



## Ecology Expert Teachers Guide

6.L2U3.11-14

Visiting Wildlife World Zoo, Aquarium and Safari Park provides a great opportunity for students to explore ecology from around the planet. For this activity students will choose one species during their visit at Wildlife World and explore the ecological aspects unique to their species. Multiple sheets may be printed for each student to allow students to compare and contrast different species.

Before the trip:

Students will need an understanding of ecological principles such as:

The concept of an ecosystem and the major ecosystems on Earth

Abiotic and Biotic factors and how they influence a species

Background information on human impacts on the environment

Knowledge of producers, consumers, and decomposers and how energy flows in an ecosystem in order to construct a food web

During the trip:

Students will need to pick a species to study. Students will need to use the signage as well as technology once back at the classroom to identify their species' role in its ecosystem

After the trip:

Students should finish any research on their species necessary

Students should share their findings on their species with one another

Students may be asked to compare and contrast the different ecological requirements of several species



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Directions: As you visit Wildlife World Zoo, Aquarium and Safari Park you will see many different species from around the planet. Complete the following activities using examples and information gathered during your visit.

Pick one species to do an ecology analysis on:

Species: \_\_\_\_\_

Ecosystem: \_\_\_\_\_

Abiotic Factors (Nonliving) necessary for your species' survival: \_\_\_\_\_

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Biotic Factors (Living) necessary for your species' survival: \_\_\_\_\_

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Is your species a:      Carnivore                      Omnivore                      Herbivore

What does your species eat? \_\_\_\_\_

What predators does your species have? \_\_\_\_\_

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Draw a food web for your species (make sure to include producers, consumers, and decomposers):

How are humans impacting your species? \_\_\_\_\_

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