

### **About:**

Gray wolves are social animals that live and hunt in packs. They are smart hunters because they work together to find food and communicate by howling. You can find them in forests, mountains, and tundras in North America, Europe, and Asia.





# The Gray Wolf

Canis lupus



### Threats to Wolves:

- As cities grow wolves have less space to live.
- Some farmers worry that wolves will attack their animals.
- Many people think wolves are dangerous, but they usually stay away from humans.

## Importance of Wolves:

- Wolves prevent overgrazing by hunting deer and elk.
- When wolves leave behind food, other animals get an easy meal.
- Lots of people visit Yellowstone to see wolves, which helps protect wildlife and supports local businesses.





### **Fun Fact:**

Wolves can go days without eating, but when they do, they can eat up to 20 pounds of meat in one meal. That's close to 80 hamburgers!

To learn more about how you can help protect gray wolves, stop by our exhibit!



#### 1) Target Audience:

The target audience for this exhibit label includes zoo or wildlife park visitors, especially families and those with an interest in wildlife conservation. This audience includes individuals of all ages, with language and content intended to be both user-friendly and engaging for children (ages 8 and above) and adults. The goal is to educate visitors about the ecological importance of gray wolves, their behavior, and the obstacles they face while also developing an appreciation for their role in ecosystems.

#### 2) Purpose:

Educate guests on the role that gray wolves play in ecosystems. Raise awareness and respect for wolves and their habitats. Encourage people to support initiatives that protect wolves.

#### 3) Bibliography:

Berry MS, Nickerson NP, Metcalf EC. 2016. Using spatial, economic, and ecological opinion data to inform gray wolf conservation. Wildl Soc Bull. 40(3):554–563. https://doi.org/10.1002/wsb.687

Stahler DR, Smith DW, Guernsey DS. 2006. Foraging and Feeding Ecology of the Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*): Lessons from Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming, USA. The Journal of Nutrition. 136(7):1923S-1926S. https://doi.org/10.1093/jn/136.7.1923S