

Junior Animal Habitats Badge – At Home and Virtual Activities

Find out more about where animals live, how they play, and how humans can help them.

1. Find out about wild animals.
2. Investigate an animal habitat.
3. Create an animal house.
4. Explore endangered habitats.
5. Help protect animal habitats.



When you've earned this badge, you will know more about wild animals and how to protect their homes.

Activity 1 (<i>Connects to:</i> Step 1: Find out about wild animals.)	Brainstorming Animal Habitats
Activity summary	Start brainstorming process about where different animals live and how habitats range across the world
Supplies needed	Paper (construction or printer – whatever you have on hand!) Markers, Colored pencils, pen, pencil
Advance Prep needed	n/a
Link to online resources	n/a
Instructions	Have girls draw an animal from different types of habitats, such as on land, air, and water, to get them thinking about the varying places animals can live. Keep these animals in mind for the project in Activity 3.
Reflection/discussion questions for parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there an animal you drew that you'd like to learn more about? - Why do you like these animals? - What other animals share the same habitats?

Activity 2 (<i>Connects to:</i> Step 2: Investigate an animal habitat)	Observe Animal in Habitat
Activity summary	Observing how an animal behaves in a habitat
Supplies needed	Internet access for live cams

	<p>*If not possible, try to think of ways an animal would behave from what you've seen on tv, learned at school, or in books</p> <p>Paper Pen or pencil</p>
Advance Prep needed	n/a
Link to online resources	<p>About African Penguins - https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/animals/african-penguin</p> <p>Live Cam - https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/videos/livecam/penguin-cam</p>
Instructions	If able, observe a live cam from the San Diego zoo (above is an example for the African Penguin, but there are many options on the website). Have girls write down what they see in their animal's behavior, what their habitat is like, and share what they observe with you.
Reflection/discussion questions for parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What do you notice about the animal's behavior? - What is included in their zoo habitat? - What would change if you observed them in the wild?

Activity 3 (<i>Connects to: Step 4: Explore endangered animals.</i>)	Endangered Animal Project
Activity summary	Learn about what it means to be "endangered" and how that status affects an animal
Supplies needed	Can be done on paper with coloring utensils, or virtually
Advance Prep needed	n/a
Link to online resources	<p>San Diego Zoo (can filter by endangered status) - https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/animals</p> <p>World Wildlife Foundation - https://www.worldwildlife.org/species</p>
Instructions	<p>Ask if girls have heard of an "endangered species". If not, explain, or ask for examples. You can tell girls things like, "<i>An endangered animal is at risk of becoming extinct, or dying out. When the government lists an animal as endangered, it becomes illegal to harm it. For example, in 1967, the bald eagle was an endangered species. People worked hard to protect the birds and their habitats, and it worked! Today the bald eagle's population is stable and it is no longer endangered.</i>"</p> <p>Have girls research an endangered animal of their choosing and create a mini poster or report about the animal and then present it to you.</p> <p>Some ideas of things to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Picture of animal (either drawn or print out) - Location - Endangered status and why they are endangered - Size - Type (mammal, amphibian, etc.) - Diet

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Habitat - A few unique features/fun fact
Reflection/discussion questions for parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Why did you choose this animal? - What are some things you think humans could do to help their endangered status? - How do you think their habitat affects their diet?

Additional Animal Habitat Resources:

- More live stream cams: <https://www.thedailybeast.com/stay-sane-during-your-quarantine-with-these-animal-livestreams>
- Monterey Bay Aquarium Cams: <https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams>
- Activities and games provided by the San Diego Zoo: <https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/activities>

Keep it girl-led! These activities have helped you finish 3 of the badge 5 requirements. When you're able, finish the last 2 requirements on your own, and you'll have earned the Junior Animal Habitats badge! Find the Animal Habitats badge [here](#).