



Strengthening the bond between people and the living earth

Tiger, Wolf and Bear Scout Activity Packet

Welcome to the wonderful world of animals at The Minnesota Zoo!

We are so glad you have decided to spend your day with us to learn more about plants, animals and the places they live! Our world is a special place and needs special care from people just like you.

The Minnesota Zoo Tiger, Wolf and Bear activity packet and Zoo patch has been designed just for you. There are nine activities to choose from. Complete a minimum of **five** activities to earn a Zoo patch.

Patches are \$3.00 each and can be purchased at Guest Services. If you are unable to finish all activities during your visit, feel free to complete them at a later date. However, you will want to purchase the patch before leaving. **The Minnesota Zoo patch is only available at the Minnesota Zoo not available at the Council Scout Office.**

You can start the activity packet anywhere in the Zoo, but the easiest way to complete it is to follow the route the questions take you. If you wish, they can even be completed at home or during the next scout meeting.

Now, on with your adventure! We hope you learn many new and exciting things, and--**HAVE FUN!!**



1. _____

EYE SPY!

(Entire Zoo)

There are many exciting animals at the Zoo that you normally wouldn't get a chance to see. This is your chance to use your observation skills. Locate animals that fit the descriptions below. Be specific! For example, if you see a bird that flies, write down what kind of bird it is. If you don't know, make your best guess or ask your fellow scout members or den leader if they know.

Troop leader - you may choose to do this activity a number of different ways. One suggestion is to read the list upon entering the zoo and completing it as you visit the various trails. The scouts may do this activity as a troop, with a partner or by themselves.

1. An animal that flies _____
2. An animal that has spots _____
3. An animal that sheds its skin _____
4. An animal that makes noise _____
5. An animal that has lots of fur _____
6. An animal whose skin is moist _____
7. An animal that likes water (besides fish) _____
8. An animal that you would find in Minnesota _____



___2.

Orchid

OH-NO! ENDANGERED PLANTS AND ANIMALS! (Tropics Trail)

- Endangered plants? Plants and trees play an important role in an animal's environment. The Tropics Trail at The Minnesota Zoo is the home of an endangered plant-the orchid.
- Orchids are victims of habitat destruction and people illegally taking them from the wild for exotic plant collections or as house plants.
- In 1986 the Minnesota Zoo became a plant rescue center. There are over 60 confiscated orchids in the zoo's collection.
- Did you know that orchids grow in Minnesota? One orchid that grows in our state is the Pink and White Showy Lady Slipper. It is our state flower.

Keep a running tally of the number of orchids that you see along the Tropics Trail.

___ 3. Hot Spot Dots

(Tropics Trail)

Hot spots are places where there is an effort underway to save these incredible places and the diversity of life they support. Locate the graphic that talks about Hot Spots. It can be found in the first few feet of the Tropics Trail. Read the graphic.

How many hot spots do we have in North America? _____

How many hot spots are there in South America? _____

In these Hot Spots are many animals that are in trouble and some are endangered (might disappear without help from people). Zoos and other organizations are working to help these animals. As you walk the Tropics Trail count the number of Hot Spot Dots you find near animal exhibits. Your leaders and fellow scouts can keep count as a group

Record your total here _____.



___ 4.

TAPIR CAPER

(Tropics Trail)

Tapirs are very different looking animals that some people don't like simply because they look so odd. You're about to be a tapir expert... look to the left of the tapir exhibit. There you will see a green sign that says, "Malayan Tapir." To the left of the exhibit is a sign that says "Mixture is Finished". This is where you will want to look to get the answers to the questions below.

A tapir has an excellent sense of _____ but poor _____.

Answer at least three questions below. You can do them alone or split up so groups of scouts can answer different questions. Share the answers after.

-- Where do they live? _____

-- What do they eat? _____

-- What is the biggest threat to the tapir? _____

Is the tapir closely related to the elephant? ___ Yes ___ No

Surprise! The tapir is related to rhinos & horses (not anteaters and elephants).

These black and white animals live on the forest floor under the plants. How do you think their color helps them? (this answer is found on the second graphic across from the tortoises)



____4.

TURTLE TIME!

(Minnesota Trail)

Did you know that turtles are found on every continent on earth except for Antarctica? We have some turtles of our very own right here in Minnesota, and this activity will involve observing and identifying some of the turtles we have in our turtle tank.

1. How many turtles can you count in the tank?

2. Describe what the characteristics of a turtle are:

How many legs?

What do their feet look like?

Do they have any protection?

3. A turtle is a (circle one) **reptile** or **amphibian** ?

How do you know?

4. Find the largest turtle in the tank and identify using the chart:

Largest turtle is a _____ Turtle.

5. Find the most colorful turtle in the tank and identify using the chart:

Most colorful turtle is a _____ Turtle.

____5. **Animal Sounds**

(Minnesota Trail- frog display)

Locate the *Listen to Know Your Frogs* station in the Minnesota Trail Lodge area.
(next to the turtle exhibit)

How many different kinds of frogs are found in Minnesota? _____

You have probably heard frogs calling to each other during spring and early summer. But can you tell the difference between them? A good way to learn more about animals is to learn about the sounds they make!

Listen to the following frog calls then draw a line to match them with the correct description of their call.

Spring Peeper whistle blown underwater for 30 seconds

Chorus Frog like a baby chick

Leopard Frog thumbnail ran down a fine toothed comb

American Toad low knocking followed by grunts

Now pretend you and someone else in your troop are frogs and call back and forth to each other using frog calls.

6. What's on the Menu?

(Minnesota Trail)

Animals eat a variety of things. Some eat plants. These animals are called herbivores. Some animals eat only meat. These are called carnivores. Some eat both plants and animals. These animals are called omnivores.

Look at the pictures below, draw an arrow from the mouse to the picture of the food item that the mouse would eat.

Is the mouse a herbivore or a carnivore?



Now draw an arrow from the owl to the picture of the food item that the owl would eat.

Is the owl an herbivore or carnivore?

****By connecting the food items above you made a FOOD CHAIN!****

Can you come up with a different example of a Food Chain by using animals from the Minnesota Trail?

7. Under the Sea

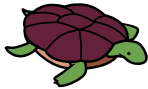
(Discovery Bay)

1. Label each animal as a mammal or a fish.



Look at the dolphins and the sharks. List two similarities and two differences between them.

2. Circle the two animals that breathe air above the water?



3. What do fish use to breathe?

4. Is a seahorse a fish? Yes or No

 8. Amazing Animals

Choose an animal of your choice from any trail. Stop and watch it for five minutes.

Record the following.

Chosen animal _____

The animal is covered with;
Fur/hair scales feathers

The animal has _____ legs.

The animal has a tail yes or no

My animal belongs to which category? (circle the correct option)

Bird Reptile Amphibian Fish Mammal

9. NEW DISCOVERY

Today at the zoo you saw many different animals. Imagine that you are a famous zoologist. You have just discovered a new species of animal. Draw your animal.



Write or discuss the answers to the following questions about your new discovery.

What is its name?

Where does it live?

What special adaptations does it have to live in its environment?

What does it eat?

Who eats it?

What threats are there to its survival?

Like a scientist, who report their findings to their colleagues; share your new animal with your fellow scouts.

Congratulations!! You did it.

We hope that you have learned many interesting things about animals, the next step is to take that information out into your community and teach others about this precious resource. Keep the spark going so that everyone will have the opportunity to see animals in quality zoos and best of all, in their natural environment for years to come.



Now that you have completed your five activities please sign your name below and have an adult sign as well. Congratulations!!! You have completed The Minnesota Zoo Cub Scout activity packet and may now receive your Zoo patch!! *If you are completing some activities after your zoo visit, you may still take the activity patch home with you today. It is not available at your local Council Scout Office.*

(Scout name)

(Scout leader)

(Scout parent)