

Pre-Visit/Post-Visit Guide

Lesson Name: Animal Explorations

Summary of Lesson:

Come explore the Animal Kingdom! Through classification, students will become familiar with the physical characteristics of animals belonging to six basic groups including: Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Reptiles, Fish, and Insects. Hands-on time with a variety of live and mounted animals will make this an exciting learning experience.

South Carolina Science Standards: 2.L.5A.1

Pre-Visit Resources

- **Teacher/Chaperone Expectations:** Please help us by letting us know of any special accommodations for your children prior to the lesson. Your assistance with classroom management and distribution of materials will also be greatly appreciated.
- **Instruction for Teachers:**
 - Please report to the Harrison Hall of Science for this lesson. Students will work in small groups to rotate through animal stations. Students will have time to wash their hands at the end of the lesson.
- **Key Vocabulary:** Bird, Amphibian, Fish, Mammal, Reptile, Insect, Characteristic, Adaptation
- **Key Questions Addressed in Lesson:** What are different physical characteristics for each animal group that help us classify them?
- **Content Preview Video:**
 - **"Classifying Animals" (BrainPOP Jr.)** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dCm5CcQhU-c> This video can be used as a preview to how animals are classified into groups.

Post-Visit Resources

- **Writing Prompt:** Construct an illustrated "Who Am I" poem to describe the 6 different animal groups. Include the physical characteristic used to describe each animal group.
- **Possible Lesson Link:**
 - <http://www.ideasbyjivey.com/2015/04/what-if-you-had-animal-parts-freebies.html> This site has free downloads for organizational charts to use with Sandra Markle's "What If You had" books. They include What If You Had Animal Teeth, What If You Had Animal Feet, and What If You Had Animal Hair. Great way to reinforce characteristics!
 - Sketching Activity: Go to https://www.pinterest.com/pin/Af_iKh6ZXnCz_oUAr-SbkGK4UTxU-ETBJp7LDO6K59G5xcit9b7IScc/ for a wonderful way to reinforce the 5 vertebrate animal groups using a sketch of your child's hand
- **Video Link:**
 - "Vertebrate Animals for kids: Mammals, fish, birds, amphibians and reptiles" (8:44) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HQdiSMUZEDA>
 - SciShow Kids presents "Inspect an Insect" (0:57) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3166nK3Gym8>
- **Career Connections:** Biologist, Veterinarian, Zoologist