



SELF-GUIDED ZOO TREK: HABITATS

TEACHER OVERVIEW

Welcome to the Maryland Zoo in Baltimore! This Zoo Trek is one in a series of themed self-guided tours prepared for your students by the Zoo's Education Department. The Habitats Zoo Trek highlights the following species and exhibits:

Tundra

Warthog Burrow

Penguin Coast

Lemur Lane

African Watering Hole

Hellbender Stream

Leopard's Lair

Box Turtle Meadow

HOW TO USE THE ZOO TREK

A habitat is where an organism lives and where it obtains everything it needs to survive and reproduce. The great variety of living things on Earth (known as *biodiversity*) results from adaptation by groups of organisms to a given habitat. Habitats can be as large as the African savanna, or as small as a dewdrop. Focusing on habitats is a great way to engage students in understanding interdependence among living things and in appreciating the great diversity of life.

Print at least one copy of the *Zoo Trek* for each chaperone. For younger students, have chaperones use the animals and exhibits highlighted in this *Zoo Trek* to help guide and focus the students on their journey through The Maryland Zoo. For older students, have them read the materials themselves and engage in discussion with others in their group. Point out that the goal is not necessarily for students always to find the "right" answer, but to practice the skills of observation and questioning.

Encourage students to ask questions about the animals and their exhibits, and to make observations to help them find answers. In addition, chaperones can help support student development of literacy skills by pointing out sight words on animal signage or guiding students to interpret parts of the Zoo map and directional signs.

Please keep in mind that every day is different at the Zoo. Some animals may be off exhibit during your visit.

CURRICULUM CORRELATIONS

Participation in the Habitats *Zoo Trek* supports the following Next Generation Science Standards (DCIs) and Maryland College and Career-Ready Standards:

Grades K–2	Grades 3–5	Grades 6–8
<p>LS1.A LS1.B LS1.C LS2.A LS3.B ESS2.E ESS3.A SL.K.3 W.1-2.8 K-1.MD.A.1 K.MD.A.2 K.MD.B3 K.CC</p> <p>Science and Engineering Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information <p>Crosscutting Concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Structure and Function • Patterns • Systems and System Models 	<p>LS1.A LS1.B LS1.D LS2.A LS2.D LS3.B LS4.C ESS3.C W.3-5.7 W.4-5.9</p> <p>Science and Engineering Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information <p>Crosscutting Concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patterns • Systems and System Models • Energy and Matter 	<p>LS1.B LS1.C LS2.A LS2.B LS4.B LS4.C WHST.6-8.9 SL.8.1</p> <p>Science and Engineering Practices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Obtaining, Evaluating, and Communicating Information <p>Crosscutting Concepts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Patterns • Systems and System Models • Energy and Matter • Structure and Function • Stability and Change