

VIRTUAL BACKPACK





WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

Scientists at Woodland Park Zoo and around the world work every day to learn new things and save species. During your visit you and your child will be field researchers as you explore the zoo.

A packing list has been provided to make sure you bring all you need to complete this backpack.

ACTIVITIES:

- Before Your Visit: Paper Tube Binoculars
- At Home Activity: Bird Watching
- Your Own Nature Show
- Web Walk
- Story Time
- Animal Behavior Bingo

PACKING LIST:

- Paper Tube Binoculars
- Animal Behavior Bingo Card (print at home)
- Story Book



BEFORE YOUR VISIT: Paper Tube Binoculars



You and your child will create and decorate a pair of paper tube binoculars to use while exploring zoo grounds.

Time: 15 minutes

Materials: Two toilet paper tubes (or one paper towel tube cut in half), stapler or tape, crayons, string

Instructions:

1. Has your child ever seen or used binoculars before? Ask them why we might use binoculars and let them share their ideas.
 - a. Your paper tube binoculars will help you focus on certain things you see at the zoo.
2. Begin by attaching two toilet paper tubes together, side by side, with tape or a stapler.
3. You and your child can then decorate the binoculars how you would like.
4. Finish off the binoculars by attaching a string so the binoculars can easily be worn around your neck during your zoo visit.
5. While at the zoo use your binoculars to focus on a particular animal, part of a habitat or even an animal feature like a tail or ears.



FIELD CONSERVATION

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AT HOME: Bird Watching

Whether outside or through a window, pause and look around for the signs of birds.



Time: However long you have • Materials: None (optional: journal, paper tube binoculars)

Instructions:

1. Take a look out of a window, head to your backyard or go for a walk in your neighborhood. Bring along your paper tube binoculars!
2. Use your eyes and ears to check for signs of birds.
 - a. Do you hear bird songs and chirps?
 - b. Do you see white patches on the ground, evidence of birds?
 - c. Do you see birds perched on the tips of branches or wires?
 - d. Are there birds flying in the sky around you?
3. Spend time just watching, listening and enjoying the birds.
4. If you brought along a journal take a few notes about what you see and hear. You can even make some drawings of what you see!
5. Try this activity again on another day. Did you see the same things or something different? Were the same or different birds around?



AT THE ZOO: Your Own Nature Show

Time: 10 minutes • Materials: None

Instructions:

1. While visiting a habitat at the zoo take turns with your child pretending to host a nature show.
2. Stand in front of the habitat, hold your invisible microphone, or don your hiking clothes and begin to narrate what you see just like a nature show host. Help your child share their observations of the animals and the habitat.
3. End your show with what you will do at home to help the animals you're viewing.
4. Try this activity and one or all of the habitats at the zoo!



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AT THE ZOO: Web Walk

Look for the incredible webs that are all around us!

Time: 10 minutes • Materials: None

Instructions:

1. While on the main loop path or a quiet habitat path in the zoo look around for spider webs.
2. They come in all shapes and sizes, up high and down low and with spiders and without!
3. As you search ask your child questions such as:
 - a. Is there a spider in the web?
 - b. Can you see anything else in the web?
 - c. What do you notice about the web?
 - d. How is the web hanging on? Thin strands on a bush, a log, a building?
4. When you're finished looking leave the web exactly where you found it!

AT THE ZOO: Story Time

Time: 10 minutes • Materials: Story Book

Pack a book from home and spend some time in a cozy corner of the zoo reading together.



Instructions:

1. Find a cozy spot at the zoo to sit and pull out the story book you packed for your trip.
2. Read the story together taking turns sounding out words, reading pages and looking at the illustrations.
3. As you read ask questions such as:
 - a. What do you think is going to happen next?
 - b. How would you feel if that happened to you?
 - c. Can you find something hidden or an animal in the photo?



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AT THE ZOO: Animal Behavior Bingo

Print off this animal behavior bingo card sheet before your visit.
Or create your own playing board.

Time: Throughout your visit • Materials: Animal Behavior Bingo card, crayon

Instructions:

1. Read over the bingo card with your child and talk about the behaviors in each of the squares.
Have you seen those behaviors before? Do you or your child do any of those behaviors?
2. As you explore the zoo and view the animals, check off with your crayon any behaviors you see.
3. You can complete a row or the entire board!

SNUGGLING	EXPLORING	PLAYING
SMELLING	SLEEPING	WALKING
CLIMBING	DRINKING	EATING