

# TEACHER NOTES

## Animal Mini-Project

### Cross-Curricular

## Contextual Summary

This mini project resource begins with a lesson at school; a lesson plan is available for this activity.

There is a fact-collecting on-site activity lasting about 30 minutes and suggestions for follow up tasks to be completed back at school. The project covers a range of subject areas including English, maths, art and geography.

Activities are designed to appeal to students of all abilities in key stages 1 and 2 (years 1-6).



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### SUBJECT

Cross-curricular

### UNIT

Various

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR USE

- ✓ Pre-Visit
- ✓ On-Site Activity
- ✓ Post-Visit



Peripheral Task

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The initial classroom lesson includes materials supporting school trips to the Isle of Wight

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During their time on-site, students will choose an animal to study and complete a worksheet as they collect information about their chosen animal. This will include a description, reading for information, observational notes and a sketch. Once they have looked around and had time to choose their animal, there will need to be at least one adult supervising in each of the 3 main animal areas.

Once back at school, the project will be continued in the classroom and there are some suggested activities provided for follow up work at the end of this document.

## Ability Levels

This resource is suitable for key stage 1 and 2 students of mixed ability. There are high and low ability worksheets provided for the on-site tasks for each sub-key stage.

Classroom activities are inclusive but there are some suggestions for support of low ability pupils.

### Key skills practised in this unit:

- ▶ Writing for a purpose
- ▶ Reading for information
- ▶ Data handling.

## Relationship to Curriculum

These skills are required to be taught and practised as per the National Curriculum / Curriculum for Excellence, for key stage 1 and 2 subjects.



P2-P7

### CURRICULUM / SYLLABUS

- ✓ National Curriculum 2014
- ✓ Curriculum for Excellence

Applies to Resource numbered:

1	5	2	0	1	1
1	5	2	0	1	2
1	5	2	0	1	3
1	5	2	0	1	4
1	5	2	0	1	5
1	5	2	0	1	6

## Learning Opportunities

### Pre-Visit

- Completion of the lesson - a sample lesson plan is linked to this resource.

### During the Visit

- Students complete the activities in the resources linked to this document: *Animal Mini-Project!*

Resource ID: **152011** (KS1 lower ability)

**152012** (KS1 higher ability)

**152013** (KS2L lower ability)

**152014** (KS2L higher ability)

**152015** (KS2U lower ability)

**152016** (KSU higher ability)

### Post-Visit

- There will be a range of ways to follow this up post-visit with opportunities to develop and record ideas encountered on-site.

- See the appendix at the end of this document for suggested follow up activities.

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## Enrichment Opportunities

- There are opportunities for discussion and for forming opinions on such subjects as the reasons for keeping animals in captivity, and a range of possibilities for the use of ICT.
- New knowledge will be encountered on a 'want/need to know' basis which will add to the building of background knowledge which, in turn, will impact on subsequent learning.

## Learning Outcomes

- ✓ Students will learn how to write a concise and meaningful description as well as learning how to develop an investigation within a range of subject areas.
- ✓ Any appropriate ideas from the students themselves should be followed up.
- ✓ Students will demonstrate a range of skills involved in producing an extended cross-curricular study.

For further details visit [educationdestination.co.uk](http://educationdestination.co.uk)

- Hundreds more resources
- Search by age, subject, exam board
- Virtual venue tours and maps
- Bespoke online itinerary builder
- Risk assessments
- Travel and accommodation



## Appendix 1: Post-visit activity suggestions

### Key Stage 1

Encourage pupils to find out the answers to any questions they thought of to ask.

#### Presentation

- Individuals should present their work in an interesting way. This could include:
  - a picture,
  - description,
  - 2 or 3 interesting facts,
  - numerical data e.g. life span, size.



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► Work on improving the description of their animal.

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#### Maths ideas

- A height chart and a length chart could be displayed on the wall where students can mark the average height or length of their animal. They should be encouraged to make comparisons using appropriate vocabulary.

#### Geography

- If a world map can be displayed on a wall with continents marked, students can attach an image of their animal in the appropriate location.
- Look at variation of climate and habitat.



## Appendix 2: Post-visit activity suggestions

### Key Stage 2

#### Literacy

- ▶ Work on improving the description of their animal.

#### Research

- ▶ Encourage pupils to find out the answers to any questions they thought of.
- ▶ Support: Help promote questions with lead words such as What? Where? When? Who? Which? How? Why? What If?

#### Presentation

- ▶ Individuals should present their work in an interesting way. This could be:



✓ an informative poster for display where items are arranged and stuck onto a

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#### Maths

- ▶ A height chart and a length chart could be displayed on the wall where pupils can mark the average height or length of their animal. They should be encouraged to make comparisons using appropriate vocabulary.

#### Geography and Science

- ▶ If a world map can be displayed on a wall with continents marked, pupils can attach an image of their animal in the appropriate location.  
Key countries could be singled out for identification e.g. India, China
- ▶ Investigate habitats e.g. grassland (prairie), scrub, rainforest, woodland, tundra, desert (sand and rock)
- ▶ Investigate climates e.g. very hot and humid (tropical), hot and dry (e.g. mediterranean), temperate (UK), cold (Northern Europe and Asia), frozen (Arctic and Antarctic)
- ▶ What habitat and climate does their chosen animal favour?  
Are they especially adapted for this environment?
- ▶ This could also be demonstrated as a display with images of animals stuck onto appropriate habitat scenes on the display.

#### Art and design technology

- ▶ Create a 3 dimensional diorama of your animal in its habitat.

