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THE ZOO AND ITS BENEFITS: CONSERVATION, EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Visiting a zoo is a wonderful way of spending time. Both children and adults like going to the zoo. Nowadays zoos in big cities have become real

places of interest with lots of tourists. Many people think that zoos are a bad place to keep animals locked up, but they have a number of benefits of their own.

Only establishments accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) can be considered real zoos. They demand the high standards regarding animal welfare. Zoos help conserve animal species. Sometimes they become the reason for the existence of species on the planet. There are almost no northern white rhinos left on the planet. The main reasons are poaching and the destruction of their natural habitat. The last male named Sudan died of old age. A female rhino became pregnant thanks to modern technology. On July 28, 2018, a baby was born – the first artificially conceived white rhino in North America. If necessary, the reintroduction of animals under human care back into the nature is very possible. Thanks to the Phoenix Zoo, Oryx returned to the wild, which by 1972 was completely exterminated due to its beautiful skin and tasty meat. And now about 1000 individuals live in the wild. Herbivores animals must constantly be wary of predators in nature. They never go hungry and are always safe in zoo. Zebras and antelopes may not be afraid of big cats. People learn to exist with animals every day and properly equip nature reserves. They try to organize their lives without harming nature. Zoos also help veterinarians. Because veterinarians are being trained to treat wild animals. Australian centres help hundreds of animals recover after wildfires. They also help sick and injured marine animals in bays and oceans. People rehabilitate them in zoos.

Zoos are not just a place to see exotic animals. Preservation and research of biodiversity on our planet is very important and complex work. The more zoos will aim to protect the environment, the more chances we have to save our planet.