

PARENT NOTES

Science

Biology - Animals: Scientific Enquiry



At A Glance:

- ✓ Cross-curricular
- ✓ Key Stage 2
- ✓ Choice of ability resources
- ✓ National Curriculum
- ✓ Pre-visit and on-site activities.

What's Involved?

Before their visit, students will practise their scientific research skills.

At the park, they will undertake a close observation of a particular animal during their visit.

Students are guided to ask appropriate questions to initiate a scientific enquiry.



“So many things are happening around us that we neglect to look at. Part of the passion I have for biology is based on this wonderment.”

- Isabella Rossellini

About this activity

This resource is a scientific enquiry where students are guided to observe, record and ask questions about an animal or bird of their choice for which they will endeavor to find answers.

There may be pre-visit lessons to prepare students for the on-site task.

Activities are designed to appeal to students of all abilities in key stage 2 (years 3-6).

Questions & Answers

What is the task?

- ▶ Students will study an animal of their choice through careful observation with recorded drawings and written notes.
- ▶ They will also come up with a number of questions for which they will look for answers through from observation, reasoning or from the information boards.

How does this link to my child's learning?

- ▶ Closely linked to the National Curriculum for science, this resource encourages students to work scientifically by asking questions and using different means to find answers, by recording observations in written and graphic notes, and by identifying and classifying living things in their habitats.

What will they learn?

- ▶ Students will learn to make observations and are encouraged to note what they see rather than what they think they see or expect.
- ▶ They will learn to ask different types of questions, and they will then realise that there are different ways to find answers and that some questions require different sorts of answers.

How does this enrich study undertaken in school?

- ▶ These questioning techniques can be usefully adapted for other subjects and is a great foundation for planning.

What do they need to have done in preparation?

- ▶ Encourage an enquiring mind by the asking of questions. 'I wonder ...?' scenarios can be created from many different situations e.g. I wonder what ...? I wonder where ...? I wonder how /why? etc.

What skills do they need to demonstrate?

For the task they will need to demonstrate the skills of:

- ✓ focusing
- ✓ close observation
- ✓ identifying
- ✓ questioning
- ✓ researching
- ✓ reasoning
- ✓ recording.

Students will also need to demonstrate self-management skills whilst on the trip.

Helpful Resources

Encourage your child to research their favourite animal !

This activity was compiled by **Education Destination** in conjunction with **Amazon World Zoo Park**. We help students of all ages and abilities to experience excellent curriculum based learning opportunities at many Island venues and attractions.



edudest.info

At **Amazon World Zoo Park** you'll find an amazing location for learning! Students can learn about creatures and conservation and will come face to face with some of the world's most unusual, beautiful and endangered animals and birds!



amazonworld.co.uk

For further reading about rainforests and conservation, **wikipedia** offers an excellent range of articles.

This would serve as an ideal introduction for learners prior to their visit, and is suitable for ages 7 upwards.



wikipedia.org