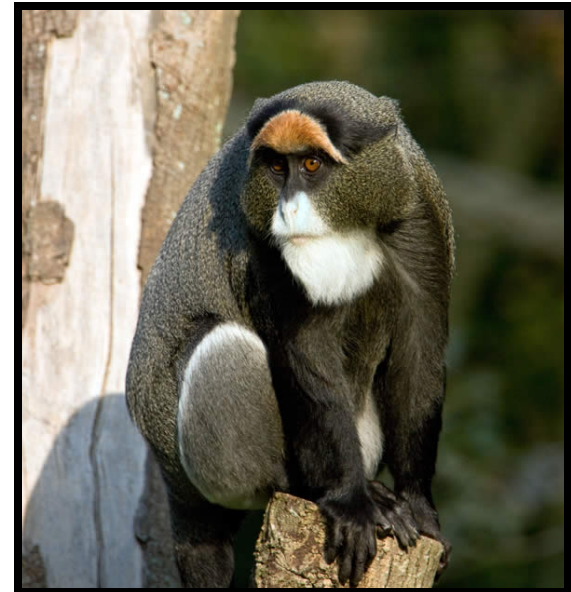


If you do not finish all the questions on your field trip visit the Minnesota Zoo web site at www.mnzoo.org, look in the Animals at the Zoo area, for more information on the animal collection.



MINNESOTA ZOO
Changing how you see the world

Revised 2010



Scavenger Hunt
Grades 4-8

Minnesota Trail

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

1. Name a Minnesota *Wild and Rare* organism found in a wetland ecosystem. _____

A *Wild and Rare* bird: _____

2. Name the two types of owls that live in Minnesota.

3. What are two other names for the mountain lion?



4. Name three carnivores found on the MN trail.

- A.
- B.
- C.

Thought question: Draw a beaver lodge. Why do you think their entrances are underwater? How do beavers get food in winter?

Put at least one stamp impression in this booklet at one of the MN Trail stamp stations, write the name of the animal and one fact you learned. (You can do more if you want.)

Northern Trail

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

1. Tigers are classified into subspecies. The MN Zoo has Amur tigers. What subspecies of tiger became extinct in the 1980's?

2. What is the fastest North American land animal?

3. Which species is unique in that both males and females have antlers?

4. Separate the animals on the trail into three groups:

Herbivores	Omnivores	Carnivores

Thought question: Describe in detail some ways in which wolf packs communicate with each other.



Make a list of questions you would like to research at home or in your classroom. Or make a detailed sketch of an animal you saw today.



General Observation

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

1. Pick one **social** animal of your choice and observe for at least 10 minutes. Record the following:

Your animal choice _____

	Movement	Behavior
Minute 1		
Minute 2		
Minute 3		
Minute 4		
Minute 5		
Minute 6		
Minute 7		
Minute 8		
Minute 9		
Minute 10		

What can you learn from charting the animal?

Tropics Trail

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8



What is the fruit that plays an important role in the survival of the animals in the Tropic Trail African hot spot? How are the trees and animals connected?

2. Why are trees so important to a young Komodo Dragons?

3. What animals are close relatives of the tapir?

4. Name four animals that have benefited from global conservation efforts. **BONUS:** Of these four animals, which are exhibited at the Minnesota Zoo.

5 Name two possible causes for a species decline.

Thought question: Name a nocturnal species and describe a few advantages and disadvantages of hunting at night. How do nocturnal animals overcome these disadvantages?

General Observation

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

2. Pick one **solitary** animal of your choice and observe for at least 10 minutes. Record the following:

Your animal choice _____

	Movement	Behavior
Minute 1		
Minute 2		
Minute 3		
Minute 4		
Minute 5		
Minute 6		
Minute 7		
Minute 8		
Minute 9		
Minute 10		

What can you learn from charting the animal?

OBSERVATION QUESTIONS:

Students, to get the most of your field trip remember to slow down and observe the animals carefully. Below are some thought questions you can ask each other as you visit the animal exhibits. Some may have any answer or look for answers in the graphics or ask a volunteer.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

▪ What kind of covering (skin) does this animal have? Would you like this kind of covering? How would your life be different if you had this kind of covering? If you were a scientist naming this animal what would you call it?

DIET

▪ Can you see any food in the exhibit or signs the animal has been eating? What do you think this animal eats? Do you think it eats more than you eat in a day or less? Why?

MOVEMENT

▪ What movement is the animal making? Why do you think this animal moves like it does? Can you move like this animal does?
• Is the animal sleeping? We all make small movements even when we sleep. What movement can you see from the animal? Look carefully.

HABITAT

▪ Look at the animal's surroundings. Why do you think the Zoo keepers have chosen the rocks, plants, and other items that are in the exhibit? Would you like to live in this habitat?

Discovery Bay

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

.1. Do dolphins have ears?

. 2. What are baby sharks called?



3. Describe "by catch" and why it is harmful to sea animals

4. True or false: Estuaries are shallow areas in which salt water from the sea meets fresh water from streams and rivers.

5. **Thought question:** Many tide pool animals have a unique way of catching their food. Name two of these animals and the way in which they would feed.

Russia's Grizzly Coast

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

Name the three biomes represented in the Russia's Grizzly Coast exhibit.



Sea Otters

1. Sea otters can withstand temperatures down to

_____°F

2. What characteristics enable sea otters to endure these cold temperatures?

3. Sea otters are closely associated with what ecosystem?

4. What would happen to this ecosystem if sea otters were to disappear?

If sea otters then returned?

Russia's Grizzly Coast continued

Scavenger Hunt, Grades 4-8

Bears

1. Why are bears called an "opportunist"?
2. Is this beneficial to their survival? Why?
3. What food source do Russian brown bears rely on to gain 400 lbs. of fat to survive the winter?

Conservation in Action

Read the steps taken to try to ensure an animal's future. In your own words, highlight the main points.

LEARN

INVOLVE

SAVE

RESTORE