



## Kindergarten - EdZoocational Adventure Guide

**Theme:** Move Like an Animal

**Grade level:** Kindergarten

**DESE Standard:** K-ESS3-1: Use a model to represent the relationship between the needs of different plants or animals (including humans) and the places they live.

**Overview:** It is important for animals to move. They need to be able to find food, water, and shelter in the environments where they live. However, with different habitats, we see different forms of locomotion, or movement. Humans walk on two legs in an upright position, while spiders walk on eight legs in a horizontal position. Birds use wings and feathers to fly, but some have specialized "wings" for swimming. Fish use fins to swim, yet snakes can swim without fins or even arms and legs.

**Activity:** "How do Animals Move?" Print the activity sheet prior to your visit. Allow students to observe multiple exhibits which may provide examples of animal movement. Read the movement prompt and assist students with finding an animal which moves in the listed way. Students can draw the animal and the animal body part which helps them to move in that way.

**Activity Extension:** Invite students to imitate the movements of various animals. The Blue & You Nature Playground near Penguin Pointe offers some climbing structures that allow them to demonstrate various methods of locomotion.

# Kindergarten Tour Guide

This self-guided tour takes your class along a path to exhibits with animals that have distinctive methods of locomotion. This path does not cover the entirety of the Zoo but is meant to accentuate the lesson narrative.

- As you enter, head to the right towards Penguin Pointe.
- Remind students that calm, quiet guests see more animals. Loud noises send them into hiding, making them harder to find.
- **Penguins:** Penguins cannot fly but they can swim very fast. Their wings have become flippers which work like boat paddles so that they can move around quickly in the water. They also have webbed feet and a rounded body which helps them to swim very fast so they can catch lots of fish. Our penguins are identified by the bands on their arms. The boys have a band on their right arm and the girls have a band on their left arm. These bands have different colors on them which tell us who is who. Look for our special girl, Dory. She doesn't have an arm band but is identified by her crooked back. She was born this way and is still able to swim and walk very well.
- **Siamangs:** Siamangs are the largest of the gibbons. They move just like our smaller gibbons, but Crash and Sutura also like to spend a lot of time on the ground. When they walk, they don't walk on four legs like cats and dogs. They walk upright on two legs like we do, and sometimes they hold their arms in the air for balance.
- **Gibbons:** Our white-handed gibbons have very special shoulders which helps them to swing arm-over-arm like Tarzan. Their shoulders rotate better than ours and allow them to swing themselves to tree branches up to 50 feet away. The females are mom Paddy and daughters Goblin and Twila. Goblin was born on Halloween in 2019, which is why she has such a spooky name! Murphy is Paddy's son, and he is a lighter color than the girls. Watch for these apes swinging around their exhibit and using their climbing structures.
- **Ostriches:** The ostriches, Mary Agnes and Pearl, stand on two legs all day. They are too heavy to fly so they must walk, and they can run up to 45 miles per hour! They are unique among birds in that they only have two toes, and they are the only bird that walks on the tips of its toes. Their feet are also very strong – sometimes they will kick at predators!
- **Elephants:** Elephant feet must be able to hold a lot of weight. Babe (the star) weighs almost 12,000 pounds and stands or walks a lot during the day. The bones of her foot angle downward toward her toes so it's like a person who wears high-heeled shoes. A big fatty pad rests behind the toes to cushion her steps. Sometimes our elephants sway because their feet hurt – it's hard to hold all that weight all day!
- **Reptile House:** Check out any of our snakes and you will notice that none of them have feet. Instead, their spine runs the entire length of their body and is surrounded by muscles all the way down. These muscles are strong enough to help the snake hold half of its body up (like a periscope) or even to climb trees. Brock, our Burmese python, can climb up the wall to his resting area.
- **Waterfowl Pond:** Check out the koi fish, turtles, and trumpeter swans found here. Each of them can swim but they do it very differently. Fish use their finned tail like a big paddle swishing side to side to move forward. Turtles have four webbed feet and swans have two webbed feet. They use them like smaller paddles to swim, turn, and dive underwater. Look for the two trumpeter swans foraging for food with their heads under the water.
- **Gorillas:** Our silverback, Kivu, and the girls, Catherine, Adelina, and Alice, get around by knuckle walking. If you try to walk on all fours, you typically bend your knees. Try it with your legs straight and it becomes much harder. This is how gorillas walk, and it is the reason they have much longer arms than we do – their arms are almost twice as long as their legs!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# How Do Animals Move?

**Instructions:** Use this field journal to explore the movement of the animal kingdom while on your visit to the Little Rock Zoo! Observe four animals and watch how they move.

<b>Waddles</b>		
<b>Swings</b>		
<b>Slithers</b>		
<b>Swims</b>		
<b>Flies</b>		

**Connection:** Watch a friend, family member, or pet move. Is it similar to any animals you saw today?