants and animals, and protected areas have been established worldwide



Protected hot springs in Banff are the only remaining habitat of the Banff Springs Snail



Hunting threatened species is a criminal offense



The Marieta Islands reserve off the coast of Puerto Vallarta protect a number of at-risk species and their unique habitat

HOW DO PANDAS EXIST?

Sci Show

