Should animals be kept in cages in a zoo

To keep animals in zoos can have useful purposes for research and can protect animals who may not survive in the wild. However to keep animals in cages is a cruelty and an injustice to animals.

Zoos have some advantages when it comes to keeping animals in captivity. For endangered animals zoos can provide protection for those who would not survive in the wild, and have breeding programs that ensure the survival of these animals. If animals are kept in well-established facilities and the zoos are well funded to meet the health and medical needs of the animals, then there is no reason why these animals should not be well looked after. However most zoos around the world are not well funded and have terrible small, cramped areas. If elephants are kept in small facilities this causes damage to their feet that can often not be repaired and is cruel to the animals.

To keep animals trapped in an environment for the soul purpose of entertainment is a terrible mistreatment. Many animals life expectancy can be greatly decreased when taken from the wild and placed in captivity. The whale shark can live for over 100 years in the wild, but when placed in captivity this can be shortened to 3 years. This is mainly due to the small tank it is kept in. Do you think that is fair?

This is why keeping animals in cages, disregarding their need for open spaces, is a terrible act of cruelty and mistreatment. Zoos may provide protection for animals but every caring person knows that they cause more harm than they prevent. If animals need to be protected they can be kept in sanctuaries that are in keeping with their natural habitat.

Although some zoos may provide protection for animals with the right facilities, this can just as easily be achieved with proper sanctuaries and to keep an animal in a cage is a violation of animal welfare.