The Black Hat Letter

Many animals are kept in cages like the creatures in the film. Eventually the boy sets them free.

Write a letter to a zoo or an animal owner persuading them that the animals belong back in their natural habitats.

Below is a snippet from an example persuasive letter (an introduction and first paragraph) to give you an idea about how this might sound. There is also a word bank provided. You may choose to do some research about your animal to help you.

Dear Lakeside Zoo,

It has come to my attention that you are currently housing a lone hippopotamus in your zoo. I believe that this is disastrous for the animal and may set an awful precedent that other zoos decide to follow. I urge you to return the isolated animal to its natural habitat.

A hippopotamus is an animal whose natural home includes huge expanses of water, mud and a warm climate. You are unable to provide it with any of these things. Hippos are also dependent upon many species of birds (who eat ticks and parasites) and specific African aquatic plants to keep them healthy. Again, these are things that you are not able to supply.

