Tiger kills zookeeper at British zoo

Tigers are an endangered species. There are about 3,200 tigers still living in the wild in countries around the world, mainly in India. Many more tigers live in zoos. For example, there are 5,000 tigers in zoos in the USA.

What are tigers? How many tigers are still living in the wild? Which country has more wild tigers than any other country? Where do most tigers live now? How many tigers are in zoos in the US now?

Hamerton Zoo Park near Cambridge, UK, first opened in 1990. Since then, hundreds of thousands of people have visited the zoo to see the many different animals that live there. The animals live in large areas called enclosures. The zoo is quite small, just six hectares in area, but more than 100 species of animals live in the zoo.

When did Hamerton Zoo Park open? How many people have visited the zoo? Where do the animals live? How big is the zoo? How many species of animals live there?

In May, 2017, there was a terrible accident at the zoo. Rosa King, aged 34, was working in one of the enclosures. She didn't realize that there was also a tiger in the enclosure. The tiger attacked her and, sadly, Rosa died. She had worked as a keeper at the zoo for 14 years and loved her job. She especially enjoyed working with the zoo's Malaysian and Bengali tigers.

What happened in May? What did the tiger do? How long had Rosa worked there? Did she enjoy her job? What did she specially like doing?

No one knows exactly what happened or how the tiger entered the enclosure. The police are investigating the accident and, at the moment, the zoo is closed.

Do they know what happened? Who is investigating the accident? Is the zoo open or closed? Accidents like this do not happen very often but another young zookeeper died at a zoo in the north-west of England in 2014. 24-year-old Sarah McClay was also killed by a tiger that entered the enclosure where she was working.

Do these types of accidents happen regularly? What happened in 2014? Did Sarah survive the accident?

There are a lot of zoos in the UK. Hamerton Zoo Park is one of the newest. The oldest zoo in the UK is London Zoo, which opened in 1828 and is the oldest scientific zoo in the world. But it is not the oldest zoo in the world. The oldest zoo is the Vienna Zoo in Austria, which opened in 1752. The second oldest is the Madrid Zoo Aquarium in Spain – it opened in 1770.

Is Hamerton Zoo an old zoo or a new one? Which zoo is the oldest zoo in the UK? When did it open? What is the oldest zoo in the world and when did it open? Which year did the second oldest zoo in the world open?