

Activities for children

1. Catch me!

„Catch me!“ games are a good way to explain the impact of poaching and habitat loss in a simple and funny way.

There are two possibilities how you can run the game.

➤ **Poaching**

- **Material:** sashes with different colours for poachers and rangers

Round 1:

- If you have a lot of kids some of them can form a big circle to symbolise the habitat. You can also ask the parents to do that.
- Most of the children will be parrots. They don't need any mark.
- Choose some kids to be poachers. They get a sash.

→ Now start the game. Every caught parrot must leave the habitat because the bird is dead or sold on a pet market etc.

Round 2:

- Choose one or two new kids to become rangers. They get sashes with another colour.
- The game goes on like in the first round but now the ranger must catch the poachers → every caught poacher has to leave the game

→ The rangers try to slow the poachers down in catching/killing parrots. The parrot population does not decline as fast as in the first round.

1. Round:

- The government changes the system and now there are some new job opportunities. Because of that the poor people don't have to poach the birds for money.
- The rangers keep on hunting poachers. But now every caught poacher gets a new job and becomes a ranger.

→ After a while there won't be any poachers left and the parrots are safe.



➤ **Habitat loss**

- **Material:** no special material needed

1. Round:

- If you have a lot of kids some of them can form a big circle to symbolise the habitat. You can also ask the parents to do that.
- Most of the children will be parrots.
- Some other kids will be the nests. You need 2 kids to form one nest. The two kids stand in front of each other and hold hands
- The parrots now have to run around the nests. When the game leader gives a sign, the parrots have to reach a nest.
- If the nest is full, the parrots need to find another one.
- Parrots without a nest have to leave the game because they can't survive without a place to sleep and breed.

→ After two or three rounds the game leader removes one or two nests because people destroy the habitat of the birds.

→ Now, even more parrots won't find a nest. The parrots without a nest at the end of every round have to leave the game.

→ In every following round one more nest will be destroyed by deforestation of the rainforest.

More and more parrots can't find a nest until in the last round the parrots will be extinct.



2. Crafting artificial feathers

Most parrots are listed in CITES Appendix II and some of them are in CITES Appendix I. A lot of parrots are hunted because of their feathers. They are used, for example, for traditional clothes and headdresses.

With the help of artificial feathers there would be no reason to catch parrots from the wild for their feathers.



Below are some links about artificial feathers and also a video showing how to craft artificial feathers on your own.

- <http://armoniabolivia.org/programs/blue-throated-macaw/artifitcal-blue-throated-macaw-feather-indigenous-headdress-bolivia-armonin/>
- <http://armoniabolivia.org/2016/09/24/six-thousand-macaws-saved-by-armonias-alternative-feather-program/>
- <https://parrotsinternational.org/index.php/projects/alternative-headdress-project/>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U8tD8dLsUp8>

