



The Columbus Zoo and Aquarium endeavors to foster a lifelong connection with nature in children and adults by creating a meaningful link between people and wildlife. These activities are designed to be done either at home or at school. Before diving into the materials, here are some tips to help you plan:

These activities are structured around the 5E Lesson Plan model, commonly used in science education:

ENGAGE - Sparking interest in a topic

EXPLORE - Student-led investigation of concepts

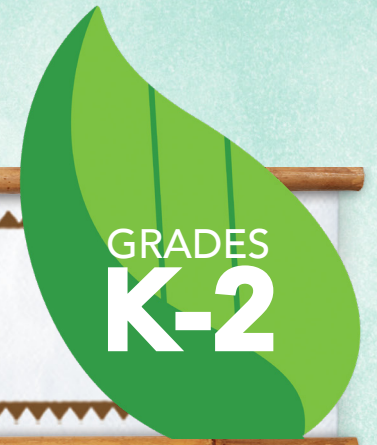
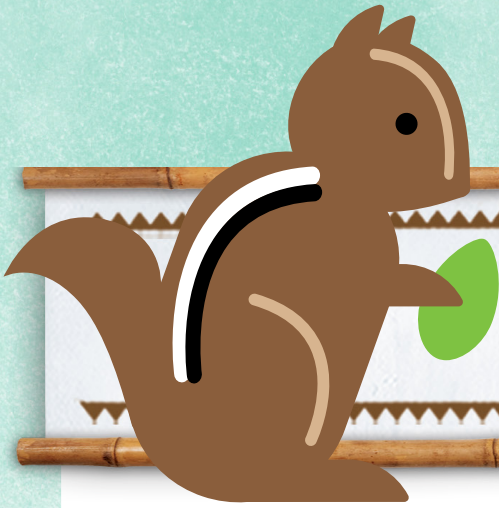
EXPLAIN - Clarification of concepts

EXTEND - Student-led application of concepts

EVALUATE - Opportunity to demonstrate understanding of concepts

This activity packet will guide students as they explore wildlife and wild places. We encourage parents and teachers to utilize all five activities chronologically to provide students a complete learning experience. These activities can be done in a day, or over a longer time span. It is ideal because the educator can tailor the timing around the needs of the learners.

Each section has a brief activity description and a list of materials needed. The instructions are written for the learner; however, we encourage adults to work closely with their students. (Be sure to supervise students when doing any outdoor activities.) Most importantly, we hope you have a fun and engaging experience!



BASIC NEEDS

5 STEPS TO A MEANINGFUL ZOO PROGRAM

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY

ESTIMATED TIME

MATERIALS NEEDED

ENGAGE

Look for examples of living and non-living items.

Go outside in your school or backyard; be sure to check with an adult first. Go on a nature hunt and look for as many living and non-living thing you can find. Then complete the **Living or Non-Living Chart**.

20-30 minutes

Living or Non-Living Chart

Scissors
Crayons, markers or colored pencils

EXPLORE

Think about what a living thing might need to survive.

Read *What do Living Things Need?* By Elizabeth Austen.

Identify what are basic needs of all living things.

20-30 minutes

Copy of *What do Living Things Need?*

EXPLAIN

Think about what animals might survive in a tree habitat.

All living things need food, water, shelter and space. These make up their habitat. A tree can make a great habitat for some animals. Draw a tree and include animals that you might find in a tree.

15-20 minutes

Paper, markers or crayons

EXTEND

Apply the principles learned to plants.

Even plants have basic needs. Think about something you would plant in your own yard. What type of plant would it be? What would it need to survive? Share your answer with someone else.

15-20 minutes



EVALUATE

Think about different types of animals and how their needs are the same and how they are different.

Select one or two books from the booklist. Then search through the books and draw pictures of 2 animals and their needs being met in a specific habitat.

15-20 minutes

Book list
Paper, markers or crayons



LIVING OR NON-LIVING CHART

All living things need food, water and air to survive. They can grow, breathe and eat on their own.

Using a pair of scissors, cut out the items below. Then decide if they are living or non-living and paste them in the correct column. Share your answers with a parent or friend.

LIVING

NON-LIVING

EXAMPLE



EXAMPLE



LIVING OR NON-LIVING CHART

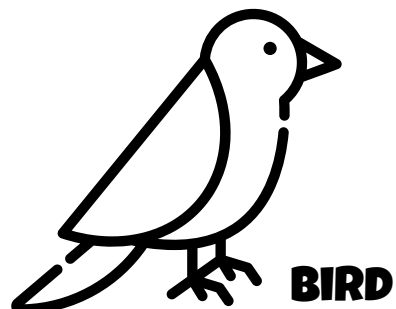
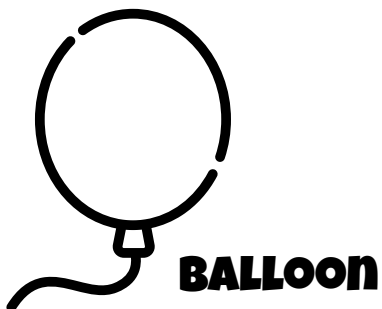
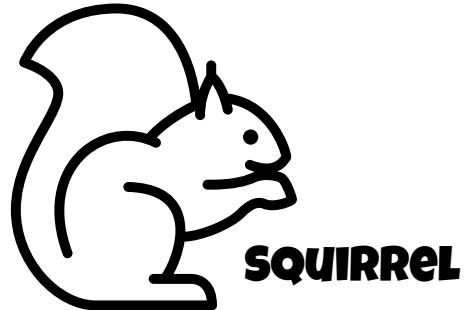
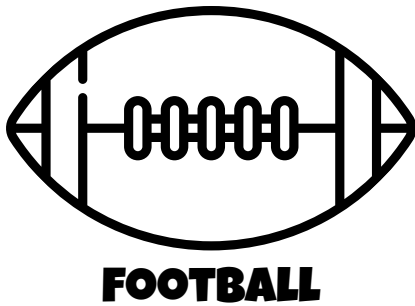
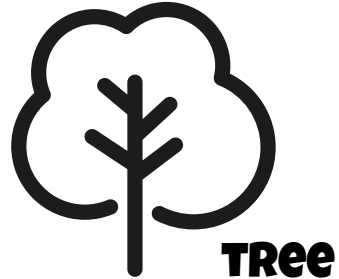
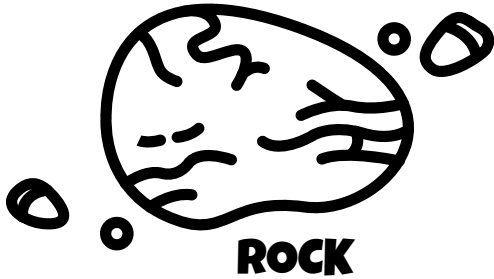
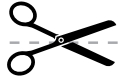
All living things need food, water and air to survive. They can grow, breathe and eat on their own.

Using a pair of scissors, cut out the items on the next page. Then decide if they are living or non-living and paste them in the correct column. Share your answers with a parent or friend.

LIVING

non-LIVING

LIVING OR NON-LIVING CHART ITEMS





PICTURE BOOKS



***WHILE GRADE LEVELS ARE LISTED, ALL BOOKS ARE APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGES.**

PICTURE BOOK	AUTHOR	GRADES
<i>What Do Living Things Need?</i>	Elizabeth Austen	K-2
<i>We Are Growing</i>	Mo Willems and Laurie Keller	K-2
<i>Do You Know Which Ones Will Grow?</i>	Susan Shea	K-2
<i>Is It a Living Thing?</i>	Bobbie Kalman	K-2
<i>Plants Are Living Things</i>	Bobbie Kalman	K-2
<i>What Kind of Living Thing Is It?</i>	Bobbie Kalman	3-5
<i>Are You Living?</i>	Purdie Salas	K-2
<i>Living Things Need Water</i>	Bobbie Kalman	K-2
<i>What's Alive?</i>	Kathleen Weidner Zoehfeld	K-2
<i>Living Things in My Back Yard</i>	Bobbie Kalman	K-2
<i>How Do Living Things Find Food?</i>	Bobbie Kalman	K-2
<i>Mouse House</i>	Rumer Godden	K-5