

Expedition Day Trail

Leader Guide

At Yorkshire Wildlife Park
we are wild about wildlife.
We want to see if your
club members are too!



What to do

Read the questions aloud to your group and see if they can find the answers as you explore YWP. Record the answers for your group as you make your way around the park. If they complete the trail, you can print them off a completion certificate. Alternatively you can print off individual copies for your group to complete themselves.

All answers can be found on the signage and by attending our animal ranger talks. The map included gives you an approximate location of where the answers can be found for each question. Underneath the question there is a 'think about it' section. These questions promote in depth thinking & discussions on the topics.

1 Where do our sea lions live in the wild?



This is known as their habitat.

Think about why they are threatened in the wild. Is there anything that you can do to help?
Have a look at the Wildlife Foundation website for some ideas
www.wildlife-foundation.org.uk

2 How fast can a cheetah run?

**Can you think of any other record
breakers in the natural world?**

The Cheetah is the fastest land animal in the world. Visit the giraffe and see if you can discover a record-breaking fact about them.



YORKSHIRE
Wildlife
PARK



3 What is the conservation status of the Amur Leopard in the wild?



Extinct



Extinct in
the Wild



Critically
Endangered



Endangered



Vulnerable



Near
Threatened



Least
Concern

Why do you think animals become endangered?

The main danger for wildlife comes from human activities that destroy their natural habitat. This happens when land is cleared for things like farming, mining, or building. An example is the deforestation of the tropical rainforests. Habitats are also damaged by pollution such as pesticides or oil spills.

Animals also become threatened when people introduce a new, non-native species into their habitat. The new species may compete with them for food or even kill them. This happens right here in the UK. An example is that of the red and grey squirrels. Red squirrels are native to Great Britain and grey squirrels are not. Predators, viruses, changes to landscape and the grey squirrel are major threats to our native red squirrel.

Climate change is also a major issue. The polar bear is just one example of a species at threat due to climate change, but because humans are causing the problem, humans can fix it. This means all of us, individuals, communities, businesses, and governments.

4 What colour is a giraffe's tongue & why?

Think about the other animals that would live in the wild in Africa. Can you think of a food chain or a food web that includes some of them?

Use some of the African animals that you have seen at YWP as examples. A simple food chain to start with would be grass – zebra – lion. Add key words such as herbivore, carnivore, producer, and consumer.

5 What are a group of rhinos called?

Do you know any other animal group names? We've listed a few for you below.

- Camels = Caravan
- Giraffes = Tower
- Painted dogs = Pack
- Meerkats = Mob
- Zebra = Dazzle





6 All species of Lemur are endemic to which country?

If you could explore any of the world's habitats which habitat would you choose and why?

Where would you explore? A dense tropical rainforest, the cold Arctic tundra, a hot sandy desert or perhaps a tropical island with warm seas? What animals might you see there? Let your imagination take you there!

7 What colour is a polar bear & why?

Animals have many adaptations to help them survive in their habitats.

What other special adaptations do polar bears have to survive in the Arctic?

For further information on polar bears visit www.polarbearsinternational.org Polar Bears International is the only conservation organisation whose sole passion and focus is on polar bears. They're known for their cutting-edge science, inspired use of media, and relentless drive to ensure polar bears remain a part of the Arctic forever.

8 How many different species of animals live in our Amazonas walkthrough reserve?

Why are rainforests at risk?

Rainforests play a very important role in our planet's water and carbon cycles and in regulating our climate. They are a vital source of food, medicine and so much more.

Although only around 6% of the world's surface is covered in rainforest, 50% of the world's terrestrial animals live there.

9 A Lion's roar can be heard how many miles away?

Read all about the lions' rescue story as you walk around lion country.

What are the five main aspects of animal care?

The Five Freedoms outline five aspects of animal welfare under human control. They were developed in response to a 1965 UK Government report on livestock husbandry.



10 What are some of the different roles that the adult meerkats have?

Animals have many different roles to play in their family groups. Can you think of any other groups of animals who have different roles in their family groups?

Think about the different roles of male and female lions in their prides to get you started. Let your imagination take you there!

11 Why do painted dogs have patterns on their bodies?

Why do animals need to camouflage? Can you think of any other animals at the park that use camouflage?

Different animals use camouflage in different ways, but it is a means to survive in the wild. Some animals even change colour and patterns, just like the Chameleon.

12 What species of Tiger do we have at YWP?

In some countries, more and more exotic animals are kept as pets. Do you think it is ok for someone to keep an exotic animal such as a monkey or a tiger as a pet? Why or why not?

Exotic animals are animals that are not normally kept as pets. Exotic animals are not domesticated meaning that they have not been bred to co-exist with humans. Different countries have different laws on which species may be legally kept as pets. In the UK dangerous wild animal licences are required to keep animals that are considered to be wild, dangerous, or exotic. The wild animals covered by the Act require extremely specialised care and accommodation, and the licensing process ensures that both the animal's welfare and the safety of the keeper and the wider public will be protected.

Keeping exotic animals such as tigers as pets is not a clever idea. Large cats such as our lions and tigers are dangerous. Even if they are raised by humans, when these animals grow up, all too often their wild instincts take over.

An example here in the UK, is that some people think they want a meerkat for a pet. Meerkats will not make good pets for many reasons –sharp teeth, sharp claws, very smelly poo, their need to dig and forage and their need for a very large home. They are very social animals and depend on each other for survival.

