



ANIMAL AUTHORITIES

Research an animal found at Fort Wayne Children's Zoo



GRADE K

KEY WORDS

- den
- litter
- nurse

STANDARD

- SCI.K.3

OBJECTIVES

- Students will learn about a specific animal by reading and doing research.
- Students will learn that zoos play an important role in helping to protect wildlife by doing research on animals and the survival of their young.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- Zoos try to prevent the decrease of animal species by doing research on animals and their young.
- Zoos research ways to increase the number of young born, as well as what animals need to live.

PROCEDURE

- Have each student select an animal to study in order to become an “animal authority.” Attempt to keep the selections within the animal population at Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo.
- Have students go to the library to check out books about their selected animals that can be read at home with the help of a parent or guardian.
- Encourage the students to learn as much as possible about their animal and to answer the following:
 - What does it look like?
 - What size is it?
 - What food does it eat?
 - What kind of home does it make?
 - How many babies does it have?
 - How does it care for its babies?
- Have the students use the worksheet to record information they learn about their animal and to draw a picture of their animal.

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Have the students present what they learned to the class.

EXTENSIONS

- When visiting the zoo, ask the students to observe the animal they chose to research.
- Encourage them to think about how the animal is being cared for at the zoo.

TEACHER HINTS

- Make sure that the students are choosing books with factual and up-to-date information.





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Circle the answer for your animal. Draw the animal in the center.



Name _____

MY ANIMAL HAS:

teeth
no teeth
a beak

MY ANIMAL HAS:

on land
in water
both

MY ANIMAL'S BABIES:

hatch from eggs
are born alive

MY ANIMAL HAS:

legs
no legs

MY ANIMAL HAS:

_____ babies

MY ANIMAL IS:

big
medium
small

MY ANIMAL HAS:

fur
feathers
scales

MY ANIMAL HAS:

paws flippers
claws hooves
webbed feet fins

Here's a picture of my animal