LA ZOO

Directions to the Zoo
Go south on Hwy-99 towards Los Angeles. It will turn into I-5 near the ‘Grapevine’. Exit Western Avenue and go west. Follow the signs to the LA Zoo. Parking is free. It takes approximately 1 hour and 45 minutes to reach the LA Zoo from Bakersfield (driving the speed limit).

Date BC students will go as a group:
Cost: If you attend w/group If you attend on your own (subject to change)
Adults: $18.00
Children (2-12 years old): $13.00

Instructions
Fill in the following questions and charts. Use the map of the zoo to find specific animals and location of the ‘World of Birds Show.’ You may work with other people in class, but remember to answer the questions in your own words. If you have questions concerning the worksheet or any animals, please ask Dr. Joe or any zookeeper for help. If an exhibit is closed, find the answer at other exhibits in the zoo, or look up the information on the internet.

Introduction
The LA Zoo was opened in Griffith Park in November 1966. The zoo has an extensive collection of wild and endangered species. In 1982, the zoo became part of the California Condor Recovery Program. State of the art ‘condorminiums’ where built to breed these beautiful birds. The Ahmanson Koala House is an exhibit that displays these nocturnal animals in a darkened setting.

The functions of zoos have changed quite dramatically. Zoos are no longer solely places to see animals in cages. They are now educational and research centers. The goals of zoos are to maintain the wild behaviors of animals by placing the animals in enclosures and hiding their food in logs, holes and bushes instead of bowls. This gives the animal a better chance of surviving if it is released into the wild. I hope that this experience will enlighten you on the importance of conservation and preservation of habitat and wildlife. Have fun!

Questions & Exercises

Flamingos
1. What part of the world are flamingos from?

2. How do flamingos feed?
Meerkats

3. What do meerkats eat?

4. Describe the social structure of a meerkat colony.

Reptiles

5. Where do alligators live? How do they capture their prey?

6. Humans need to eat 3 times a day. The reptiles at the zoo are fed 1 to 4 times a month. Why?

7. Find one reptile of interest to you. Describe the animal and explain how it is adapted to its environment.

Elephants

8. How can you tell the difference between an Asian and an African elephant?

9. Why do elephants flap their large ears?
10. Why do elephants throw dust on themselves?

11. How sensitive is the skin of the elephant?

**Rhinoceros**

12. Why do some rhinos have square lips while other rhinos have pointed lips?

13. What is a prehensile lip?

**Koala Bears**

14. Why are Koalas not bears?

15. Describe the birth and growth of a baby Koala.

16. The diet of the Koala is mainly Eucalyptus leaves. Is the Koala part of a food chain or a food web?

17. Explain why the Koala is more susceptible to extinction due to its feeding behavior.
*Eastern Grey Kangaroo*

18. Kangaroos do not sweat. They also live in very warm regions of Australia. How do they keep cool?

19. Observe a moving kangaroo. What does it use its tail for?

*Gorillas*

20. Observe the Gorillas for 15 minutes. Describe 3 behaviors that you thought were unique to humans.

*California Condor Display*

21. Why are there no condors on display for the public to see?

22. Baby birds recognize initial movement as its mother. This is called imprinting. How does the zoo prevent baby condors from imprinting on humans?
23. Why does the zoo remove the egg immediately from the mother condor after she lays the egg?

\textit{World of Birds Show}

24. Name a natural behavior displayed by the hawk in the bird show.

\textit{Adaptations}

25. Select 4 animals (preferably animals that were not mentioned earlier). Fill in the chart below concerning adaptations that allow them to survive in the wild.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Where does it live? (Desert, tree, water, hole...)</th>
<th>Adaptation(s) to its living environment</th>
<th>Adaptation(s) to obtain food</th>
<th>Adaptation(s) to escape predation</th>
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\textit{And finally}

26. Some monkeys can reach through the fence. Why should you be discouraged against touching or feeding them?
27. What animal intrigued you the most? Why?