

Primate, Cat, & Aquatics Scavenger Hunt Answers: Grades 9-12

- 1. Their teeth have adapted to the diet of animals they capture. Their claws and "reversible" hind leg ankles allow for ascending and descending trees headfirst, to jump from one tree to another and help capture prey. They have keen vision, hearing and smell. And have scent glands that are used to mark their territories.
- 2. You can help address and combat the illegal pet trade by making sure that the pets you purchase are domesticated and not taken from the wild; ask the pet store where they get their animals from. You can inform others about the pet trade and encourage others not to purchase wild animals. You can speak out or choose not to promote, like, or share, videos of wild pets on the internet. You can contact government representatives and encourage them to support legislation that protects animals and criminalizes the exotic pet trade.
- 3. Apes: gorillas. Monkeys: black howler, white-faced saki, and red titi. Prosimians: slow loris, aye-aye, and ring-tailed lemur.
- 4. One indicator of intelligence among apes is the use of tools. Apes in wild and in captivity have been seen using tools make out of sticks or leaves to help them accomplish a task. Complex communication is another indicator of intelligence. Biologists study the way apes communicate and have determined that they are well adept at communicating vocally and through body language. Some captive apes have even been taught simple sign language skills.
- 5. Invasive species can spread rapidly because they often lack predators when introduced to a new environment. They then compete with native species for food and other resources. Native species can die out do to this competition.
- 6. The clownfish are immune to the stings of the anemone, but other fish are not. Clownfish are protected from larger, predatory fish by the stinging anemone. Clownfish eggs and young are also safe in an anemone. The anemone benefits in this relationship as well. The clownfish excretes waste which feeds the anemone and makes it stronger. Clownfish also clean the anemone and keep parasites away.
- 7. Semelparous animals that only breed once, like the octopus, generally have a huge number of offspring in that one reproductive cycle. A female octopus can lay up to 400,000 eggs! Although she only breeds once, she has far more offspring than animals that mate many times throughout their lives. The benefit is having many offspring all at one time.
- 8. Stingrays, most catfish, clown loaches, algae eaters, and most gobies are bottom-feeders.
- 9. Red pandas are considered *living fossils* because they are not closely related to any other living species. They are the only living species in the Ailuridae family. Most biologists agree that the red panda's closest living relatives are raccoons, weasels, and skunks.
- 10. Living alone allow cheetahs to consume all of their kills themselves; they do not have to share. Cheetahs fast, but they are smaller than lions and their kills are often stolen by lions. Cheetahs often face hunger and having to share kills with a group could lead to malnutrition or death.