

Wilderness Trek Scavenger Hunt: Grades 9-12

- 1. Head inside Wolf Cabin. In the wild, Mexican Grey Wolves primarily prey on elk and deer, which can be much larger than them. What skills would a wolf and its pack need to take down such large, fast prey?
- 2. Inside Wolf Cabin, locate the sign that discusses wolf pack roles. Each pack is made up of an alpha male and female and subordinate wolves. The role of a pack member determine how it communicates with other members. How might an alpha demonstrate dominance, vocally or using body language, to a subordinate pack mate?
- 3. Beavers are extremely well adapted to life in the water. Observe the beavers, paying close attention to their tail, feet, fur, and overall body shape. How are these feature adapted to swimming and living in the water?
- 4. Observe our bald eagle. Bald eagle populations plummeted in the mid 1900's after a popular pesticide known as DDT poisoned many eagles. Once this was discovered, DDT was banned and eagles were placed on the endangered species list. Populations rebounded and today, bald eagles are no longer endangered. How can laws and an endangered status help protect animals facing crises? How can zoos help endangered animals like the bald eagle?
- 5. Exit Wolf Cabin and head over to the reindeer exhibit. Reindeer (or caribou) are commonly preyed upon by wolves. Without wolves to prey on reindeer, what would happen to the reindeer population? Why could this be a problem?
- 6. Head around the corner to the North American bear exhibits. Canine teeth are the large, pointed teeth that are used to bite and tear meat. Grizzlies do not have canines. What might this lead you to believe about their diet?
- 7. Grizzly bears (or North American brown bears) are known to hibernate in the wild when winter comes and cold weather makes food hard to find. Here at the Cleveland Metroparks Zoo, it does get cold in the winter, but our grizzlies do not hibernate. Why do you think this is?
- 8. Seals and sea lions are closely related, but have some observable differences. Observe our seals and sea lions and read the signs surrounding the exhibits. What differences do you notice between the two seals and the two sea lions?
- 9. Walk over to smaller bears: the Andean bear, the sun bear, and the sloth bear. The Cleveland Metroparks Zoo is working with the Andean Bear Conservation Alliance to study Andean bear populations in South America. Why is it important to study population size and distribution when attempting to address endangered or vulnerable animal species?



10. Head over to Rosebrough Tiger Passage and observe our three tigers. Tigers are very large animals and need a lot of food to survive. In a single year, a tiger must consume 70 deer or other large animals. Why does this make hunting and living alone better for survival?