# Colchester Zoo Home Education Sessions 2022-2023

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

| | Topic | Session Description | Key Points Covered |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Sept**<br>Mon 5th<br>Tues 6th<br>Wed 7th | Habitats | Animals live everywhere in the world. How do they live in such diverse habitats? Children will learn habitat characteristics, and discover some of the cool adaptions that let animals live there. | Characteristics of: woodland, taiga, rainforest, savannah, freshwater, and desert |
| **Oct**<br>Mon 3rd<br>Tues 4th<br>Wed 5th | Science in the Wild | Children learn how our real-life wildlife ranger team use science in the wild at our nature reserve in South Africa. Working scientifically through hands-on investigation, children will get the chance to put their skills to the test and identify what animals might be out there on the reserve based on gathered scientific evidence. | Using scientific enquiry; identification skills (including dichotomous keys); conservation jobs. |
| **Nov**<br>Mon 7th<br>Tues 8th<br>Wed 9th | Maths | Children will get hands-on to practice maths skills in a fun, interactive way as they rotate around maths activity stations. Stations will have a few different options so you can select the appropriate level of difficulty to try and solve the questions. | Measurements; timings; calculations; area; volume; perimeter |
| **Dec**<br>Mon 5th<br>Tues 6th<br>Wed 7th | 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. At home, use this knowledge to take part in one of the planet's longest-running Citizen Science projects. | Classification (bird, mammal, reptile, amphibian, fish); bird body parts; bird adaptations. |
| **Jan**<br>Mon 9th<br>Tues 10th<br>Wed 11th | Nocturnal Animals | The dark might seem scary, but it is full of fascinating creatures. A costume demonstration will help highlight the main adaptions of nocturnal animals. Children will discover the main reasons animals are nocturnal and how it helps them find food, stay cool, and avoid predators | Nocturnal vs diurnal; adaptations of nocturnal animals; reasons animals are nocturnal. |
| **Feb**<br>Mon 6th<br>Tues 7th<br>Wed 8th | Lifecycles | Participants investigate how different animals grow and develop. A variety of hands-on activities bring this topic to life as children examine eggs, and play games about minibeast life stages. | Live birth vs eggs; egg identification; metamorphosis. |
| **Mar**<br>Mon 6th<br>Tues 7th<br>Wed 8th | Enclosure Design | Children will learn how zoos create appropriate homes for zoo animals while considering the needs of the animals, the keepers and the visitors. The session ends with an introduction to an (optional) at-home assignment where participants can design their own zoo enclosures and receive feedback from the zoo. | Animal needs; animal care; enclosure design. |
| **Apr**<br>Mon 17th<br>Tues 18th<br>Wed 19th | Conservation Technology | Technology can help scientists, zoo keepers, and wildlife rangers learn about animals. We'll investigate some of this cutting-edge tech and gets hands-on to discover how it can help animals in the wild. | Conservation; endangered animals; technology (including GPS, AI, etc.). |
| **May**<br>Mon 8th<br>Tues 9th<br>Wed 10th | Animal Enrichment | How do we keep zoo animals entertained? Children will discover how we meet the needs of zoo animals, including how we prevent them getting bored. Children will then get the chance to make enrichment. | Animal needs; animal care. |