



ACT LIKE AN APE
6th Grade through 8th Grade
Post-Zoo Visit
Ethogram Lesson and Teacher Information



Objective:

- Define, recognize and identify behavior of an animal
- Use the Scientific Method
- Infer and make connections between the scientific process and purpose in observing animal behavior

Essential Question?:

What can scientists learn from observing animals in the Zoo?

Vocabulary:

Ethogram

Ethology

Hypothesis

Sample size

Scientific method

Animal behavior

Materials:

- Journal
- Pen/Paper
- Graph

Post-Zoo Activity:

Upon returning from the Zoo, students may graph the data they collected from the animal of their choice. Students may then interpret their graph in their journals. What did they discover? Was this a representative sample? Why or why not? What would they do differently next time? What did they learn by observing? Did they see anything new or interesting? Why is it important for ethologists to observe animals in Zoos and in the wild?

Extension:

Students may create their own ethogram with the animal subject being a pet or family member. Use their experience in the Zoo as a guideline. Students may observe the subject at the same time or day of the week for a longer period of time and collect the data in their journals. They may then graph and interpret their data to see if their data helped to answer their question.