

A young man with dark hair is looking through black binoculars. The background is a soft, out-of-focus sunset with warm orange and red tones. The binoculars are held up to his eyes, and the reflection of the sunset is visible in the lenses.

**Careers from A to Z:**  
Will The Wildlife Specialist

# WHO IS WILL?



Will is a **wildlife specialist!**

Wildlife specialists work with animals to protect them and their habitats. Some wildlife specialists work in zoos. Others work in national parks or in areas where animals are in danger. Their goal is to preserve and protect wildlife in the areas they work. For example, if animals are in danger because a city is building a new road, a wildlife specialist will collect data about the animals that live there. Then, they will work with the construction company to make sure animal habitats are not destroyed where the road is built. Some wildlife specialists even invent new things to protect animals. (Wow! How cool is that!) And, sometimes they work with dangerous or distressed animals who need help. (Can you imagine how you would rescue a bear?)

## WHAT IS HABITAT MANAGEMENT?

Wildlife specialists help manage animal **habitats** (where animals live). Habitat management is making sure animals have food, water, and other resources they need to survive. Kids can help manage animal habitats, too! Planting trees or flowers that animals in your area use for food and **shelter** (a safe place) is a great way to help with habitat management. You can also help animals by picking up trash or asking adults to not use pesticides on lawns. These are all ways to protect animals' habitats.



# SAVE THE ANIMALS!

Choose one of the three problems listed and draw an invention that will save the animals!



**Monarch Butterflies:** These butterflies depend on milkweed plants for food. Wildlife specialists have discovered that chemicals are killing milkweed plants. This means monarch butterflies do not have enough food to eat. Without enough food, monarch butterflies are in danger. What might you invent to protect monarch butterflies from **extinction**?

**Salmon:** Salmon need cold water to survive. Wildlife specialists have gathered data that shows salmon habitats are getting warmer. Soon, salmon might not be able to survive in rivers because they are too warm. What might you invent to help keep river water cold?



**Sea Turtles:** Only 1% of baby sea turtle **hatchlings** grow into adult turtles. From the time they hatch, baby sea turtles are in danger. Sea turtles are born on the beach, not in the water. Baby turtles follow the light of the moon to go back in the ocean to find food. But, if street lamps or other lights like flashlights confuse the hatchlings, they might crawl towards roads and out of their habitats. What might you invent to make sure sea turtle hatchlings make it to the ocean from the sandy shore?

DRAW YOUR INVENTION HERE!

