## COLCHESTER ZOO HOME EDUCATION SESSIONS 2024-2025

$\mathcal{N}$	Topic	Session Description	Key Points Covered
Sept Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	Explore!	Children will get the chance to explore real animal artefacts (including furs, feathers, and reptile scales). The focus will be on using descriptive words, identifying similarities and differences, and discovering more about the animals these objects are from.	General exploration; sight reading; adjectives and descriptive words.
Oct Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> Tues 8 <sup>th</sup> Wed 9 <sup>th</sup>	Animal Moves	Animals move in a variety of interesting ways – from gallops and trots, to waddles and slithers. We'll discover more about how and why animals do this and try out some animal movements ourselves!	Skeletons; muscles; common animals; predator; prey.
Nov Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues 5 <sup>th</sup> Wed 6 <sup>th</sup>	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.	Using scientific enquiry; identification skills (including dichotomous keys
Dec Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues 3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed 4 <sup>th</sup>	African Safari	"We're going on safari, on the African savannah. We're going to see the big five. What a beautiful day. We're not scared!" Using a familiar song and rhyme children will explore the savannah habitat and learn some key characteristics of it and about the 'big five' animals that live there.	Key characteristics of the savannah habitat; animal adaptations
Jan Mon 6 <sup>th</sup> Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> Wed 8 <sup>th</sup>	Minibeasts	What is a minibeasts, and what is an insect? Children will learn the key characteristics of what makes and insect different than all the other minibeasts.	Key insect characteristics; invertebrates
Feb Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> Wed 5 <sup>th</sup>	Animal Groups	Using a variety of biofacts (including real furs, feathers and scales) we will discover different ways of grouping animals looking at historical classification methods and the groups used by scientists today.	Classification (bird, mammal, reptile, amphibian, fish)
Mar Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> Tues 11 <sup>th</sup> Wed 12 <sup>th</sup>	Jungle Storytime	Join us for this interactive story about life in the jungle. The use of activities and real animal biofacts will bring the story to life as we investigate what a rainforest is and which animals might live there.	listening to stories; rainforest habitat characteristics; animal adaptions.
Apr Mon 28 <sup>th</sup> Tues 29 <sup>th</sup> Wed 30 <sup>th</sup>	Looking After Animals	What is it like to be a zookeeper? A variety of hands-on activities will show children some of the key jobs and responsibilities of being a zookeeper and how they look after such a variety of animals	Caring for animals; animal basic needs; zookeeper job role
May Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> Tues 13 <sup>th</sup> Wed 14 <sup>th</sup>	Pond Creatures	Find out about what minibeasts and other creatures are lurking under the water of local ponds.	Pond creature identification