



POSTSECONDARY LESSON PLAN

Nature and Empire

Discussion questions for “*Kingdom Under Glass: A Tale of Obsession, Adventure, and One Man’s Quest to Preserve the World’s Great Animals*” by Jay Kirk and related sources.

1. What is author Jay Kirk’s thesis?

2. Who was Carl Akeley? Where and when did he live? Is that important to understanding his career?

3. The Caspian Tiger is extinct. There are no more left. Does it matter?

The jaguar is one of many animals whose numbers are dwindling, to the point where soon there will be none left. If we can genetically copy this animal, does it really matter if it goes extinct?

Read more about the [Caspian Tiger](#) and the [jaguar](#).

4. Here is an overview of how the American bald eagle was brought back from the brink of extinction. Read more about the [American bald eagle](#).

What were the key decisions made? Who were the decision-makers? Can this approach be replicated in other cases of endangered species, such as the giant panda, blue whale, and howler monkey? Why or why not?

5. Are natural history museums still relevant? When was the last time you visited one? What should museums of the future look like? Here is a [study addressing the topic](#).

6. Does your generation have a different attitude towards wildlife than Carl Akeley and his generation? What is it? Which is better?
