

# **A Zoo-To-Do**

## **Leader facilitated activities for younger scouts**

Questions and activities for Daisies, Brownies, Tigers,  
Bobcats, Wolves, Bears, Webloes, Arrows of Light

**The following questions and activities are for Leaders and their troops to do either before or after your North Carolina Zoo trip.**

1. Take a nature walk around your school, church, or meeting place. Use field guides to help identify the different plants and animals you see.
2. Build and stock an aquarium or terrarium.
3. Make paintings or sculptures of animals you will see or have seen at the Zoo.
4. Make a bulletin board or poster to educate others of the need for conservation and a clean environment.
5. Tell a story about your pet or a pet you would like to own. Tell about the proper way to care for this pet.
6. Write and produce a play or puppet show about how children should act at the Zoo. You might present this to another troop that is planning a Zoo trip.
7. Plant a tree, garden, or flowers. Show others that we **can** beautify our environment.
8. Plan and conduct a recycling project to clean up your community. Collect aluminum cans, bottles, or newspapers and sell them to raise money for an ecology project, such as buying a tree for your school.
9. Find out what is meant by “endangered species”. Why are some animals and plants endangered? How might we prevent others species from becoming endangered?
10. Learn something new about the animals you will see during your visit to the Zoo.
11. Make a list of new words you heard or saw at the Zoo. Look them up to find out what they mean.
12. Tell your parents and friends about your visit to the Zoo.
13. Discuss the purpose of zoos. What do you think is the most important thing zoos can do for wildlife? Share your ideas with other Scouts.
14. Discuss some differences between “wild” and “tame” animals. List some examples of each.

15. Find at least 5 examples of animals in music, art or literature. Create your own song, picture or story about something in nature. Share with your troop.
16. Research ways humans are destroying the homes of plants and animals. What can be done about any of these problems? How can zoos help? How can you help?
17. Name items humans throw away that are may be harmful to animals (i.e. plastic rings, balloons, glass). How can this be prevented?
18. Make a list of different types of foot coverings people wear (tennis shoes, boots, flippers, skates, etc.) and discuss why a person might wear each one. Notice the different types of feet animals have. Discuss how do you think special feet help animals survive?
19. Many animals have colors and/or patterns that help them to blend in with their surroundings. This adaptation is called “camouflage”. Discuss ways animals use camouflage to survive. Look for animals during your Zoo visit that might use camouflage to survive in the wild. Try to find animals in your neighborhood that are using camouflage. Design a butterfly (or other animal) that blends in with some area in your home. Place the butterfly in that area and see how long it goes unnoticed by your family and friends.
20. During your Zoo visit, look for similarities and differences in ways animals move, eat or protect themselves. Choose one animal to imitate. Can someone guess which animal you are?
21. As you tour the Aviary, notice the different shapes of beaks on the birds. How many different shapes can you find? Why do you think different birds have different beaks? What might happen if all birds had the same type of beak and ate the same type of food? Do people have tools that resemble any of the beak shapes (for example, spears resemble the beak of an egret)?
22. Can you find any animals at the Zoo that have thumbs? Watch the animals closely. How do they use their thumbs? Hold up one of your hands. Touch your thumb to the tip of each finger on that hand. This ability to swing your thumb across the palm of your hand means that your thumb is “opposable”. What might it be like to live without thumbs? Try to write your name or tie your shoe without using your thumb. What are some things that zoo animals with thumbs can do that other animals can't?

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Leader's signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date patch completed: \_\_\_\_\_