

“A ZOO-TO-DO”

Activities for Younger Scouts

Daisies, Brownies, Bobcats, Wolves
Bears, Webloes, Arrows of Light

The following are some things your troop can do before or after your trip to the Zoo. Scouts should complete at least 5 activities from the list before their Zoo visit, including 3 from those that are starred.

- 1.*Take a nature walk around your school, church, or meeting place. Use appropriate field guides to identify and list all 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 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 a 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, shrub, 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 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. Name some of each. List some of each that you saw at the Zoo.
15. Find at least 5 examples of animals in either 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 do you think can be done about the problem/s? How can zoos help? How can you help?
17. Name items humans discard that are harmful to animals (i.e. plastic rings, balloons, glass). How can this be prevented?

18. Make a list of several different types of shoes people wear (tennis shoes, boots, goulashes, flippers, skates, ballet, etc.) and discuss when and why a person might wear each one. Obviously, animals don't wear shoes. Instead, different animals have different types of feet depending on where and how they live. During your Zoo visit, notice the different types of feet of the animals. How do you think special feet help animals survive?
19. Many animals have colors and/or patterns on their fur, feathers, scales, and skin that cause them to blend in with their surroundings. This adaptation is called camouflage. Discuss some ways camouflage can help animals survive. Look for animals during your Zoo visit that are camouflaged. Later, look for animals in your own backyard or neighborhood that are camouflaged. Design a butterfly that blends in with some area in your home. Place the butterfly in that area and see how long it goes unnoticed by others.
20. During your Zoo visit, look for similarities and differences in ways animals move, eat and protect themselves. Choose one or more of the animals 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? Why do you think different birds have different ways of gathering food? What might happen if all birds had the same type of beak and ate the same type of food?
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?

Scout's signature _____

Leader's signature _____

Date Badge completed _____