



Illinois ENDANGERED & THREATENED SPECIES

Have you ever noticed some of the animals or plants that were once all around you when you were younger are now scarce? Did it make you wonder what was happening in our natural world, or if anyone was doing anything about it?

In 1973, there was a passage of a law called the Endangered Species Act. This law was meant to help find a way to acknowledge that some of our plants and animals were getting rarer and rarer. As you explore, ask yourself some simple questions. Are there species that are more important than others? Is there a plant or an animal that you would really miss if it was gone? And what are some simple steps you are willing to do to help our natural world?

*"When one tugs at a single thing in nature,
he finds it attached to the rest of the world."*

- John Muir



common tern (*Sterna hirundo*) [state endangered]
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Jefferson salamander (*Ambystoma jeffersonianum*) [state threatened]
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eastern ribbonsnake (*Thamnophis sauritus*) [state threatened]
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mudpuppy (*Necturus maculosus*) [state threatened]
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