

Junior Girl Scouts Animal Habitats Badge Activity Booklet





Visit the Wolf Conservation Center, then complete this badge booklet and return it to your troop leader to earn your Animal Habitats Badge!

Created by Kayla S Girl Scout Troop #1043 Silver Award Project September 2014

Step 1:

Find out about wild animals

Before you go to the WCC:

- Observe a pet dog for at least 15 minutes. Watch closely how they behave.
- Write at least 3 things about how the pet dog behaves.

Then:

- Watch the wolves at the WCC because wolves are related to dogs.
- Notice the similarities and differences between dogs and wolves



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How do dogs and wolves behave similarly and differently?

How does a dog behave?

Step 2:

Investigate an animal habitat

Visit an animal sanctuary (WCC)

When you visit the WCC, the staff will go over these 5 questions:

1. What country is the animal naturally found in?

2. How does its fur or skin help the animal live in this habitat?

3. How does it stay clean?

4. How does it get around in this habitat?

5. What kind of food can it find in this habitat?



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Step 3: Create an animal house



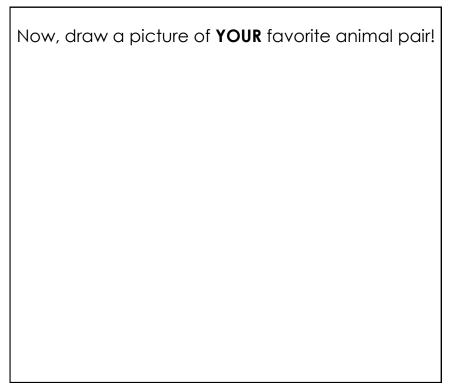
Emperor penguins hold their penguin chicks under a special flap called the "brood flap." This keeps the chicks warm and safe. Also, the penguin's feet keep the chick from touching the cold ground.



Orangutan mothers build new nests for her and her baby almost every day. The nests are 15 to 100 feet up high in a tree. Sometimes, they make a mid-day nest to nap in. Also, every once in a while, they reuse old nests and just add new branches



A koala mother carries her baby in her pouch for about 6 months, until it is large enough to ride on the mother's back or belly. The baby koala rides on the mother's back or belly until it is about a year old.



Step 4:

Explore endangered habitats

When you visit the WCC, the staff will go over these 4 questions about wolves:

- 1. Why is it endangered?
- 2. What is happening to the animals?
- 3. What are people doing to help the habitat?
- 4. Are the animals able to adapt?



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Step 5:

Help protect animal habitats

In order to complete this badge, you need to create your own backyard habitat. These are the things needed by the animals:

□ Food

Everyone needs to eat! Planting native shrubs and trees is the easiest way to provide the foliage, nectar, pollen, berries, seeds and nuts that many species of wildlife require to survive and thrive. You can also add bird feeders and other food sources.

Water

Wildlife need clean water sources for many purposes, including drinking, bathing and reproduction. Water sources may include natural features such as ponds, lakes, rivers, springs, oceans and wetlands; or humanmade features such as bird baths, puddling areas for butterflies, installed ponds or rain gardens.

□ Shelter

Wildlife require places to hide in order to feel safe from people, predators and bad weather. Use things like native vegetation, shrubs, thickets and brush piles or even dead trees.

□ A Place to Raise Their Young

Wildlife need a sheltered place to raise their offspring. Many places for cover can double as locations where wildlife can raise young, from wildflower meadows and bushes where many butterflies and moths lay their eggs, or caves where bats roost and form colonies.



From The National Wildlife Federation. For more information, please go to www.nwf.org.