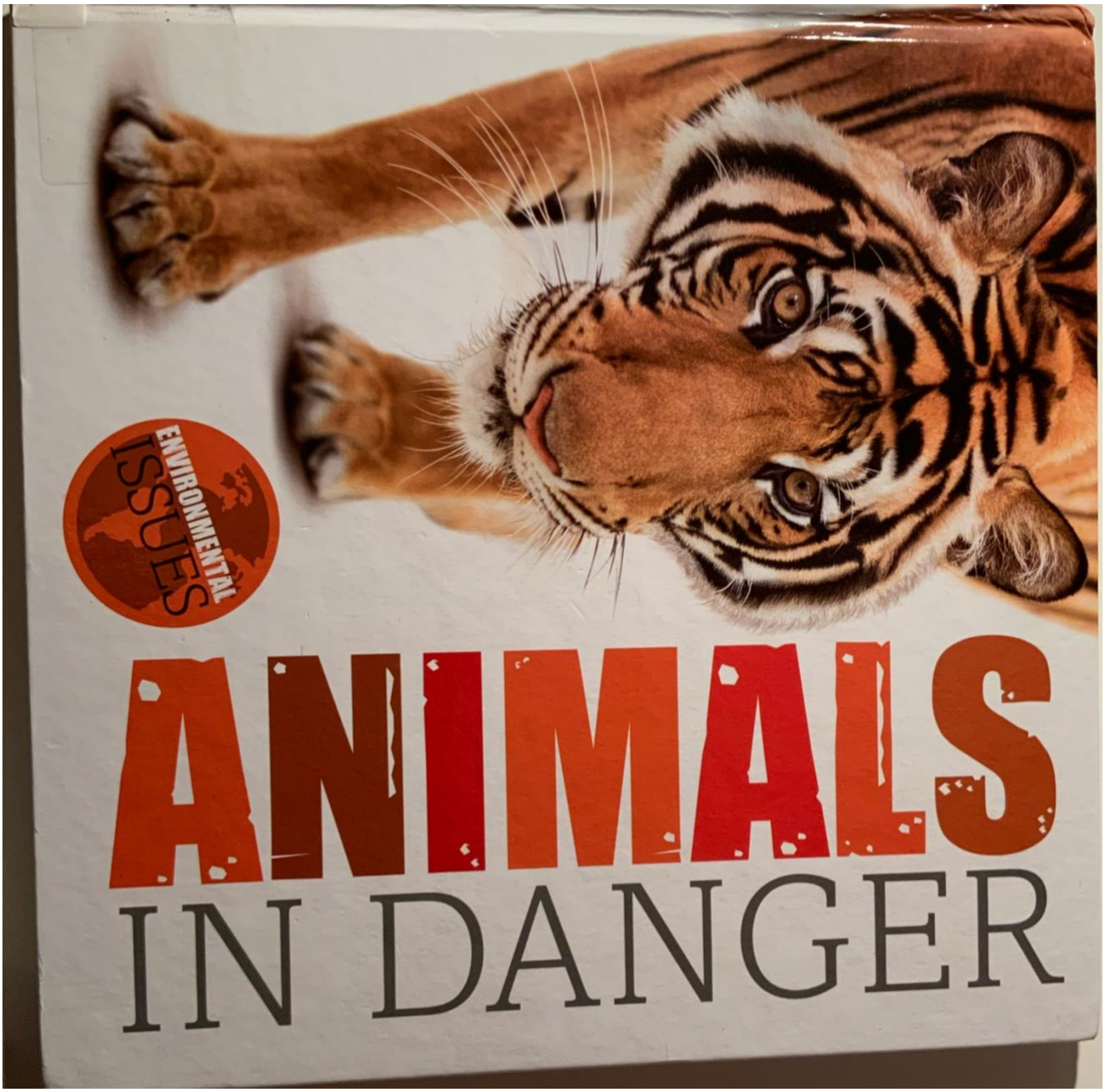
ENVIRONMENTAL
ISSUES
ANIMALS
IN DANGER

Words in **bold** can be found in the glossary on page 24.

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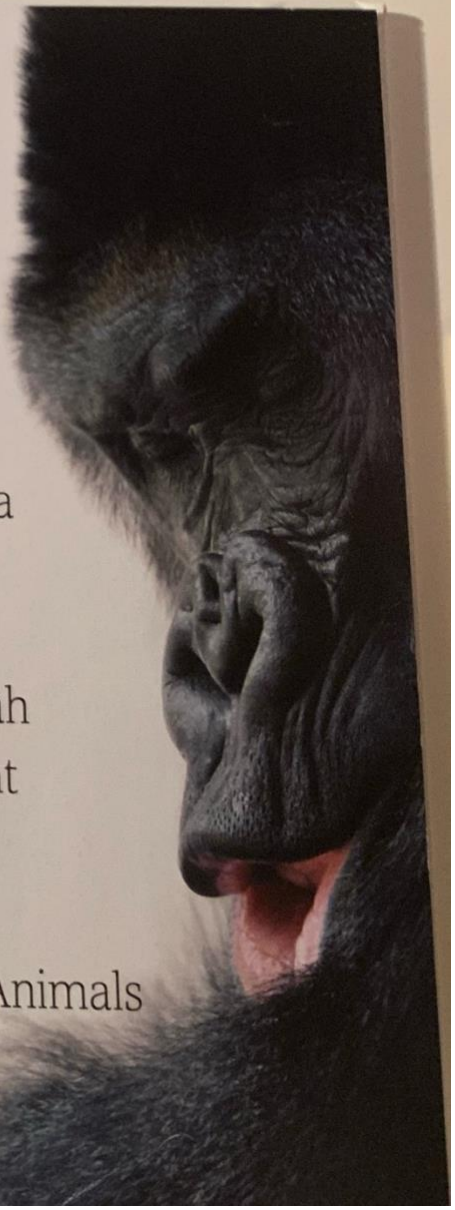


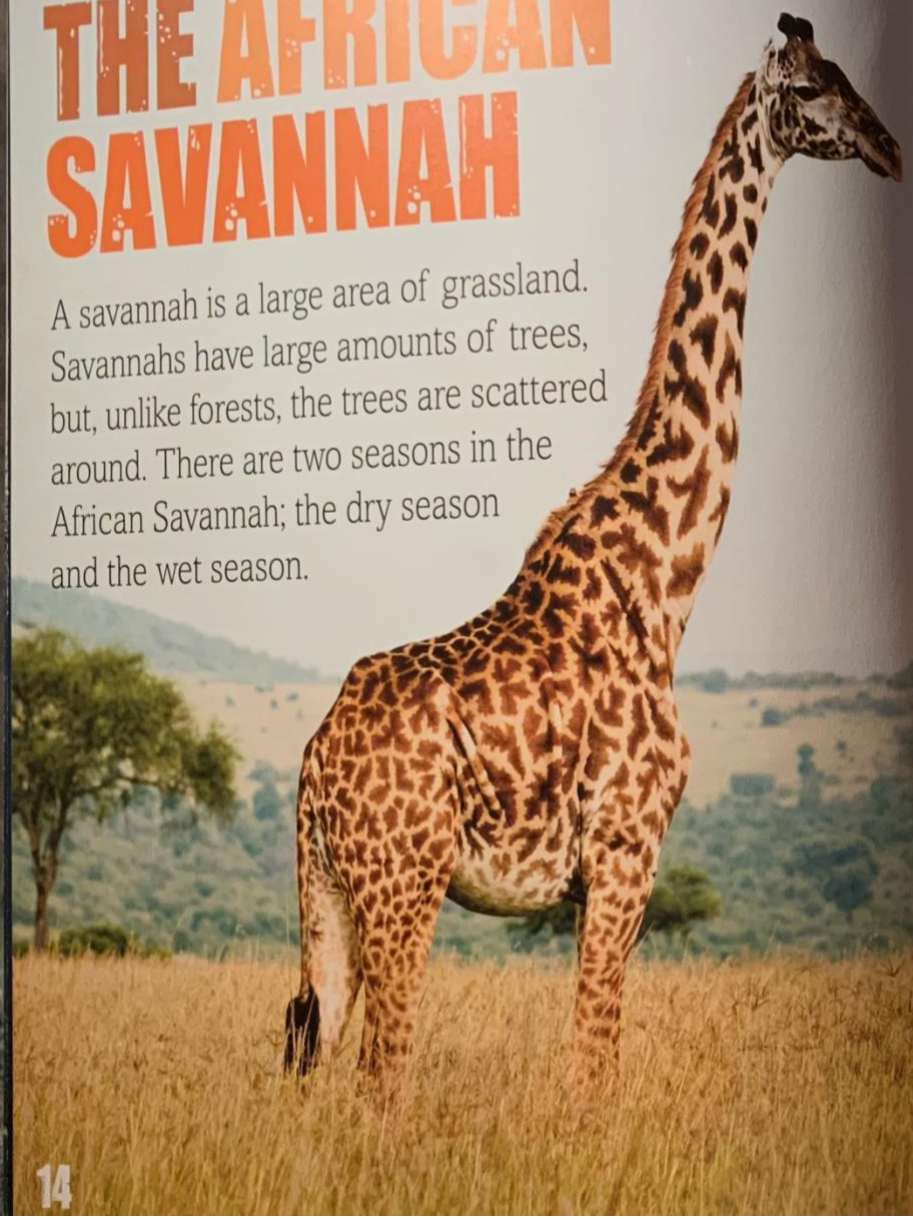
THE MOUNTAIN GORILLA

Mountain gorillas live in thick, misty rainforests, high up in the mountains. They can only be found in Africa and there are not many left. Mountain gorillas cannot be helped by zoos because they do not survive in them.

One of the reasons that the number of mountain gorillas has become so small is that for a long time they were hunted by man. More recently, their habitats have been cut down for extra farming land. The **remaining** gorillas live in protected parks where **rangers** work hard to keep them safe.

THE AFRICAN SAVANNAH

A savannah is a large area of grassland. Savannahs have large amounts of trees, but, unlike forests, the trees are scattered around. There are two seasons in the African Savannah; the dry season and the wet season.



Many animals can be found living on the plains of Africa, including giraffes, zebras and cheetahs. During the dry season, these animals can struggle to find water and must be careful to avoid waiting crocodiles!

PLANTS LIVING IN A SAVANNAH MUST BE ABLE TO WITHSTAND LONG PERIODS WITHOUT WATER TO SURVIVE.

OTHER ENDANGERED ANIMALS

Unfortunately, there are many other animals on our planet which are also at risk.

There are only a few black rhinos left. They mostly live in Western Africa. They are largely in danger due to poachers killing them for their horns.

The snow leopard is being hunted for its rare, beautiful fur, its numbers are now near disappearing.

Many of the forests where orangutans live, have been made into farms. There have also been **severe** forest fires, which have made life for orangutans very difficult.

The northern bald ibis vanished from Europe almost completely in the 17th century because people hunted it for food.

GLOSSARY

carnivorous	meat eating
decreased	got smaller
extinct	completely wiped out
rangers	people who work to protect an area of land
remaining	those that are left
roam	wander freely
severe	serious

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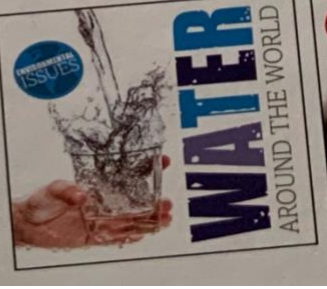

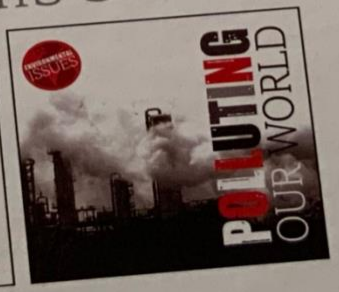

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