

## Primate, Cat, & Aquatics Scavenger Hunt: Grades K-3

1. Look at the fossa. Fossas are found on all the forested areas of Madagascar. Look at the fossa's legs. They have claws they can pull in, and ankles on their hind feet that are "reversible." How do their legs compare to your legs?
2. Observe all of our nocturnal animals in the darkened area of the building. It can be hard to see some of these animals in the dark, but look closely. What are the animals doing? What kinds of enrichment toys or materials do you see in the exhibits?
3. Observe the gorillas. Gorillas are primates, just like humans. How do the gorillas look similar to a human? How do they look different? (Gorillas may be on exhibit inside or outside.)
4. Observe the black howler monkeys on the upper platform. You will see two colors: males are black while females are tan or brown. How many boys do you see? How many girls do you see?
5. Here at the zoo we have four species of lemurs. Lemurs are primates, like monkeys, apes, and humans and are only found on the island of Madagascar. Observe the red-ruffed lemur, crowned lemur, mongoose lemur, and ring-tailed lemur. How are they the same? How are they different? Look at their colors, size, patterns, and markings.
6. Head over the aquatic area and find the pufferfish. Pufferfish have a unique way of defending themselves against getting eaten by bigger fish. Observe the pufferfish in his tank. Based on what you see and his name ("pufferfish"), how do you think this fish protects itself?
7. Observe the giant Pacific octopus in her tank. Do you see the suction cups, or suckers, on her arms? What do you think she uses the suckers for?
8. Check out the stonefish. Stonefish are one of the most venomous fish in the world. Stepping on the venomous spikes on their backs can kill a human. The stonefish is a master of disguise; the color and texture of his skin looks just like a stone. Can you find this camouflaged fish? Do you see his venomous spines?
9. Head outside and check out the Aldabras. Do you know the difference between a tortoise and a turtle? Tortoises live mostly on land and turtles live mostly in the water. Take a look at the giant Aldabras outside. Based on their exhibit, do you think these are tortoises or turtles? (Note: the Aldabra giant tortoises are only on display during warmer months).
10. Now walk over and observe the cheetahs. Cheetahs are one of the fastest land animals in the world. At top speed, cheetahs can run 60 miles per hour (but only for a few seconds). This is as fast as a car on the freeway! Why does a cheetah need to be so fast?