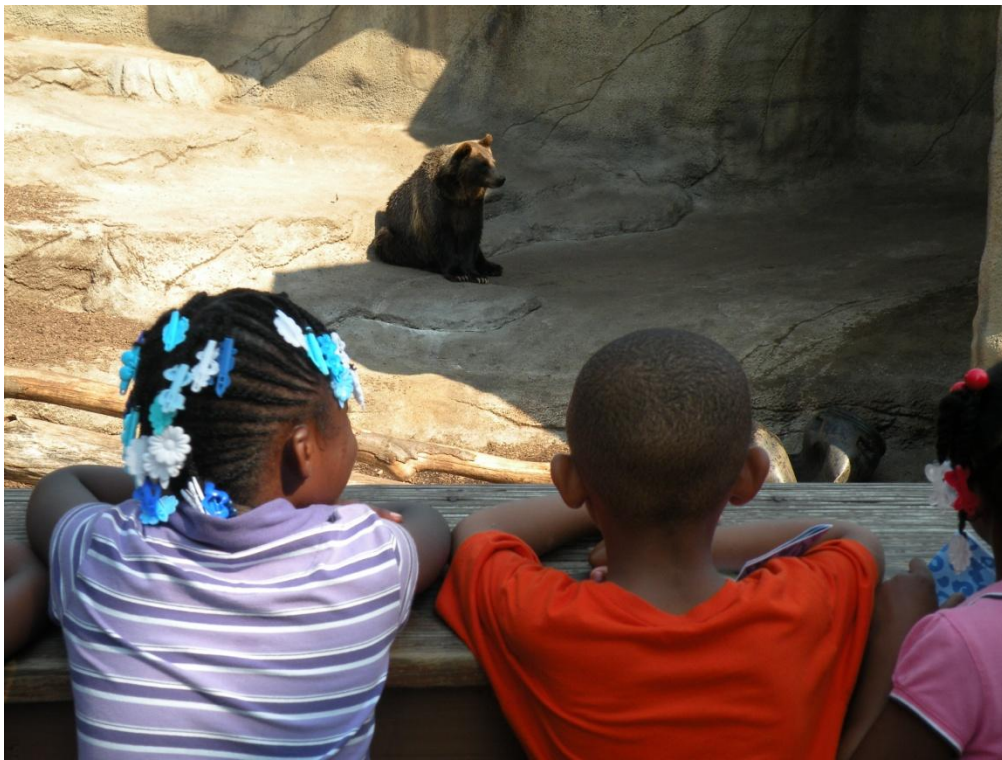




Z is for Zoo! – Activity Guide

Integrated Science and Literacy Activities for Kindergarten



Welcome! This program is designed to take students on a fun learning adventure throughout the Zoo that reinforces learning through the integration of science and language arts. Each student should receive the “Z is for Zoo!” activity booklet. This guide will walk you through the facilitation of each activity page within the student booklet. You can visit the areas of the Zoo in any order that your group chooses. Discover how easy it is to practice literacy skills through science at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo!

Students can draw a self portrait on the front cover to make this booklet into their very own passport for Zoo adventures

Food Fun – African Elephant Crossing Exhibits

Do elephants and people eat the same foods?

- Have students think about the question and make a prediction.
- Next circle all of the foods people eat on the left side of the graph under the picture of a person.
- Explore African Elephant Crossing and observe what the elephants are eating or what is in the yard for them to eat. You can also go inside the Sydell L. Miller Elephant Care and Visitor Center to explore the many educational exhibits and uncover more clues about what elephants eat.
- Circle the foods that elephants eat on the right side of the graph under the elephant picture.
- Compare and contrast the foods elephants and people eat. Were predictions correct?



Word Safari – African Savanna

- Go on a word safari by searching for familiar words used on educational signs around African Elephant Crossing and African Savanna.
- Kindergarten sight word list provided in workbook- student's can check off each word when found.
- Adults can help read signs to students when needed.

Animal Sounds & Letter Sounds – Northern Trek

- Assign a specific letter, or let each student choose their favorite letter to write on the line at the top of this page.
- Discuss how different animals make different sounds (ex. Tiger – roar).
- Walk around Northern Trek and Wolf Wilderness lodge pointing out many different animals and the sounds they make. Discuss how letters also make sounds.
- Identify and isolate beginning sounds of each animals name as it is encountered (ex. tiger starts with /t/ sound which is the letter T).
- While exploring, students should be looking for something that starts with the letter they wrote in their book and record their findings by drawing a picture.



Wolf Pack Word Families – Northern Trek

*This activity is best done in Wolf Wilderness Lodge or in the classroom back at school

- Observe the wolves at Wolf Wilderness and provide background information on how they live together in packs, just like we live with some of our family members.
- Relate wolf packs to word families.
- Practice making different words in a word family by keeping the ending sound the same but changing the initial consonant (ex. Cat, bat, sat, mat).
- Record words made with group in workbooks and read aloud by segmenting each sound, blending and sounding out.

Animals Move – Australian Adventure

- Ask children to describe some of the ways different animals move. (ex. walk, crawl, fly, hop, swim, etc.)
- Explore Australian Adventure while looking for specific animals pictured in the student booklet. Spend some time observing how those animals move, and record findings by drawing a line to the correct word in the student booklet.

Wild Writing – Any Zoo area or post trip activity

- Have students reflect on their day at the Zoo.
- Students should pick one animal (their favorite) to draw and write three words that describe that animal in the box provided.

