

# PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue ■ Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196 ■ 215-243-1100 ■ philadelphiazoo.org

*Pre-visit activity*

## Habitats (3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

In-School Activity

### Habitat Research

This activity can be done individually or in groups. Use the included worksheet to encourage students to learn more about an animal that interests them. Have students choose an animal that can be seen at the Philadelphia Zoo (check out many of our animals [here](#)). When your class visits the Zoo, consider having the students do any of the following:

- Mark on a Zoo map where their animals can be found at the Zoo
- Take a photo of each student in front of their animals
- Have each student share one thing they learned about their animal
- Have students look at our exhibits to find all the basic needs for their animals

### Standards

**PA Academic:** 3.1 A2, 3.1 C2, 3.1 C3, 4.1 A, 4.1 C, 4.1 D, 4.1 E, 4.4 A, 4.5 C, 4.5 D

**Next Generation Science:** K-LS1-1, K-ESS2-2, K-ESS3-1, K-ESS3-3, 2-LS4-1, 1-LS1-1, 1-LS1-2

**New Jersey Core Curriculum:** 5.1, 5.3A, 5.3B, 5.3C, 5.4 G

**Common Core:** CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.4, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.8, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7, CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.SL.3

### Vocabulary

**Habitat:** the natural environment of an organism where it lives and grows

**Endangered species:** a type of organism that is at risk of extinction

**Extinct:** an organism that has died out completely and is no longer in existence

**Need:** a requirement or necessity for an organism to survive

**Adaptation:** an alteration in the structure or function of an organism or any of its parts that makes that organism better fitted to survive in its habitat

### Recommendations

Read:

["I See a Kookaburra!"](#) – Steve Jenkins

["Animals and Habitats of the United States"](#) – Jeff Corwin

["A Strange Place to Call Home"](#) – Marilyn Singer

["Nature's Patchwork Quilt"](#) – Mary Miche

["Ivan: The Remarkable True Story of the Shopping Mall Gorilla"](#) – Katherine Applegate

Research:

- Different habitats where humans can be found
- The care required for a type of pet
- The habitat, adaptations, and conservation status of a favorite animal

Discuss:

How do humans adapt to different habitats? Do all humans live in similar conditions?

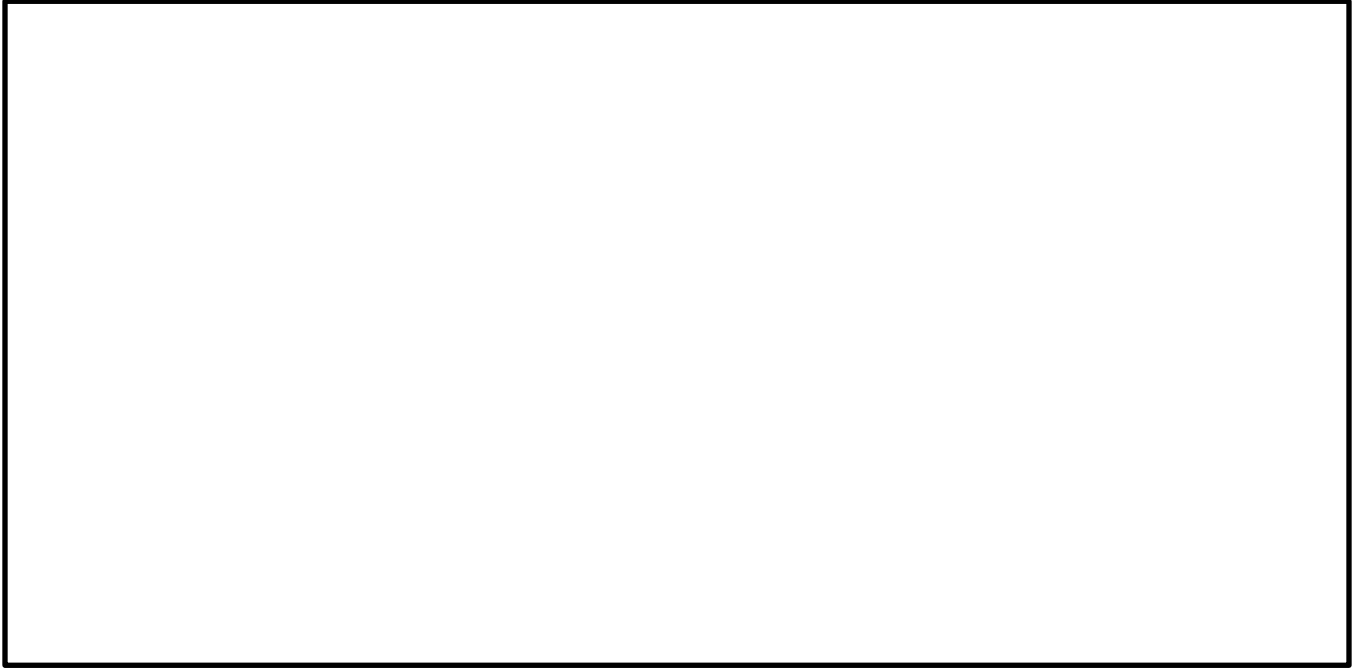
How can we help provide a good habitat for a pet at home? Are pets easy to care for?

Compare and contrast habitats for a few different animals. Would one animal be able to survive in the other's habitat?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

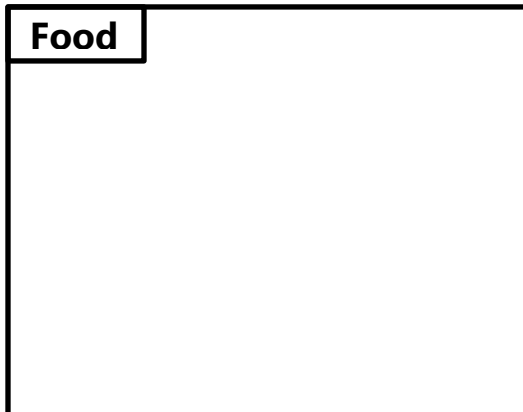
I want to learn more about the \_\_\_\_\_

Draw a picture of your animal below: *(species)*

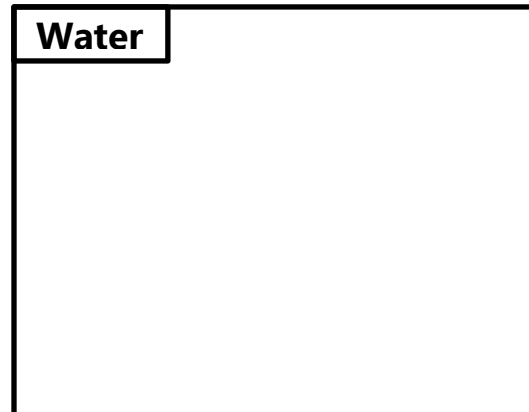


Draw pictures of some of the things your animal needs to survive:

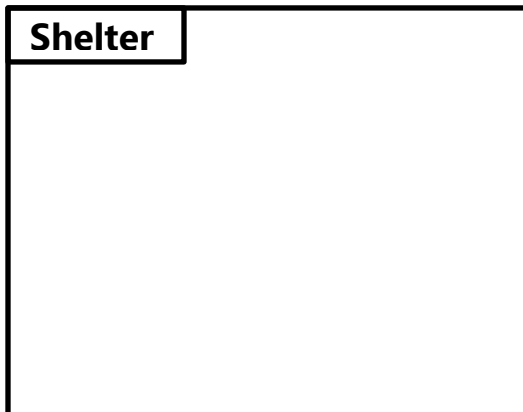
**Food**



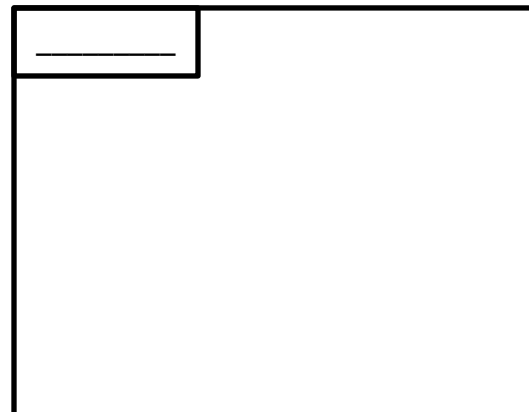
**Water**



**Shelter**



\_\_\_\_\_



**Find answers about your animal from the Philadelphia Zoo's website!**

My animal is called \_\_\_\_\_  
*(species)*

At the Philadelphia Zoo, they can be found in this location:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(building or area)*

At the Zoo, my animal's name is \_\_\_\_\_  
*(names for your animal)*

My animal likes to eat \_\_\_\_\_  
*(favorite foods)*

In the wild, my animal is found \_\_\_\_\_  
*(habitat)*

Circle your answers! My animal's habitat is...

- |     |       |
|-----|-------|
| Big | Small |
| Hot | Cold  |
| Wet | Dry   |

Is my animal in danger of going extinct? Circle one:   yes   no

I like this animal because...  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Share with a friend!**

My friend's name is \_\_\_\_\_

Their animal is called \_\_\_\_\_