

VIRTUAL BACKPACK





WE'RE GOING TO THE ZOO

Woodland Park Zoo is a 92-acre urban oasis that is home to more than 900 animals! These activities will deepen your connection to the mission of the zoo as well as to your child.

A packing list has been provided to make sure you bring all you need to complete this backpack.

ACTIVITIES:

- Build a Habitat
- I'm a Little Animal
- Story Time
- Zoo Bingo

PACKING LIST:

- Crayon
- Story Book
- Zoo Bingo Card (print at home)



AT THE ZOO:

Build a Habitat

Time: 15 minutes

Materials: Piece of paper, crayons

Instructions:

1. Find a comfortable spot to sit and pull out your piece of paper and crayons.
2. Pick an animal you would like to build a habitat for. Maybe it's a family pet, a rhinoceros, a python or a beetle.
3. Talk with your child about what that animal might need to live. You can ask questions such as:
 - a. Where might the animal sleep?
 - b. What does the animal eat? How does it get their food?
 - c. Does the animal need a lot of space or just a little?
 - d. Does this animal like to live with other animals?
 - e. Is the animal awake at night or during the day?
 - f. What kind of ground does the animal need? Rocks? Trees? Sand? Dirt? Grasses? Ice?
4. Then you and your child should draw your animal's habitat on your paper.

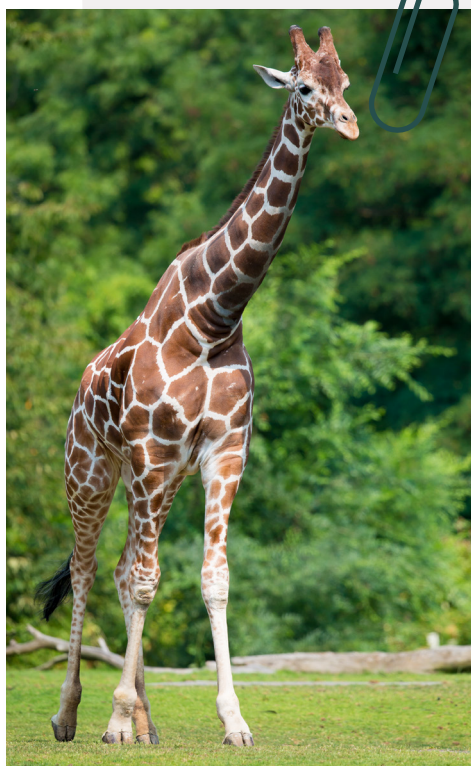
All animals have five basic needs (water, food, air, shelter, space), but those needs look different for every animal. Can you build a habitat that has everything your animal needs?





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AT THE ZOO: I'm a Little Animal

You and your child will review the body coverings for different groups of animals through a short song.

Time: 5 minutes • Materials: None

Instructions:

1. Sing different verses of "I'm a little animal" and pause after each verse. Ask your child to share what animal or group of animals they think matches the clues in the song verse.
2. You can even make up your own verses!
3. This song is to the tune of "I'm a little teapot."



*I'm a little animal
with fins and a tail.
I breathe underwater
and have lots of scales.
Who am I? (fish)*

*I'm a little animal
with hollow bones.
A beak and feathers
and a nest I call home.
Who am I? (bird)*

*I'm a little animal
with smooth, wet skin.
I'm born in the water
but I live on the land.
Who am I? (amphibian)*

*I'm a little animal
with fur or hair.
My mother gave me milk
and raised me with care.
Who am I? (mammal)*

*I'm a little animal
with dry, scaly skin.
You can find my eggs
buried in the sand.
Who am I? (reptile)*



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AT THE ZOO: Story Time

Time: 10 minutes • Materials: Story Book

Instructions:

1. Find a cozy spot at the zoo to sit and pull out the story book you packed for your trip.
2. Read the story together taking turns sounding out words, reading pages and looking at the illustrations.
3. As you read ask questions such as:
 - a. What do you think is going to happen next?
 - b. How would you feel if that happened to you?
 - c. Can you find something hidden or an animal in the photo?

Pack a book from home and spend some time in a cozy corner of the zoo reading together.



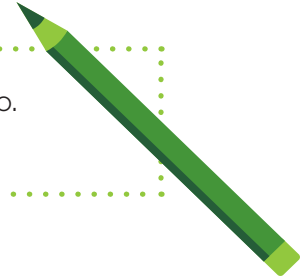


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AT THE ZOO: Zoo Bingo

There are so many things to do and see at the zoo.
How many can you finish during your visit?



Time: Throughout your visit • Materials: Animal Behavior Bingo card, crayon

Instructions:

1. Take out your zoo bingo card and read each of the boxes with your child.
2. You can choose to complete a row or complete the whole card!
3. As you explore the zoo check off any experiences you complete.
4. Let your child guide this activity choosing which boxes you go for and checking off completed boxes.

Wave to a zoo staff or volunteer	Take a photo next to a zoo statue	Look for a bird on a branch
Find an animal that jumps	Count the squirrels you see	Listen for an animal
Find an animal track	Look for an animal that is eating	Pretend to be an animal