Self- Guided Activity Tour for 4-5th Grade

Can be completed with the help of an adult or as a group.

Fill in the blanks to the questions below. Some of the answers can be found by observation. Others can be found in the exhibit signage.

SOL’s Covered:
Science: 4.1a, 4.5a, d & f, 4.9b, 5.5b & c
English: 4.1b, 4.5d, e & I, 5.4a, 5.6c, f & g

1) I am a very large rodent with a unique way of protecting myself from predators. If you hear me rattle my quills, you better back off!
Who am I? ___________________________________
I prefer to be awake at night. What is that called? ___________________________________
What kind of habitat do I live in? ___________________________________

2) Talk about vertebrae! Animals like me have more than any other animal. It allows us to coil or wrap our bodies around tree branches or our prey.
Who am I? ___________________________________
Why do we like to hang around areas where people live? ________________________________
Why is my population threatened in the wild? ___________________________________

3) Since I have shorter legs than other cats, I can’t run very fast. Instead, I catch my prey by ambushing it from behind vegetation or rock cover.
Who am I? ___________________________________
I prefer to be awake and hunt at dusk and dawn. What is this called? ________________________________
My species is considered beneficial to the environment. Why? ________________________________

4) We are small owls that come in 2 color phases.
Who are we? ___________________________________
We have a behavioral adaptation that helps us protect our nests. What is it? ________________________________
Our zoo diet consists mainly of ground meat made for raptors and small mice. How does it differ in the wild? ________________________________
5) Our species almost went extinct, but due to strong protective measures and the banning of DDT, has made a remarkable recovery.
   Who are we? ________________________________
   How big can we get? ________________________________
   Where do we like to live? ________________________________

6) We have very long necks and legs, and if you’re lucky you may get to see us dance.
   Who are we? ________________________________
   What habitat do you typically find us in? ________________________________
   Humans have destroyed our habitat by doing what? ________________________________

7) Our long, slim bodies and long tails help us to swim at high speeds. Our tails also give us balance so we can stand on our hind legs, and we look mighty cute while we’re doing it too!
   Who are we? ________________________________
   Although we don’t talk like humans, we have ways communicating with one another. How? ________________________________
   We really like to eat crustaceans, like crabs. What kinds of animals are these? ________________________________

8) I’m most recognized for the black patch of hair across my eyes that looks like a mask.
   Who am I? ________________________________
   I’m an opportunistic omnivore. What does that mean? ________________________________
   What kinds of habitats can you find me in? ________________________________

9) We are smaller and more secretive than our grey cousins. We are also the most endangered canid in North America.
   Who are we? ________________________________
   What would we eat in the wild? ________________________________
   How do we communicate? ________________________________

10) What was your favorite part of your visit to the zoo? ________________________________
    Why? ________________________________
    There are no wrong answers!

Please pick up an answer sheet to check your answers and come back to the Zoo soon!
1) Who am I? Indian Crested Porcupine
   I prefer to be awake at night. What is that called? Nocturnal
   What kind of habitat do I live in? Caves, Burrows & Rock Crevices
2) Who am I? Burmese Python
   Why do we like to hang around areas where people live? People attract the rodents and vermin that we like to eat.
   Why is my population threatened in the wild? We’re hunted for leather and for the pet trade.
3) Who am I? Pallas Cat
   I prefer to be awake and hunt at dusk and dawn. What is this called? Crepuscular
   My species is considered beneficial to the environment. Why? We feed on agricultural pests, such as mice and rats.
4) Who are we? Eastern Screech Owls
   We have a behavioral adaptation that helps us protect our nests. What is it? Bringing animals like blind snakes into the nest to feed on ants and other insects that may infest the nest.
   Our zoo diet consists mainly of ground meat made for raptors and small mice. How does it differ in the wild? We have the most varied diet of any N.A. owl and feed on insects, rodents and other small mammals, crayfish, songbirds and earthworms.
5) Who are we? Bald Eagles
   How big can we get? Can get up to 14 pounds with an 8 foot wingspan
   Where do we like to live? We usually nest in trees near bodies of water.
6) Who are we? Florida Sandhill Cranes
   What habitat do you typically find us in? Freshwater wetlands
   Humans have destroyed our habitat by doing what? Building more residential and commercial developments
7) Who are we? Asian Small-Clawed Otters
   Although we don’t talk like humans, we have ways communicating with one another. How? Vocalizations, scent markings & sign heaps
   We really like to eat crustaceans, like crabs. What kinds of animals are these? Invertebrates
8) I’m most recognized for the black patch of hair across my eyes that looks like a mask.
   Who am I? Raccoon
   I’m an opportunistic omnivore. What does that mean? I will eat pretty much anything.
   What kinds of habitats can you find me in? Forests, especially those near bodies of water
9) Who are we? Red Wolves
   What would we eat in the wild? White-tailed deer, rodents and other small mammals
   How do we communicate? Howling, scent marking, facial expressions & body postures
10) What was your favorite part of your visit to the zoo? Why? There are no wrong answers!