



ANIMAL ANTICS

9th Grade through 12th Grade
Pre-Zoo

Ethogram Lesson and Teacher Information



Objective:

- Recognize and identify animal behaviors
- Use the Scientific Method
- Infer and make connections between the scientific process and the purpose in observing animal behavior

TEKS:

- 112.43Biology
 - C2: Scientific processes. The student uses scientific methods during field and laboratory investigations. The student is expected to:
 - (A) plan and implement investigative procedures including asking questions, formulating testable hypotheses, and selecting equipment and technology;
 - (B) collect data and make measurements with precision;
 - (C) organize, analyze, evaluate, make inferences, and predict trends from data; and
 - (D) communicate valid conclusions.
 - C3: Scientific processes. The student uses critical thinking and scientific problem solving to make informed decisions. The student is expected to:
 - (A) analyze, review, and critique scientific explanations, including hypotheses and theories, as to their strengths and weaknesses using scientific evidence and information;
 - (C) evaluate the impact of research on scientific thought, society, and the environment;
 - (D) describe the connection between biology and future careers;
 - (E) evaluate models according to their adequacy in representing biological objects or events.
 - C7: Science concepts. The student knows the theory of biological evolution. The student is expected to:
 - (B) illustrate the results of natural selection in speciation, diversity, phylogeny, adaptation, behavior, and extinction.
 - C11: Science concepts. The student knows that organisms maintain homeostasis. The student is expected to:
 - (C) analyze the importance of nutrition, environmental conditions, and physical exercise on health.

Essential Question?:

What can I learn from observing animals in the Zoo?

Vocabulary:

Scan Sampling

Instantaneous Sampling

Behavioral Sampling

Behavior

Ethogram

Ethology

Hypothesis

Materials:

- Animal selected from the Fort Worth Zoo website.
- Paper and pencil
- Sources for research such as the internet, magazine, books, etc.



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Pre-Zoo Activity:

Students will select an animal from the Zoo website. They will research the animal they selected and collect information from the internet and other sources. In researching the animal students will focus specifically on behaviors and information related to its behavior. They will need to find out where the animal lives, what the animal eats, how it eats and when they eat, how they reproduce, how the animals interact socially, what is their mode of motion and how do they communicate? These questions will direct students to focus on behaviors. From this information students will be able to ask a question about behavior that will help them to formulate a hypothesis. The question could be something such as, "How do Zebras spend most of their time?" Students will use this data in the Zoo to create their own data sheet to observe and collect information about their chosen animals as a component of the class activity at the Zoo.

In-Zoo Activity:

Reserve the Education Program "Animal Antics"– Available at the Fort Worth Zoo Education Center by registering your group at www.fortworthzoo.org under the "Classes" link.