

# When I grow up, I want to be a...Wildlife Biologist!

<https://careers.doi.gov/occupational-series/wildlife-biology>

## What do Wildlife Biologists Do?

Wildlife biologists are all about animals! The work of a wildlife biologist can focus on wildlife conservation management, land use planning, and forest or range management. Wildlife biologist research could include animal behavior, ecology, or conservation. Wildlife biologists collect information that is critical to conserve and protect wildlife species. DOI employs almost 900 wildlife biologists!



Fields of Study: Biology, ecology, natural resource management

## Bureaus that employ Wildlife Biologists:



This is a job for you, if you enjoy:

- Being outdoors! Often trekking long distances in remote locations to observe animals in the wild
- Handling Live Animals: Collecting Data and specimens from animals, or tagging them for future identification
- Geospatial/Statistical Analyses: Studying wildlife, their behavior and how they may be influenced by future threats, such as climate change

## Age-Appropriate Activities

### Activities for Ages 8 Years and Under:

- [“I Am A Wildlife Biologist”](#) video short and coloring page
- [Climate Science Champions Episode 3: Heather Johnson](#) video short and [caribou habitat activity sheet](#) (page 2)
- [Magical Manatees](#) video short and [manatee activity sheet](#) (page 3)

### Activities for Ages 9 – 12 Years:

#### Video Shorts:

- [Magical Manatees](#)

- [Climate Science Champions Episode 3 Heather Johnson](#)
- [USGS Pollinator Research & Monitoring](#)

### Activities for 13+:

#### Video Shorts:

- [Climate Science Champions Episode 3 Heather Johnson](#)
- [Climate Science Champions Episode 8 Steve Matsuoke](#)
- [USGS Pollinator Research & Monitoring](#)

## Caribou Habitat Activity

Watch:

[USGS video Climate Science Champions Episode 3: Heather Johnson](#). In this video USGS Wildlife Biologist Heather Johnson talks about her research on caribou in Alaska. Look at where the caribou are in the video. What does it look like? What plants grow there? What might the weather be like there?

Learn:

What is a Habitat?

Do:

Which words describe the caribou HABITAT we saw in the video? Circle those words.

Tropical

Grassy

Hot

Trees

Ocean

Cold

Wide open

Wet

Steep Hills

Dry

Flat

Rocky

Lots of places to hide

Mountains

Draw:

Draw a picture of a caribou habitat. Don't forget to draw the caribou!

## Manatee Habitat Activity Page

**Watch:** USGS video [Magical Manatees](#). In this video USGS Wildlife Biologists dive under the water to study manatees in Florida.

**Learn:** Habitat—the natural home of an animal, plant, or organism where it grows and lives, including all of the living and non-living things found there.

**Do:** The scientists in Magical Manatees are checking on the health of the manatees. Why do you think a wildlife biologist needs to know about manatee habitat? What special activity are these scientists doing to get a good look at the manatees?

**Draw:** Draw a picture of a manatee in its habitat: