



COLCHESTER ZOO HOME EDUCATION SESSIONS 2019-2020

Sessions for age 7-11
2:00-2:45

	Topic	Session Description	Key Points Covered
Sept Mon 9 th Tues 10 th Wed 11 th	Strongest, Biggest, Fastest	Find out about animals that stand out for their amazing attributes be it strongest, biggest, fastest, or even who is able to regrow their skin the quickest. This session features hands-on animal artefacts (furs, skins, skulls, etc.) as we learn about some of the amazing 'world record' animals.	General and unique animal facts
Oct Mon 7 th Tues 8 th Wed 9 th	South American Animals	This session focuses on the main habitats of South America and how animals are adapted to these specific habitats. The habitats covered are rainforests, wetlands, grasslands, mountains and the coast.	Key characteristics of different habitats; geography of South America; animal adaptations
Nov Mon 4 th Tues 5 th Wed 6 th	Scatology	Scatology – the science of poo! As we delve into the science of scatology children will learn how animal poo can let us identify what type of food they eat. Using this information we'll discover how all animals are connected together by what they eat into food chains and more complex food webs. We'll even discover what coprophagous animals eat.	Predator/prey; herbivore, carnivore, omnivore; scat identification.
Dec Mon 16 th Tues 17 th Wed 18 th	Beaks, Wings, and Feather	Birds belong to one group, but they can look very different, come along to find out why! Children will learn how different beaks, feathers, and wings allow birds to be adapted to such a wide variety of habitats. This session also includes an introduction to bird identification and tips and skills to help you identify birds yourself. This provides you with the information you need to go home and take part in one of the planets longest-running citizen science projects.	Classification (bird, mammal, reptile, amphibian, fish); bird body parts; bird adaptations.
Jan Mon 6 th Tues 7 th Wed 8 th	Asian Animals	Children will learn about the major habitats of Asia and how animals are adapted to their specific habitat. The habitats covered are taiga (cold) forest, woodland forest, rainforest, grasslands, and mountains.	Key characteristics of different habitats; geography of Asia; animal adaptations.
Feb Mon 3 rd Tues 4 th Wed 5 th	Art	Explore the work of some great wildlife and animal artists from painter to photographers. There will then be free time for children to get hands-on and examine animal artefacts (skulls, furs, etc.) and practice their art techniques.	Classification (bird, mammal, reptile, amphibian, fish); famous British wildlife artists; art skills
Mar Mon 2 nd Tues 3 rd Wed 4 th	Plant Classification	Children will get a chance to be junior botanists as they explore the intriguing world of plant classification. Discover facts about the huge variety of plants and how we use them around the zoo for our animals. During this session, we'll focus on close observation of plant characteristics, grouping and identifying a selection of plants, and using simple keys.	Plant anatomy; plant classification
Apr Mon 20 th Tues 21 st Wed 22 nd	Minibeast Classification	Learn about different types of minibeasts. Children will learn what makes an insect an insect. Using this knowledge, we'll work together to classify artefacts, and pictures of invertebrates into insects and 'not insects'.	Classification (vertebrate & invertebrate); major invertebrate groups; what is an insect)
May Mon 18 th Tues 19 th Wed 20 th	Pond Dipping	Children will get the chance to visit our Nature Area and go pond dipping to discover what minibeasts are lurking under the water. As a group we'll examine everything we've caught and learn more about them. Based on the animals we've caught, we'll discuss what this might mean about the water quality.	Pond creature identification; water quality