

Safari Scavenger Hunt

9th through 12th Grades

Answer Page

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. Each group will also need a copy of this sheet.
- Each group of students should be accompanied by a chaperone. Each chaperone should have a copy of the Answer Page and each group of students should get a copy of the questions.
- The questions given to students will require critical thinking skills. Answers will be achieved by applying background biology information with observations and information provided on the graphics found at all the animal exhibits.
- All benchmarks of Kansas State Science Standard 3 have at least one scavenger hunt question relating to it.

1. Find four animals that have items in their exhibit that you would not see in their wild ecosystem. List the animal, the item and whether they are interacting with the item.

Answer: Will very depending on the day, but most likely any primate (monkey or apes), rhinos, green-winged macaws and bears.

2. Due to the lack of hoofed grazers in Australia, natural selection favored this unusual animal. List this animal and how many are grazing in its exhibit.

Answer: Kangaroo and/or Wallaby – Number of grazers may very greatly from zero to all.

3. Variation is important to the survival of animal populations due to the possible change in the environment. An animal at Rolling Hills Zoo that shows a type of variation is the white rhino and their horns. Rhinos can shape their horns as they wish. Describe two different horn shapes between the four white rhinos housed here.

Answer: Chaperones should record what they see to compare them to the students' descriptions after they are complete. This answer will change over time due to the rhinos reshaping their horn.

4. Energy flow is important in an ecosystem and occurs by plants making their food from the sun and animals eating their food. Make your own ecosystem with its own energy flow by listing two plants, two herbivores and two carnivores.

Answer: Review for correctness of herbivores and carnivores. Any combination of two plants may be used. Many plants are labeled throughout the zoo.

5. List two animals that are found in the same area that could potentially compete for food in the wild. Note: The animals you choose do not need to be housed together at Rolling Hills Zoo, they just need to be from the same area in the wild.

Answer: Bobcat/Cougar or Grevy's Zebra/Grant's Gazelle or Chimpanzee/Mandrill or Cotton-top Tamarin/Tufted Capuchin

6. Humans are part of ecosystems around the world, and we affect them, positively and negatively. List three animals that are endangered because of habitat loss, which is a negative affect humans have on ecosystems.

Answer: Any endangered animal at Rolling Hills Zoo – Snow Leopard, Amur Leopard, Tiger, Orangutan, Chimpanzee, Mandrill, Indian Rhino, White Rhino, Bactrian Camel, Cotton-top Tamarin, Ring-tailed Lemurs, Scimitar-horned Oryx, Grevy’s Zebra, African Hunting Dog, Desert Tortoise,.

7. How many animals at Rolling Hills Zoo have claws which help them acquire food/energy.

Answer: Any cat species, Anteater, Aardvark, Black Bear

8. List the three marsupials found on exhibit at Rolling Hills Zoo.

Answer: Red Kangaroo, Bennett’s Wallaby, Wallaroo

9. North America has very diverse communities of animals. How many animals on exhibit at Rolling Hills Zoo are found in North America.

Answer: Black Bear, Pronghorn, White-tailed Deer, Turkey (free roaming throughout the zoo), Black-tailed Prairie Dog, Cougar, Desert Tortoise (weather permitting), Bobcat, and Timber/Gray Wolves

Rolling Hills Zoo Scavenger Hunt

All items can be found by observing the animals at Rolling Hills Zoo and/or reading the graphics at each animal's exhibit.

1. Find four animals that have items in their exhibit that you would not see in their wild ecosystem. List the animal, the item and whether they are interacting with the item.

2. Find one baby animal at the Zoo, list it and list how it resembles its parents and/or the rest of the animals in its exhibit (of the same species).

3. Due to the lack of hoofed grazers in Australia, natural selection favored this unusual animal. List this animal and how many are grazing in its exhibit.

4. Variation is important to the survival of animal populations due to the possible change in the environment. An animal at Rolling Hills Zoo that shows a type of variation is the white rhino and their horns. Rhinos can shape their horns as they wish. Describe two different horn shapes between the four white rhinos housed here, and if you think there is any benefit in shaping a horn a particular way.

5. Energy flow is important in an ecosystem and occurs by plants making their food from the sun and animals eating their food. Make your own ecosystem with its own energy flow by listing two plants, two herbivores and two carnivores.

6. List two animals that are found in the same area that could potentially compete for food in the wild. Note: The animals you choose do not need to be housed together at Rolling Hills Zoo, they just need to be from the same area in the wild.

7. Humans are part of ecosystems around the world, and we affect them, positively and negatively. List three animals that are endangered because of habitat loss, which is a negative affect humans have on ecosystems.

8. How many animals at Rolling Hills Zoo have claws which help them acquire food/energy.

9. List the three marsupials found on exhibit at Rolling Hills Zoo.

10. North America has very diverse communities of animals. How many animals on exhibit at Rolling Hills Zoo are found in North America?
