

# ANOA TALK

## Learning objectives

**Connect people with wildlife** - so that they have a better understanding and feel more connected to it

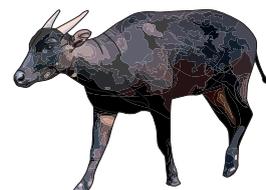
- Smallest type of cattle in the world
- Wild habitat
- Herbivores with an interesting digestive system

**Connect people with your zoo** - so that they have a better understanding of the conservation work you do to protect wildlife and want to support you.

- Introduce your Anoa
- Explain what you are doing to help them in the zoo and in the wild – eg. The Global Species Management Plan involves research, education work and breeding in zoo's. e.g. *We have successfully bred our Anoa as part of Global Species Management Plan to protect the species from extinction.*

**Get them involved** - what can they do to help?

- Say no to hunting and illegal wildlife trade
- Support zoos and conservation organisations who are working to protect Anoa



Anoa talk	Tips for delivery:
<p><b>Introduction</b>  <b>You!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who you are</li> <li>• Where you are located- so that your audience can see you</li> <li>• What you are going to talk about</li> </ul> <p><b>The animals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Where they can be seen</li> <li>• Is there a feed or enrichment during the talk?</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Think about where you stand - can your audience see you? Can they see the animals if at an enclosure?</li> <li>• Speak clearly</li> <li>• Be approachable &amp; well presented</li> <li>• Length of talk</li> <li>• Interactions</li> <li>• Involve your audience by asking them questions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Main talk</b></p> <p><b>To connect people with wildlife</b> – so that they have a better understanding and feel more connected to wildlife. <i>They feel it is relevant to them.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smallest type of cattle in the world</li> <li>• Wild habitat</li> <li>• Herbivores with an interesting digestive system</li> </ul> <p><b>To connect people with your zoo</b> – so that they have a better understanding of the conservation work you do to protect wildlife and want to support you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce your Anoa</li> <li>• Explain what you are doing to help them in the zoo and in the wild – eg. The Global Species Management Plan involves research, education work and breeding in zoos. e.g. <i>We have successfully bred our Anoa as part of Global Species Management Plan to protect the species from extinction.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Get people involved</b> - what can they do to help?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Say no to hunting and illegal wildlife trade</li> <li>• Support zoos and conservation organisations who are working to protect Anoa</li> <li>• Spread the word about these amazing animals</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Questions</b>            Invite the audience to ask you questions at the end</p>	



# ANOA TALK

## Introduction

Hello everyone and welcome to our Anoa enclosure. My name is \_\_\_\_ and at the moment you'll find me \_\_\_\_.

I'm here to tell you about these amazing, rare animals you can see in front of you, they are called Anoa. First of all, some of you may be wondering what an Anoa is! Has anyone heard of an Anoa before? What kind of animal do they look like? Some people think they look like deer or goats but Anoa are wild cattle! Specifically they are technically a type of buffalo. People normally expect buffalo to be big animals but those you can see in front of you are fully grown! Their small size gives the Anoa the title of the smallest wild cattle species in the world!

At the zoo we have \_\_\_\_ (*number*) Anoa altogether. There are \_\_\_\_ males and \_\_\_\_ females. You can tell the males from the females because males are darker in colour. Can anyone spot our male(s)? You might notice that both the males and the females have horns, though the females are a little bit smaller.

Anoa are found in Indonesia on the islands of Sulawesi and Buton. They are endemic to these islands which means they are found nowhere else in the world in the wild.

There may be are 2 species or types of Anoa although scientists are still unsure how different they are:

- The lowland anoa
- The mountain anoa

Here at the zoo we have \_\_\_\_ (*species*) Anoa.

## Habitat and lifestyle

As well as being unsure about whether or not there are actually 2 separate species of Anoa, there are also a lot of other things that scientists don't know about them. Anoa can be found living in dense forest and are hard to observe due to their elusive nature and so not much is known about how they live and behave in the wild.

We do know that Anoa are herbivores (*Question for your audience- does anyone know what herbivores like to eat? Hands up for plants then hands up for meat. The answer is plants*). In the wild Anoa like to eat things like grass, ferns, leaves, fallen fruit and water plants. Here at the zoo we feed them \_\_\_\_ (*food*). Anoa have interesting digestive systems because they are ruminants, this means they have 4 sections to their stomach which help them to digest their food. Other species that are ruminants include wild and domestic cattle, giraffes, goats and deer.

Scientists are still unsure what types of habitat Anoa prefer but we think that they like living in dense forest habitats, which might be lower down or in the mountains. They are sometimes also more common near to water where they may be seen wallowing in mud and water pools. They may have to find places like mineral licks or even areas with sea water to get important minerals.

In the wild Anoa are normally found living on their own, though small groups of around five have been seen and it's common to see mothers and their young living together. Males and females may also be found together when they are breeding. We think that they can breed from about 2-3 years old and normally give birth to one calf at a time. Young Anoa have a slightly more woolly coat than the adults.

## Threats and decline

As I mentioned before though, there is still a lot for us to find out about Anoa. This is particularly important to do because Anoa are an endangered species. There are estimated to be less than 2,500 fully grown Anoa in the wild which means they are at a very high risk of becoming extinct in the wild. The main threats to Anoa are hunting for meat and the loss of their habitat.



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They are losing their habitat because forests are being cleared for farming and mining which means that their populations are becoming split up, making it hard for them to move to new areas of forest and they pushed into smaller areas<sup>5</sup>. This also makes it easier for poachers to get closer to where wild Anoa are living<sup>1</sup>. Hunting is now thought to be the biggest threat to this species. Although their skulls and horns might be valued as trophies, mostly Anoa are hunted for their meat which might be eaten straight away or sold on to other people. Scientists have predicted that if hunting continues, the Anoa could soon be extinct in many areas.

## The Global Species management plan

Whilst it is sad to think that these animals are declining, the good news is that many people are working hard to try to help them. Zoos like this one, governments and conservation organisations from around the world are working together to save the Anoa through a Global Species Management Plan. The plan brings together experts from around the world and details of actions which will be taken to save the Anoa from extinction. Breeding them in zoos in Indonesia and across the world is a really important part of this plan. Here at the zoo we have successfully bred Anoa as part of the global species management plan (*if appropriate to your organisation, or 'we are working towards breeding Anoa'*). Can anyone spot our young Anoa (*if you have any*)?

It's also really important to find out as much as we can about Anoa both in zoos and in the wild. Research is being done both in zoos and in the wild to help us fill these knowledge gaps. This research will help guide best practice in caring for and breeding these animals in zoos and support healthy populations to prevent the Anoa from going extinct. Working with communities and raising awareness of the threats Anoa face aims to reduce hunting and increase protection of wild populations. We also want people like you to know just how amazing and special Anoa are and that they are worth protecting!

## How can you help?

Spread the word about how amazing they are and support zoos and conservation organisations who are working to protect Anoa and other wildlife. Say no to hunting and illegal wildlife trade of Anoa and products made from Anoa meat and other body parts to reduce the demand and therefore the hunting of these incredible animals.

## Conclusion

I hope you've all enjoyed learning a bit more about our amazing Anoa and about how you can help them. If you'd like to ask any questions about the Anoa or the other animals then my name is \_\_\_ and you can find me \_\_(*location*).

## References

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3. <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/3126/0>
4. <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/3128/0>
5. Burton, J.A. et al. (2005) The taxonomic status, distribution and conservation of the lowland Anoa Bubalus depressicornis and mountain Anoa Bubalus quarlesi. Mammal Rev. 35: 25-30. [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Simon\\_Hedges2/publication/229612804\\_The\\_taxonomic\\_status\\_distribution\\_and\\_conservation\\_of\\_the\\_lowland\\_Anoa\\_Bubalus\\_depressicornis\\_and\\_mountain\\_Anoa\\_Bubalus\\_quarlesi/links/09e41510a30b1109b6000000.pdf](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Simon_Hedges2/publication/229612804_The_taxonomic_status_distribution_and_conservation_of_the_lowland_Anoa_Bubalus_depressicornis_and_mountain_Anoa_Bubalus_quarlesi/links/09e41510a30b1109b6000000.pdf)
6. Flores-Miyamoto, K. et al. (2005) Nutrition of captive Lowland anoa (Bubalus depressicornis): a study on ingesta passage, intake, digestibility, and a diet survey. Zoo biology 24(2): 125-134. [https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sylvia\\_Ortmann/publication/50913033\\_Nutrition\\_of\\_captive\\_lowland\\_anoa\\_Bubalus\\_depressicornis\\_A\\_study\\_on\\_ingesta\\_passage\\_intake\\_digestibility\\_and\\_a\\_diet\\_survey/links/0deec528c7ac003e1b000000.pdf](https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sylvia_Ortmann/publication/50913033_Nutrition_of_captive_lowland_anoa_Bubalus_depressicornis_A_study_on_ingesta_passage_intake_digestibility_and_a_diet_survey/links/0deec528c7ac003e1b000000.pdf)



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