



If you would like to receive more information about the work of Five Sisters Zoo or the Winton Bear Foundation, please complete this section and hand it into reception.

Name.....

Postcode

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Five Sisters Zoo

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Thank you
for caring!



The Story of the Five Sisters Zoo ...and the Three Bears!

In 2011, Five Sisters Zoo launched an urgent appeal to rescue three bears, who have endured a life of hardship.

Suzy, Carmen and Peggy were homeless and languishing in a holding centre in Belgium.

The females, who for twenty five years worked for their owner in a travelling circus, spent much of their lives in horrifically cramped cages - measuring just 10m square.

One of the bears, Suzy, was so traumatised by the conditions, that she sometimes still keeps walking in small circles

They were put in a temporary cage after their owner fell ill, but desperately needed a new home to spend the rest of their lives in comfort.

Thanks to AMAZING fundraising efforts and donations from the public, Five Sisters Zoo was able to construct a new purpose built woodland enclosure for the three bears to live out the rest of their lives in safety and comfort.

Any donations towards their ongoing upkeep are gratefully received in the donation boxes at the Tea Room, Soft Play, Reception and the Bear Enclosure
Thank you!



Carmen

Peggy

Suzy

The Unbearable facts about bears in entertainment



www.fivesisterszoo.co.uk

With kind support and donation for printing from



The Winton Foundation
for the Welfare of Bears



www.wintonbearfoundation.org

Bears in zoos and bear parks

Bears are common in zoos and animal parks. In the UK, the legislation to ensure that animal welfare regulations are adhered to are a lot stricter than in other countries, where conditions are often extremely poor. They often suffer terribly from overcrowding, boredom, malnutrition, injuries and infection.



Thankfully, here at Five Sisters Zoo, the rescue bears have a lovely woodland sanctuary to live out their years in safety and comfort

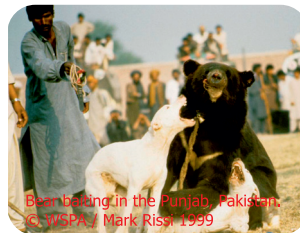
Bears used as tourist attractions

Bears also often have to endure the trauma of being held captive in small, rusting cages outside restaurants and petrol stations as tourist attractions, pets or for photo opportunities often illegally caught from the wild. Many of these bears suffer greatly from poor diets and little or no veterinary care and often turn to self-mutilation and suffer serious mental anxiety.

It is not only circuses where bears are exploited for entertainment...

Bear Baiting

One of the most savage blood sports still in existence in the world today, continues to take place in rural Pakistan. Bears used in baiting events are tethered to posts, often having had their teeth and claws removed so they have little means of defence. While huge sums of money change hands through bets, the bears are set upon by trained fighting dogs. A typical fight will last around three minutes. The attacks can take place up to six times a day, without the bear having any of its injuries treated leaving sensitive areas exposed and causing the bear great pain and distress.



Bear Dancing

Dancing bears have been eradicated in Greece, Turkey and Bulgaria but unfortunately they still exist in India, Pakistan and Nepal. Bears used for 'dancing' endure a lifetime of physical and mental distress. Many people are unaware of the cruelty behind the spectacle. A bear cub is often caught from the wild after its mother has been shot. The bear then has a hot poker pushed through its nose to create a hole for a ring, then a rope is pulled through the ring. Tugging on the rope causes the bear great pain. The bears are then beaten on the legs and buttocks while music plays, and they then associate pain with music and therefore 'dance' in anticipation of pain. Dancing bears often go blind through being beaten or malnutrition.

Bears in circuses

Many bears are held in circuses around the world, kept in small cages and dragged from town to town in 'Beast Wagons' for most of their lives. Circus bears are trained through inflicting suffering, painful training techniques and fear to get them to perform degrading acts such as standing on their hind paws, balancing on balls, riding bikes and boxing each other. Circus bears very often show signs of deep distress through pacing, bar biting, self-mutilation, head rolling, rocking, licking, neck twisting, self-clutching and swaying from side to side

Bears in entertainment

Bears have been exploited for 'entertainment' for hundreds of years. They have been forced to dance, perform demeaning tricks in circuses, zoos and bear parks, endure being attacked by dogs, and have been imprisoned in small cages as tourist attractions for photo opportunities.

There are estimated to be over 300 bears in European zoos and circuses alone that should be moved to better conditions. There are a number of bear sanctuaries in Europe and elsewhere, but they are all full and have long waiting lists.

