

Who's Leaving Behind the Footprints?

LESSON GOALS

- Practice critical thinking skills to determine which footprints belong to which animal
- Understand the movements of each animal

GRADES

 3^{rd} to 4^{th}

MATERIALS

Scissors

STANDARDS

- SCI.4.3.3
- SCI.4.3.4

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- Ensure student participation
- Have students compare and contrast the various footprints

Practice your students' critical thinking skills as they learn about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo African animals. The tracks of the animals can reveal a lot of information of where they're traveling to and which animal the footprints belong to. See below for a variety of questions to engage your students even further:

- What animals can you find in Africa?
- How does the animals travel?
- How do you think scientists keep track of the animals?
- Do you know what their footprints look like?

Cut out the tracks and place them all over the classroom. Challenge your students to move like the animal that the tracks reveal which animal it is. If the tracks reveal that it's a lion walking, have them walk on all fours like a lion until reaching the next track. If the tracks reveal that they're walking on four legs like a giraffe, have them move both legs on one side of the body and then both legs on the other side. If they reach a zebra track, they will gallop like a zebra. If they see an ostrich, have them walk with their arms bent to their sides like a bird would with its wings.

Be on the lookout for the animals in African Journey at the zoo! Share your lessons with the Fort Wayne Children' Zoo. Tag #fwkidszoo or email <u>education@kidszoo.org</u> to express how you used these supplemental activities!























