Self-Guided Safari Packet

Grades 5-6

This packet is aligned with grade level standards and learning goals. You may choose to use a variety of the options listed in the packet to enrich your trip to the zoo. Provided are activities that can be used before, during, or after your visit.

Learning Goals

- Explore the interactions that occur in ecosystems
- Understand why producers are necessary to all living things
Scavenger Hunt

Carnivore: meat eater
Omnivore: eats plants and animals
Herbivore: eats only plants
Prey: An animal that is eaten by other animals
Predator: an animal that eats other animals

Can you find…

- A small carnivore ________________________________
- A large carnivore ________________________________
- A small animal that is prey __________________________
- A large animal that is prey ___________________________
- A small herbivore _________________________________
- A large herbivore _________________________________
- Three different types of plants that the herbivores eat ____________, ____________, ________________
- One animal that has a specific diet in the winter ________________________________
- One animal at the top of their food chain ________________________________
- One animal that is hunted by humans ________________________________
- An animal that is nocturnal ________________________________
- A food chain found at the zoo ___________________________________
Scientists Sketches!

Draw an animal at the zoo and label the specific adaptations it must have to survive in its environment.
Food Chains

Draw and label the different parts of the food chain using plants and animals you find at the zoo!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Producer</th>
<th>Herbivore</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Plants)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Omnivore</th>
<th>Carnivore</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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Food Chains:

[Diagram of food chains]

Created by the Alaska Zoo Education Department 2021
**Discussion Questions:**

**Observe different carnivores in their habitat.**
- What do these different types of carnivores eat? Do they all eat the same thing?
- What hunting strategies help these carnivores hunt their prey?
- Does their size help them hunt? Are they fast moving or slow?

**Find a small animal that is eaten by other animals.**
- What adaptations do these smaller animals have to help them avoid predators?
- What challenges to predators face when trying to capture their prey?

**Observe an herbivore in its habitat.**
- Is this herbivore grazing and eating grasses or browsing and eating shrubs or plants?
- What part of the plant is he eating? Does this change throughout seasons in Alaska?

**Find an animal that is at the top of the food chain.**
- What behaviors do you see from this animal?
- What threats from humans do these animals face?

**Observe the different plants around the zoo.**
- Are there any creatures that get their energy from these plants?
- How do animals help plants?
- Where do the plants get their energy from?