

# Philosophy in the Wild: *Special Assignment*

Deadline: Tuesday, June 16th

**Purpose:** Philosophical thinking should not be confined to the armchair: The empirical world provides myriad ways to illustrate, challenge, or complicate philosophical positions.



**TASK:** In our first assignment, we focused on engaging the *reasoning* of argument sources with respect to an abstract question. In order to broaden our argumentative skill set in preparation for our final paper assignment, we will now turn to practice identifying and incorporating exhibit sources in order to illuminate, challenge, or question philosophical ideas.

**(i) Gather 1-2 “exhibit sources”\* that illuminate or problematize any philosophical question in environmental ethics**

An exhibit source is any piece of information that provides an object of interpretation and analysis. A smoking gun is an exhibit for a murder case; A film clip can be an exhibit for a cultural critique of racism in popular media; an empirical study on self-reported levels of happiness in monogamous marriages is an exhibit for an study on relationship ethics. ***Exhibit sources can be anything:*** they can include personal anecdotes, empirical studies, music, film scenes, photography - *literally anything* that can serve as an object of discussion and analysis. Video clips and other media can be embedded as links as fulfillment of these sources. **NOTE: The purpose of this assignment is for you to explore on your own. This is an ungraded assignment. You are not allowed to ask if your exhibit source is acceptable. It is. Any piece of information that is communicable to another human being can be an exhibit source.**

**(ii) Come prepared to class on Tuesday, June 16th to share your exhibits and their significance in small groups.**