

# Safari Scavenger Hunt

5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grades

Welcome Chaperones:

This SAFARI SCAVENGER HUNT will be fun and educational if you know a couple of things first:

- Plan for how many groups your class(es) will be broken down into, then make enough copies of the clue cards so each group gets a set. If possible, clue cards work best if copied on card stock paper or copied then laminated. Each chaperone will also need a copy of this sheet.
- The chaperones should hold all clue cards and this sheet, giving the students one clue at a time. Each time they answer a clue, give them the next one.
- All clues and hints are based on Kansas State Science Standard 3, Benchmarks 3, 4, and 5. Each clue may be determined by observing the animals and their exhibits, reading the graphics or by having some general background knowledge. Most hints are found on the graphics at the animal exhibits, and if not, the hint should obviously point out the answer.
- Don't let the students suffer in silence! If the students are having a difficult time with the Clue, help them out by giving them the hint.
- Visit each animal as the students answer the clues. Do not give them another clue until they travel to the animal/type of animal mentioned by the answer.

## HAPPY HUNTING!!

(Questions/Answers follow no particular path throughout the zoo. We recommend the scavenger hunt be conducted in no given order because the children will catch on and just run from exhibit to exhibit. However, if time is an extreme issue, a path could be set up: Clue 1, Clue 7, Clue 6, Clue 5, Clue 3, Clue 4, Clue 9, Clue 2, Clue 8, Clue 10)

**Clue #1.** We dig lots of holes in the prairie ecosystem of Kansas. Some of our holes have raised entrances.

**Answer:** Black-tailed Prairie Dog

**Hint:** We make barking sounds like a dog, thus our name, but we are not dogs, we are rodents.

**Clue #2.** I live in a variety of ecosystems, and in all of them my large teeth, big paws and sharp claws make me a top consumer.

**Answer:** Cougar

**Hint:** I am also called the Puma and Mountain Lion

**Clue #3.** My counterparts in India are facing the loss of their basic survival needs through habitat loss. There are only about 2,000 left in the wild.

**Answer:** Indian Rhino

**Hint:** I am one of the larger animals at Rolling Hills Zoo and I only have one horn.

**Clue #4.** In the wild, I am found in the hot Gobi Desert, but in Kansas when the temperature drops below freezing I just grow long hair that I shed for the summer.

**Answer:** Bactrian Camel

**Hint:** I'm the one with two humps.

**Clue #5.** In response to changes in our environment, we typically eat whatever is greenest, grass, leaves or fruit.

**Answer:** Grant's Gazelle

**Hint:** We are the other hoofed animals in with the giraffes.

**Clue #6.** Talk about diversity. There are about 60 different types of me in the wild, and I'm the largest of them all.

**Answer:** Red Kangaroo

**Hint:** Being the largest, means I also have the largest back legs allowing me to jump nearly 30 feet in one leap.

**Clue #7.** Of all the hoofed animals in North America, I am the most common in the wild. In fact, I am more common in Kansas than my counterpart, the Mule Deer.

**Answer:** White-tailed Deer

**Hint:** I may not have the large legs like the Kangaroo, but when I get going 35 miles per hour I can jump about 30 feet and as high as 8.5 feet.

**Clue #8.** There are currently five subspecies of tigers found in the world today. Three subspecies are already extinct. Which three are extinct?

**Answer:** Balinese, Javan and Caspian

**Hint:** Find the tigers at Rolling Hills Zoo. They're not extinct, but you'll find out which ones are when you visit them.

**Clue #9.** The sticky saliva on my nearly two-foot tongue allows me to be strictly Insectivorous.

**Answer:** Giant Anteater

**Hint:** I get my name from my favorite insects.

**Clue #10.** I am not an animal; I am a building. I was the old Tescott Train Depot before being transported to Rolling Hills Zoo and given a great new look.

**Answer:** SAFARI GIFT SHOP

**Hint:** You passed me on the way into the Zoo as you walked down the hill.

#### Extension:

Choose an animal to observe for 10 minutes. Have each child write a narrative (write everything the animal does for the length of their observation). Once the time allotment is up, find a place where everyone can sit down to go over the observations. Start with one student and have them read aloud their observations. Ask the rest of the class if they have anything to add to the first student's observations. As the students read their observations, list them so you will remember for further discussion. Once done sharing observations, go back to the exhibit and start asking if anything in the exhibit influenced the observed behaviors that you have listed. As they mention items, explain that these are examples of external stimuli on the animal causing it to behave a certain way. Ask them to hypothesize what the animal would be doing if the stimuli were absent. Discuss the feasibility of their hypotheses.