

# Animals, Animals!

Grades: pre-K and up

## Teacher's Guide



Lake Erie Nature & Science Center

### Description

What is the difference between a pet and a wild animal? Students will find out in this unique program that provides an opportunity to interact with the resident Center critters. This is our traditional animal program that provides up-close encounters with a variety of animals, including mammals, reptiles and birds of prey in a classroom setting (approximately 5 animals). Students may then choose to tour the Center's indoor exhibits, or observe the wildlife exhibits in the Center's Wildlife Gardens. Please reserve extra time for your group after their program if you wish to explore all of the Center's wildlife exhibits! *Content is tailored to the age level participating in the program and may vary with the availability of Center animals.*  
**Length:** 30 or 60 minutes. **Adult chaperones recommended:** 1

### Content Standards

Subject	Gr	Standard	Objective/"I can" Statements
Life Science	K	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Living things are different from nonliving things.</li><li>Living things have physical traits and behaviors, which influence their survival.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Observe and interact with a variety of living animals and learn about their adaptations for survival.</li><li>Identify adaptations that help organisms survive in their environments.</li><li>Observe examples of extinct species and identify living relatives.</li></ul>
Life Science	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Living things have basic needs, which are met by obtaining materials from the physical environment.</li><li>Living things survive only in environments that meet their needs.</li></ul>	
Life Science	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Living things cause change on Earth.</li><li>Some kinds of individuals that once lived on Earth have completely disappeared, although they were something like others that are alive today.</li></ul>	

## Pre-Trip Activities

### Vocabulary

adaptation	organism
animal	mammal
bird	native
camouflage	non-living
environment	reptile
living	

### Books

- Animal Life Cycles by Midthun & Hiti. World Book, 2014.
- Animal Tracks of Ohio by Tamara Eder. Lone Pine Publishing, 2001.
- On Meadowview Street by Henry Cole. Greenwillow Books, 2007.
- Snakes, Salamanders and Lizards by Diane L. Burns. Gareth Stevens Publishing 1995.
- Welcome to the Neighborwood by Shawn Sheehan. Candlewick Press, 2015.

## Other Activities

- Use webcams to view animals in their natural habitat or simulated environments to observe and record physical characteristics of the animals as well as behavioral traits that are taught from parent to offspring. Falcon cams and bat cams are used by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and can be used for this study.

## Post-Trip Activities at School

- Explore organisms that once lived in Ohio and no longer exist. National Geographic provides an article on the find of a giant cockroach fossil in Ohio. Science Daily provides a rich source of information on the relationship between mammoths and elephants.

## Extension Activities

- Investigate various species that have been endangered due to environmental changes and examine efforts to reestablish and support their populations. One example is the trumpeter swan. The Ohio History Central provides details of this bird's story.
- Research and present on a native Ohio animal. Use ODNR-Division of Wildlife's A to Z Species Guide to find photos, information, diet, tracks and sounds of a the chosen Ohio wild animals.