

COLCHESTER ZOO HOME EDUCATION SESSIONS 2023-2024

Sessions for age 5-7
1:00-1:45

	Topic	Session Description	Key Points Covered
Sept Mon 4 th Tues 5 th Wed 6 th	Habitats	Animals live everywhere in the world, how do they live in such diverse places? Children will learn some key characteristics of animal habitats as well as how animals can survive in these places. We will discuss the woodland (deciduous) forest, taiga forest, rainforest, desert and savannah.	Habitat types and key characteristics; animal adaptations.
Oct Mon 2 nd Tues 3 rd Wed 4 th	Costal Life	Discover some of the diverse habitats found in coastal waters – from kelp forests to tidepools and cliffs to coral reefs and everything in between. We'll learn about some of the amazing animals found in these places, including some you might be surprised to learn live quite close to home.	Coastal habitats, including some found along the UK cost line; aquatic animal adaptations.
Nov Mon 6 th Tues 7 th Wed 8 th	The Wonders of Poo	Everybody poos, including all the animals! Get the chance to learn more about one of the squishiest and smelliest parts of looking after animals. What can you tell about an animal from its poo? Can you identify animals by looking at their poo? What animal has square poo? Find out the answers to these questions and more in this interactive session.	Herbivore/carnivore/omnivore; scat identification
Dec Mon 4 th Tues 5 th Wed 6 th	What's a Monkey	Children will learn what makes a monkey different compared to other animals. This includes the wide variety of habitats monkeys live in and how they are adapted to those specific places. The use of costumes will help illustrate the difference between monkeys and other similar animals.	Monkeys, lemurs, and apes; habitat types; adaptations to these habitats.
Jan Mon 8 th Tues 9 th Wed 10 th	Art	Children will learn about great British wildlife and animal artists and how they study nature closely to create their art. We'll discuss colour and why birds might be different colour before looking at spots and other patterns on fur. Children will rotate around a circus of activities and make their own wildlife art based on observations of real nature artefacts (fur, feathers, etc.).	Wildlife art; colour and pattern; animal coverings (fur, feathers, etc.).
Feb Mon 5 th Tues 6 th Wed 7 th	Fastest, Biggest, Strongest	Discover more about the weirdest and most wonderful animals! This session features hands-on animal artefacts (furs, skins, skulls, etc.) as we learn about some of the amazing record breaking animals.	General and unique animal facts
Mar Mon 4 th Tues 5 th Wed 6 th	Plants and Animals	Children will discover the wide variety of large, small, and amazing plants found around Colchester Zoo and how they relate to our animals. We'll then focus on first hand observations and learning some of the key parts and features of plants.	Plant anatomy; types of plants found in different parts of the world
Apr Mon 15 th Tues 16 th Wed 17 th	Colour and Camouflage	Why are animals bright colours? Why do animals blend in? Try to spot all the camouflaged animals while learning about the benefits of spots, stripes, and changing colours.	Camouflage – what it is and how it works
May Mon 13 th Tues 14 th Wed 15 th	What Do Zoos Do?	What do zoos do, and why? Children will learn the main goals of a modern zoo and how we provide care for our animals. This will lead into learning about how zoos help endangered animals and what everyone can do (by themselves and working together) to save endangered animals.	Endangered – what this term means; zoo research; conservation efforts