



Intermediate Activity #1

Investigating the Black-footed Ferret

1. Why is it important to save the black-footed ferret and other species which are endangered or on the verge of extinction?
2. Through much effort, the black-footed ferret has been re-introduced into the Canadian wilderness. This type of work takes a lot of time and effort, and considerable financial resources. Is it worth while to make sure that this species survives? Why?
3. Describe the process which led to the decline and near extinction of the black-footed ferret. Include the following:
 - a. Where they lived? (range, habitat);
 - b. What happened to the land?
 - c. What happened to their food supply?
4. What is sylvatic plague and how does it affect the survival of the black-footed ferret?
5. Find out how the black-footed ferret was saved from extinction.

Useful websites

www.blackfootedferret.org

www.prairiewildlife.org

www.torontozoo.com/conservation/captive-breeding.asp?pg=bff

www.nwhc.usgs.gov/disease_information/sylvatic_plague

www.pc.gc.ca/eng/nature/eep-sar/itm3/eep-sar3j/3.aspx