



2018 Webelos Scout Activity Packet

Welcome to the wonderful world of animals at The Minnesota Zoo!

We are so glad you have decided to spend your day with us to learn more about plants, animals and the places they live! Our world is a special place and needs special care from people just like you.

The Minnesota Zoo Webelos Scout Activity Packet has been designed just for you. There are nine activities to choose from. Webelos Scouts can complete a minimum of **six** activities to earn a Zoo patch.

Patches are \$3.00 each and can be purchased at Guest Services every day except Cub Scout Day. On this day check your program insert that you get when you come in the door for information on where they are found. If you are unable to finish all activities during your visit, feel free to complete them at a later date. *However, you will want to purchase the patch before leaving. **The Minnesota Zoo patch is only available at the Minnesota Zoo not available at the Council Scout Office.***

You can start the activity packet anywhere in the Zoo, but the easiest way to complete it is to follow the route the questions take you.

Now, on with your adventure...we hope you learn many fun and interesting things, and—**HAVE FUN!!**

_____ **1. Animal Classified**

(All Zoo animals)

Animals are placed into different groups depending on basic characteristics.

The five groups are:

- **fish (breathes with gills)**
- **amphibians (young live in water, adults live on land)**
- **reptiles (scales and cold-blooded)**
- **birds (feathers)**
- **mammals (hair/fur and produce milk)**

Putting animals into groups is called classification. Decide which group the following animals belong to.

1. Shark _____
2. Sea Horse _____
3. Bali Mynah _____
4. Brown Bear _____
5. Gray Wolf _____
6. Salamander _____
7. Komodo Dragon _____
8. Seahorse _____

Using the above animals, try to come up with two different ways to group them. (For example: comparing their sizes.)



_____ 2. **MAD ABOUT MADAGASCAR!**

(Tropics Trail)

Look at the map to your left as you enter the Tropics Trail. Note that the graphic talks about something called Biodiversity Hotspots.

What is a Biodiversity Hotspot?

What two things have humans done to contribute to this loss of biodiversity?

1. _____

2. _____

(Follow the path to the next graphic located on your right to answer the questions below.)

Where is Madagascar found and why is it special?

Do you notice the huge tree to the right on the Tropics Trail? Describe it using the graphic panel next to it. Now go inside the tree and look up. What do you see and why do you think “they” are there?

Go on the other side of the tree and you will see a special kind of primate. What is it called? Where does it live?



___3.

EAGER BEAVER!

(Minnesota Trail)

Did you know that beavers are rodents? They are the largest rodents living in Minnesota! Beavers are semi-aquatic, meaning that live both in and out of the water. A beavers' home is called a dam, which they build themselves out of trees. The dam serves both as a protection against predators, such as coyotes, wolves and bears, and to provide easy access to food during winter. This activity involves observing the beaver exhibit and then answering some beaver related questions. Information is posted around the beaver exhibit. (Beavers are a nocturnal animal, so they may be in their lodge.)

1. What kind of environment do beavers live in? What does this environment provide that beavers need to live?

2. Beavers have large front _____. What do they use these for?

3. Beavers have a unique, flat _____. What do they use it for?

4. What do beavers eat?

5. How are they doing?



_____4.

WILD WILD WOLVES!

(Minnesota Trail)

The type of wolf that lives in Minnesota is called the Gray wolf and there are approximately 3000 of them living in the state. Gray wolves are the largest of the canine family. This activity requires you to observe the wolves and also learn about them from information posted around their exhibit.

1. What is the specific name of the Gray wolf? C _____ L_____

Behind the bronze wolf statue are circles with wolf information. Answer the following questions:

2. How fast are they?

3. Are they strong? Explain.

4. What about their hearing?

5. Do they have a good sense of smell? Explain.

6. What do wolves eat? How do they get their food?

7. BEHAVIOR: Watch one wolf for 2 minutes. Describe some of the behaviors you see. Are they sleeping? Eating? Running? Playing?

8. COMMUNICATION: Notice the buttons you can push to hear the different sounds that the Gray wolf makes. Please briefly describe what the following sounds mean.

- Lone Howl: _____
- Group Howl: _____
- Growl: _____
- Whimper: _____
- Bark: _____



_____ 5. **WHO ARE OUR ANIMAL NEIGHBORS?**

We have looked around the world to view animals that live in all different kinds of warm environments. Take a moment to think of the animals here in Minnesota. Below, list animals that could be found in your backyard, local park or community (for example: blue-jay). Include some of our winter and summer residents.

- | | |
|----------|----------|
| 1. _____ | 5. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 6. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 7. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 8. _____ |



_____ 6. **ANIMAL OBSERVATION** **(Snow Monkeys)**

Although Zoo animals are not in their natural setting, they increase our understanding of animal behavior in the wild and how to study them in the field. You will be observing an animal using an observation technique called *instantaneous sampling*. This means behavior is measured at interrupted times.

The Japanese Macaques (Japanese Snow Monkeys) provide the best observation opportunity.

The behaviors you will be looking for are *grooming, foraging and other*. Review all the behaviors and their definitions below before you begin so you are familiar with them and their meanings.

1. Use the activity sheet from page eight to complete this activity. You will record a behavior every 30 seconds over a period of ten minutes. **Your leader will need to have a stopwatch or a watch with a second hand to keep track of the 30 second intervals.**
2. Select ONE monkey to observe during this time period.
3. When your leader tells you “time,” record the behavior you observe at that exact time. It will either be grooming, foraging or other.
4. Do this every 30 seconds until all 20 lines have been filled.

5. At the end of your observation, total each column and figure out the number of times your monkey spent grooming and foraging, as well as any other behaviors you observed. Note that sometimes the monkeys aren't very active. This is natural with all animals at certain times. Record the numbers you have above the number 30 in the boxes at the bottom of the chart where it says "totals".

Behaviors are as follows:

- **Foraging:** when a monkey picks up small objects such as grass blades, seeds, and insects from the ground with its hands.
- **Grooming:** when a monkey parts fur with its hands and removes fine particles with its fingers or lips.

“Other” behaviors might include the following:

- **Branch-shaking:** shaking a branch—a display to attract attention.
- **Climbing:** any movement on vertical surfaces.
- **Resting:** animal is standing, sitting, or reclining, is inactive and still.
- **Social behavior:** any contact between the animal under observation and one or more animals of the same species.

Snow Monkey Observation Worksheet

Observer's name: _____

Description of observed animal: _____

Date: _____ Time: _____ Weather: _____

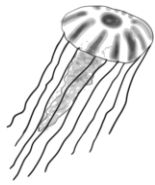
Location of observed animal: _____

Time	Grooming	Foraging	Other
TOTALS:	_____ 30	_____ 30	_____ 30

***The top score in the last box is the number of times you observed a particular behavior. The bottom number represents the behavior that was observed over a 30 second time interval.**

Why do you think observing the weather is important during your observation?

What did you learn from this activity?



____ 7.

MOON JELLYFISH

(Discovery Bay)

Do all jellyfish have stinging cells? Yes No (circle one)

Are they all harmful to humans? Yes No (circle one)

Which one is the most deadly?

Name the two stages of a jellyfish's life cycle.

1. _____

2. _____

Are they a carnivore, omnivore, or herbivore?

How are they doing?



_____ 8.

HORSES & DRAGONS

(Discovery Bay)

After a lot of discussion about whether seahorses are fish or not, the scientists decided they ARE fish! They breathe using gills and have a swim bladder to control how they float. Although they are fish, they are not great swimmers. Read about seahorses and sea dragons on the wall next to the seahorse exhibit and answer the questions below:

Name four different body parts of a sea horse and tell what their function is.

What two things do seahorses and sea dragons have in common (look at the diagram)?

What two things are different about them?

What is one very unique (unusual) thing about male seahorses?

Where do sea horses live?

Is a seahorse a predator? (circle one) Yes No

What do they like to eat?



9.

CAREER CORNER

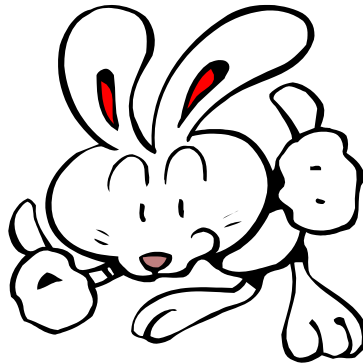
During your visit today, find out what it is like to work or volunteer at a Zoo. Look for a volunteer who is dressed in a blue shirt, or a staff member dressed in a green shirt with Khaki pant Zoo uniform. Ask them the questions below (**you might find them on the trails talking to visitors.**)

1. What do you like most about volunteering/working at the Zoo?
2. What training or education did you take to volunteer or work in your job?
3. What advice would you give someone who is interested in working or volunteering in a Zoo someday?

Just for fun! Draw your favorite animal below.

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a favorite animal.

Thank you for being a guest at the Minnesota Zoo today. We are glad your den/pack was interested in learning more about animals and supporting your local Zoo. Now that you have learned many interesting things about animals, the next step is to take that information out into your community and teach others about this precious resource. Keep the spark going so that everyone will have the opportunity to see animals in quality zoos and best of all, in their natural environment for years to come.



CONGRATULATIONS!!

Now that you have completed your activities please sign your name below and have an adult sign as well. Congratulations!!! You have completed The Minnesota Zoo Webelo activity packet and may now receive your Zoo patch!!

If you are completing some activities after your zoo visit, you may still take the activity patch home with you today. It is not available at your local Council Scout Office.

(Scout's name)

(Leader's name)

(date)