

Name _____
Period _____ Teacher _____

ZOO TRAILS “STOP AND THINK” LEARNING LOG

DISCOVERY BAY

Tide pool: *Typically this is a rocky shore where tides rise and fall several times daily.*

1. What animals may be found here?

2. If you were an anemone, how would you “make a living”?

- a. What would you eat?

- b. What would try to eat you?

- c. How would you defend yourself from predators?

3. How would you make a living if you were a sea star or sea urchin?

4. How do the changing conditions of tide pools make life very challenging for these animals?

5. Why does wave action and very cold water help the animals?

6. What does salinity mean and why does it matter?

Estuary:

1. What is an estuary?

2. What animals may be found here

3. Why do dolphins like to hangout and reproduce in estuaries?

4. What is a “weedy sea dragon”?

a. What is very unusual about how it reproduces?

b. How is it adapted to living in beds of seaweed?

5. Draw a food chain that includes stingrays or sharks.

Ocean:

1. Observe the Morey Eels.
 - a. Do Moray Eels have good vision? (YES / NO)

 - b. Are they a variety of sea snake? (YES / NO)

 - c. Where do they hangout?

 - d. Do they deserve their “scary” reputation? (YES / NO) Why or Why not?

2. What do sea turtles like to eat?
 - a. Why are they endangered? ¹

3. Why don't the big sharks eat the other fish in the zoo aquarium? ²

¹ For more information on sea turtles visit- <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/info-books/sea-turtle/diet.htm>

² For more information on sharks visit- <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/info-books/sharks-&-rays/index.htm>

THE TROPICS

1. What is a “Hotspot”?
 - a. Where are some of them located?
2. If a unique animal becomes rare or extinct, what effect can that have on other kinds of animals?
3. Why does it matter if nonnative organisms, plants or animals, are introduced into “Hotspots”?
4. What are endemic species? (*HINT: see “Creatures Beneath the Canopy” on web zoo site*)
5. What kind of tree is called the “Oasis of Life”?
 - a. What kind of biome or ecosystem does it live in?
6. What kind of animal has stink fights?
7. Lemurs:
 - a. Which kind of Lemur comes from dry scrubby forests in Madagascar? _____
 - b. Which kind of Lemur comes from rain forests in Madagascar? _____
 - c. Which one is the noisiest! _____
 - d. Which one loves fruit? _____
8. What animal smells like popcorn?

9. What animal is often mistaken for an anteater?

a. Why is it called a “living fossil”?

10. Is the nocturnal Pygmy Slow Loris endangered? (YES / NO)

11. What are some other nocturnal animals?

12. How are they adapted to being active at night?

13. What do the bats in the exhibit eat?

14. What is a canopy?

a. Why can it be called a “highway in the sky”?

15. What is an epiphyte?

16. What are some animals in the Canopy Exhibit?

NORTHERN TRAIL

1. Describe how the TIGER LAIR exhibit has been designed for both visitors and the Amur tigers³.
2. Observe “tiger to tiger” and “tiger to human” interactions. Jot down your notes.

Tiger to Tiger

Tiger to Human

- a. Are they endangered? (YES / NO) Why?

3. What are some of the ways tigers communicate? (*Use posted information*)

³ Information on tigers - <http://www.seaworld.org/animal-info/info-books/tiger/index.htm>

4. What kind of environment are meerkats adapted for?

5. What kind/s of environment/s are aardvarks adapted to?
 - a. What do they like to eat?

 - b. What physical feature suits them to their lifestyle?

6. Are Mexican wolves⁴ endangered? (YES / NO)
 - a. What are ways wolves communicate with each other? (*See posted information*)

7. How are hoofed mammals at the zoo adapted to particular habitats? Give examples of how their individual features help them survive in certain environments.

8. Name a hoofed mammal that is well-adapted to cold winters?

⁴ More information on wolves - <http://canidae.ca/>

9. Why does the MN Zoo not keep African savanna animals like zebras and giraffes during the winter?

10. Zebras and giraffes are uncomfortable when the temperature dips below 50 degrees F. Do you think they should try to keep zebras and giraffes year round at the Minnesota Zoo? (YES / NO)

a. What would they have to do to make this happen?