



Name: _____

Seneca Park Zoo needs your help designing a new habitat! First, pick an animal that you would like to see come to the Zoo.

My animal: _____

Animal Research

You will need to know more about your animal in order to design your habitat. Check out these websites to learn more about your animal:

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>

<https://pbskids.org/wildkratts/creaturepedia/>

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/species>

List one country where your animal could be found out in nature:

What does your animal eat?

A **carnivore** eats animals, an **herbivore** eats plants, and an **omnivore** eats both plants and animals. Circle the word that best describes your animal:

carnivore

herbivore

omnivore

What time of day is your animal most active?

An animal that is most active at night is **nocturnal**. An animal that is most active during the day is **diurnal**. An animal that is most active at dawn and dusk is **crepuscular**. Circle the word that best describes your animal:

nocturnal

diurnal

crepuscular



Does your animal live in a group, or is it usually on its own?

A **predator** is an animal that eats your animal. What types of **predators** does your animal have? (Skip if nothing eats your animal)

What other animals would your animal live near out in nature that are not its **predators**?

Write down any other fun facts that you learned during your animal research:



Climate Research

Climate is the weather in a place over a long time. You will need to know about the **climate** where your animal lives out in nature as well as the **climate** of Rochester, NY (where Seneca Park Zoo is located). This will help when you plan your habitat.

Look back at your animal research above for a country your animal can be found in nature: _____

Choose a city that is close to your animal's home in nature: _____

Check out this website to learn more about the **climate** of that city as well Rochester, NY:

<https://www.weatherbase.com/compare.php3>

On this website enter your animal's city and compare it to Rochester, NY. It will show the average temperature for both cities on a graph by month. Record your data in the chart below. Select "Average Precipitation" in the drop-down menu. It will show the average precipitation for both cities on a graph by month. Record your data in the chart below.

Month	Your animal's city		Rochester, NY	
	Average Temperature (°F)	Average Precipitation (in)	Average Temperature (°F)	Average Precipitation (in)
January				
April				
July				
October				

Precipitation is the amount of rain, snow, sleet, or hail that falls to the ground. It can be different depending on where you are in the world. This is often how animals get the water they need.

A **dry climate**, like in a desert, gets around 10 inches of precipitation a year. A **wet climate**, like a rainforest, gets around 200 inches of precipitation a year. Is your animal's city a **wet climate**, a **dry climate**, or in between? Circle the closest answer.

Dry climate

In between

Wet climate



A **cold climate**, like in the Arctic, has an average yearly temperature of -3.5°F . A **hot climate**, like a rainforest, has an average yearly temperature of 80°F . Is your animal's city a **cold climate**, a **hot climate**, or in between? Circle the closest answer.

Cold climate

In between

Hot climate

An **adaptation** is a body part or behavior that helps an animal survive. For example, a snow leopard has thick fur that helps it survive in a cold climate. List three **adaptations** that help your animal live in the **climate** of its home city:

Compare the **climate** of the animal's home city to Rochester, NY. Describe any differences:

What will you add to your habitat to make the temperature more like the animal's home in nature? This could include things like: heated rocks, structures that give the animal shade, or a pool to cool down in.

Look at the amount of precipitation for your animal's home city above. What will you add to your habitat to make sure that your animal has the right amount of water in Rochester? This could include things like: a pool, extra water dishes, or rain cover for animals used to less precipitation.



Habitat Planning

Now that you have a plan to create the right **climate**, let's add more to make your habitat really feel like home.

What types of plants would your animal see out in nature?

How will your animal use those plants?

A **diet** is the type of food that an animal eats. What **diet** should the zookeepers prepare for your animal?

How often should the zookeepers feed this **diet** to your animal?

Shelter is something that protects an animal from bad weather. What **shelter** will you add to your habitat?

Seneca Park Zoo wants to make sure that our animals' bodies and minds are active and healthy. To do this we provide items that we call **enrichment**, like puzzle feeders or blankets. What **enrichment** items will you add to your habitat?



Every good habitat includes five essential things: food, water, shelter, air, and space. Check over your plan and make sure that you have good food for your animal to eat. Check to make sure you have the right amount of water for your animal. Check that you have shelter for your animal to hide in or to get away from the sun or rain. Check that your animal will have enough air in its habitat to breathe. Now, when you plan where all of this will go, make sure your animal will also have enough space to move around and get everything else it needs.

List any other things that you think are important to have in your habitat:



Habitat Drawing

Now that you have your plan, it's time to draw it! Sketch your habitat on this page. Be sure to include all the things that you wrote in your plan. Make sure that your animal has enough space to move around. There should be an area away from guests too, so the animal can have privacy sometimes.



Habitat Creation

Create a model of the habitat you drew. You can use any type of material that you want. Test out different materials to see which ones work best. Reusing old materials is great for the environment. Be creative! Share your design with the Zoo by tagging us on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter - @senecaparkzoo