

Integrated Clipboard Activities

*an activity pack for teachers and students
grades 2-5*

*The North Carolina Zoo Education Department
4401 Zoo Parkway
Asheboro, NC 27205
1-800-488-0444*

*created and designed for the North Carolina Zoo
by Brian Brinkley 2004*

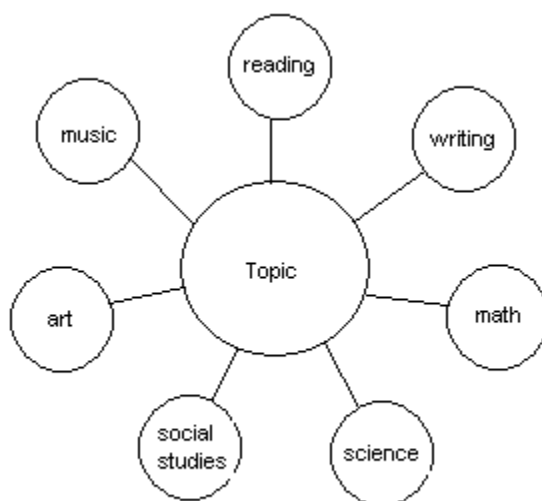
Teacher Pages

Integrated Clipboard Activities

The Education Department of the North Carolina Zoo seeks, in part, to inspire a realization that all life on Earth is connected and to motivate and empower individuals to take actions to preserve and conserve natural resources.

This packet of integrated, educational activities is meant to be used in conjunction with a field trip to the North Carolina Zoo.

In preparing for a field trip to the North Carolina Zoo, have students view the animal information, zoo map, and zookeeper resources on the North Carolina Zoo website at www.nczoo.org. Students may also be inspired to study zoological topics through an inquiry-based study approach. Once a topic of interest has been chosen, a 'web' of activities can be generated to spark interest in various subject areas.



The integrated nature of this planning method allows for student ownership, creativity and integrated learning. Each student's learning style is reflected, while required objectives can be woven into each activity.

The activities presented in this activity pack are designed to be introduced before the field trip, with students completing one to three of the activities while at the zoo. Time to study, complete, expand and reflect on each activity is important. These activities are designed to take 15-45 minutes at one exhibit, depending on the age and attention of the visitor. Grouping students according to interest or by the activity they wish to complete may be beneficial if done ahead of time. The only materials required are the activity sheets, clipboards and pencils or pens.

Activities in Brief

Be the Zoologist-Allows students to participate in an in-depth study of one animal. Students will become the expert on an animal, write non-fiction, draw and label a diagram of the animal and research its habitat.

Animal Geometry-Promotes divergent thinking while students look for geometric shapes in nature. Students will carefully observe and record by drawing organic and geometric representations of animals.

Zoo-Magination-Encourages students to imagine literary situations. Students will create fiction based on observation of animals at the zoo.

Data Counts-Requires students to think like a conservation researcher. Students will observe, record and graph data about plants or animals at the zoo. Students will also begin to generalize about data they collect.

Zoo Art-Encourages students to merge non-fiction with fiction. Students will observe and transform an animal in its natural habitat into a fictionalized setting. Students can then use their fantasy worlds as inspiration for fiction story writing.

Map a Habitat-Engages students in point-of-view artwork. Students will recreate an observed habitat in map form, moving from first person view to third person view.

Activities not completed at the zoo may be done as enrichment or follow-up as students return to school. These clipboard activities may also serve as a springboard for ideas students generate in the planning phase of your learning experience at the North Carolina Zoo.

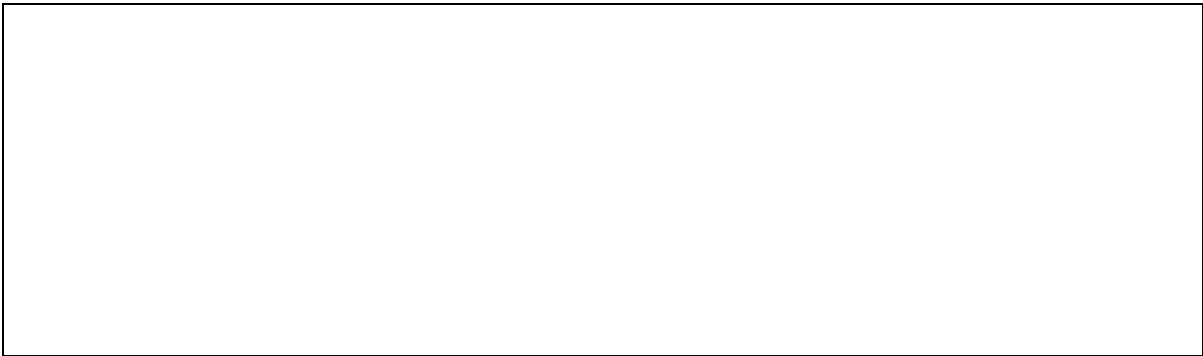
More activities and information can be found at www.nczoo.org. Then click on Edzocation.



--Be the Zoologist--

Choose an animal. Write a short, non-fiction paragraph about your animal including its name, where it lives, what it eats and other interesting facts.

Now draw a diagram of the animal and label it.



Habitat Research

A **habitat** is a place where an animal lives. The animals at the North Carolina Zoo are housed in habitat areas. Draw and label the important parts of the animal's habitat.



Write your own theory about why this animal lives in this particular habitat.

--Animal Geometry--

Organic art uses curves and shading to represent something realistically. **Geometric art** uses lines and angles to represent something impressionistically.

Look at different animals around the zoo. Can you see geometric shapes like triangles, squares, rectangles, circles and ovals in their body designs? Draw a few animals here using organic and geometric art techniques.

Organic drawing of a _____	Geometric drawing of a _____
Organic drawing of a _____	Geometric drawing of a _____
Organic drawing of a _____	Geometric drawing of a _____

What do you notice about the body designs of the animals you drew?

--Zoo-Magination--

!! Stop and take time to read the signs about what you are seeing !!

Choose one of these literacy activities to complete:

Write a character sketch of a fictional character based on a real animal you see.

Write a news article about one animal's imaginary escape from the zoo.

Write a fictional story based on an animal or a habitat that made you curious.



—

—

—

—

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

-

--Data Counts--

There are many things to count at the North Carolina Zoo. You can count kinds of mammals, reptiles and plants. You can count male and female animals. You can count species, colors and animal behaviors. Zoologist use data like these every day.

Choose something to count. Make a table and collect the data you chose. Then make a graph using your data. Make sure your graph has a title and is labeled correctly.

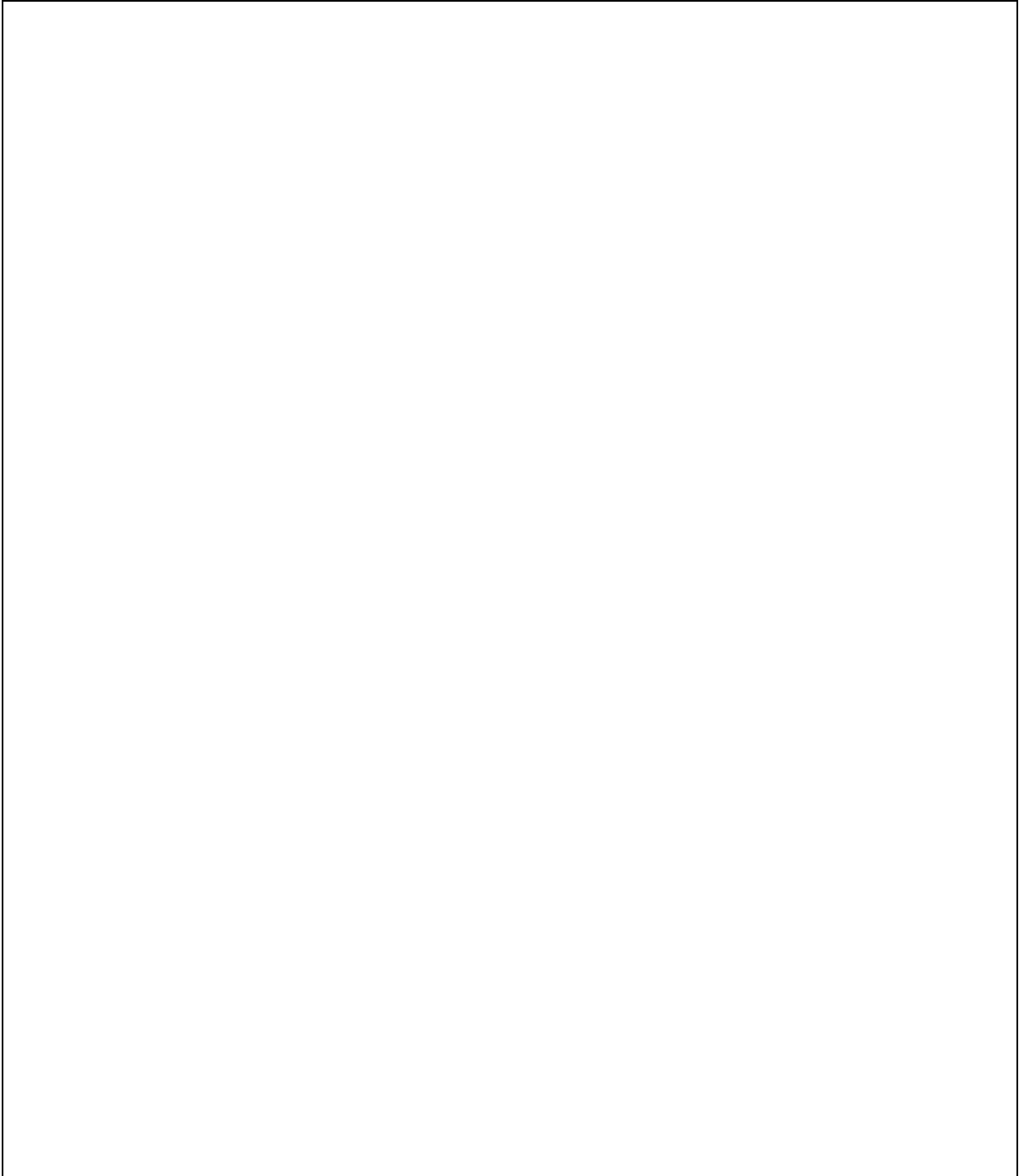
Example: I chose to collect data on the number of male and female elk in the North American Plains exhibit.

Female Elk	Male Elk	Unknown

What do you notice about the data you collected and graphed?

--Zoo Art--

Draw or sketch a fictional scene or setting for a story.
Use what you see for inspiration.



--Map a Habitat--

Imagine you are in a helicopter just above the habitat you are looking at. How would the habitat look from above? Draw a map of what you think you would see. Make sure to label each part.

