

## Threats to Nature Quiz for Guides and Rangers - Questions & Answers

The UK's nature is in trouble.

1

**What percentage of plant and animal species are in decline?**

- A. 21%
- B. 35%
- C. 41%** ←

2

**What percentage of plant and animal species are at risk of becoming extinct from the UK?**

- A. 8%
- B. 15%** ←
- C. 22%

3

**Which one of these has caused the most problems for nature in the last 40 years?:**

- A. Intensive Farming** ←
- B. Climate Change
- C. House and road building



- All of these are threats to nature, but well over half of England is farmland, so farming has a significant impact on nature.
- For example, we have lost a lot of woods and hedgerows from farmland, which would have provided a home for wildlife.
- But many farmers are working with conservation charities to help nature. In Eastern England, farmers have been working with the RSPB to conserve the Stone Curlew (e.g. by creating grassland and heath). As a result, the number of Stone Curlew in this area has doubled and it has been taken off the list of the most endangered birds.


4

Which of these also causes problems for nature?

A. Pollution ←

B. Woods and wetlands not being managed for nature ←

C. Some plants and animals which aren't native to the UK ←

 All of these can cause problems for nature. The way in which we fish also causes problems.


5

Which of these birds is the most endangered?

A. Puffin ←

B. Tawny Owl

C. Red Kite

 Many seabirds, including Puffins, recently joined the list of most endangered birds. The main threat is changes in the numbers of small fish (which Puffins eat) and where they can be found. Pollution, such as oil spills, and animals (like rats), being newly introduced to areas where Puffins live, are also serious problems. The Tawny Owl is also in decline. The Red Kite is a conservation success; it was endangered, but reintroduction of the bird in certain areas has meant that it's now thriving.


6

How many children regularly visit a natural place close to their home?

A. Less than a quarter ←

B. Half

C. Three quarters

 Children are spending much less time in nature than they used to. This is worrying because, in the words of David Attenborough, "No one will protect what they don't care about; and no one will care about what they have never experienced".



7

**Do you think that government funding for nature has:**

A. Increased

**B. Decreased** ←

C. Stayed the same



Government Funding for nature has gone fallen by around 42% since 2009.

8

**How many of the 20 UN biodiversity targets did the UK meet?\***

A. 15

B. 20

**C. 6** ←

*\*According to the UK government.*

9

**Do you think that the number of people who volunteer to help nature has:**

**A. Increased** ←

B. Decreased

C. Stayed the same



The number of people volunteering to help nature has gone up by 46% since 2000. So the good news is, that there is a growing number of people who want to help nature. The ways in which people volunteer include conservation -e.g. planting trees and monitoring – counting and recording the nature that they see, which helps us to see which plants and animals are most in need of conservation.

## Climate change

10

**Climate change means that:**

**A. The planet is heating up** ←

B. There will be less snowfall

C. Sea levels will fall



Climate change (or global warming), is the process of our planet heating up. The changing climate will also mean that our weather becomes more extreme and unpredictable and sea levels will rise.

11

Which of these leads to climate change?

- A. Burning coal, oil and natural gas to power our homes, cars and factories ←
- B. Chopping down rainforests ←
- C. Cow's burping ←

Answer: All of them. The gases released into the atmosphere from burning fossil fuels such as oil and gas act like an invisible 'blanket', trapping heat from the sun and warming the Earth. This is known as the "Greenhouse Effect". Forests store a large amount of carbon, which is released as a greenhouse gas when they are cut down. When cows burp, it releases methane, which is also a greenhouse gas. This might sound funny, but because there are over a billion cows, that means a lot of gas.

12

Climate change will only to be harmful to wildlife found in other parts of the world, like polar bears and penguins.

- A. True
- B. False ←

Answer: Wildlife in the UK, like moths and butterflies, is already feeling the harmful effects of climate change.

13

The Hazel Dormouse wakes up earlier from hibernation, when there isn't enough food for it to eat, because:

- A. People are making too much noise
- B. Winters are warmer because of climate change ←
- C. The light from houses and streetlamps wakes them

14

Seabirds in the UK are under threat because warmer sea water, due to climate change, means that:

- A. Seabirds can't dive into the water to catch fish.
- B. There aren't enough fish for seabirds to eat. ←
- C. More people are swimming in the sea and this is scaring away the birds.



Kittiwakes, arctic terns, guillemots and shags are among the seabirds which eat Sand Eels. These slim, long, usually silver coloured fish, feed on zooplankton (tiny sea creatures).

As the North Sea warms, different zooplankton species - which Sand Eels do not eat - move in which is reducing the numbers of Sand Eels or causing them to move away.



15

**How can we help to tackle climate change?**

**A. Putting on another jumper rather than turning the heating up** ←

**B. Turning the lights off when leaving a room** ←

**C. Walking/cycling when travelling to school** ←

*Answer: All of the above. Can you think of any more ways?*



**Other climate change quizzes:**

Earth Day: <https://www.earthday.org/the-climate-change-quiz/>

World Wide Fund for Nature:

- [https://www.wwf.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-01/WWF\\_EarthHour\\_Primary\\_Quiz\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.wwf.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-01/WWF_EarthHour_Primary_Quiz_FINAL.pdf)
- [https://www.wwf.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-02/WWF\\_EarthHour\\_Secondary\\_Quiz\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.wwf.org.uk/sites/default/files/2017-02/WWF_EarthHour_Secondary_Quiz_FINAL.pdf)
- For more facts on how climate change affects UK wildlife: <https://www.wwf.org.uk/updates/9-uk-species-affected-climate-change>

BBC Bitesize: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/articles/z48hqp3>