Kansas City ZOO & AQUARIUM

My name is _____

Preview

Western Lowland Gorilla

Your class is building a zoo!

Our Classroom Zoo Name Is: _____

What is required to run a zoo? With almost 10,000 animals, the Kansas City Zoo & Aquarium knows a lot about how it's done! It takes a variety of jobs to give our animals the very best care. How many jobs can you think of? List them in the space below!

Preview

What does it take to run a zoo?

Your team will be responsible for caring for the western lowland gorillas. You will work through this guide, focusing on how you will care for the gorillas, building a zoo habitat, and sharing your information with the public. The Kansas City Zoo & Aquarium is happy to assist. In this guide, you will:

- ☐ Research the western lowland gorilla
- ☐ Determine the needs of the gorilla
- ☐ Identify conservation efforts
- ☐ Create a gorilla diet
- ☐ Design a zoo habitat for the gorillas
- ☐ Plan an event to celebrate gorillas
- ☐ Design a gift shop item
- ☐ Share your message about gorillas

Who else is on the western lowland gorilla team? List your teammates!

My teammates are:

What do you Know?

Use the space below to share what you already know about the western lowland gorilla, such as where they live or what they eat.

Preview

Task 1: Animal research

Part of caring for animals is learning all you can about them! Use the bubble map below to help with your research.

Describe the climate where they live.

What covers their body in? How is that helpful?

Draw or describe their appearance.

What is their social dynamic?

How do they move? How does that help them in their habitat?

Preview

How do they care for their young?

An interesting fact I learned is:

Draw or describe their habitat.

What do they eat? What adaptations do they have to support their diet?

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Task 2: Animal Care

Animal care specialists are responsible for keeping the animals under their care healthy, both physically and mentally. Now that you have learned about western lowland gorillas, what would they need in your zoo? Write five things that gorillas need in the wild on the outer edge of the circle and how you could provide that in a zoo in the middle.

Preview

What are some challenges of caring for western lowland gorillas?

Highlight which challenge you expect will be the most difficult. Why do you think so?

As an animal care specialist, several tasks must be done every day to keep the animals happy and healthy. What else do you think should be on the list below?

To do:

- ☐ Assist with monitoring animal's health
- ☐ _____
- ☐ _____
- ☐ Provide enrichment

Enrichment is anything in an animal's zoo habitat that is new or different. Brainstorm 3 different enrichment ideas for the gorillas, and include how they might interact with them. Your teacher will share more information about the different types of enrichment.

1.	2.	3.

Preview

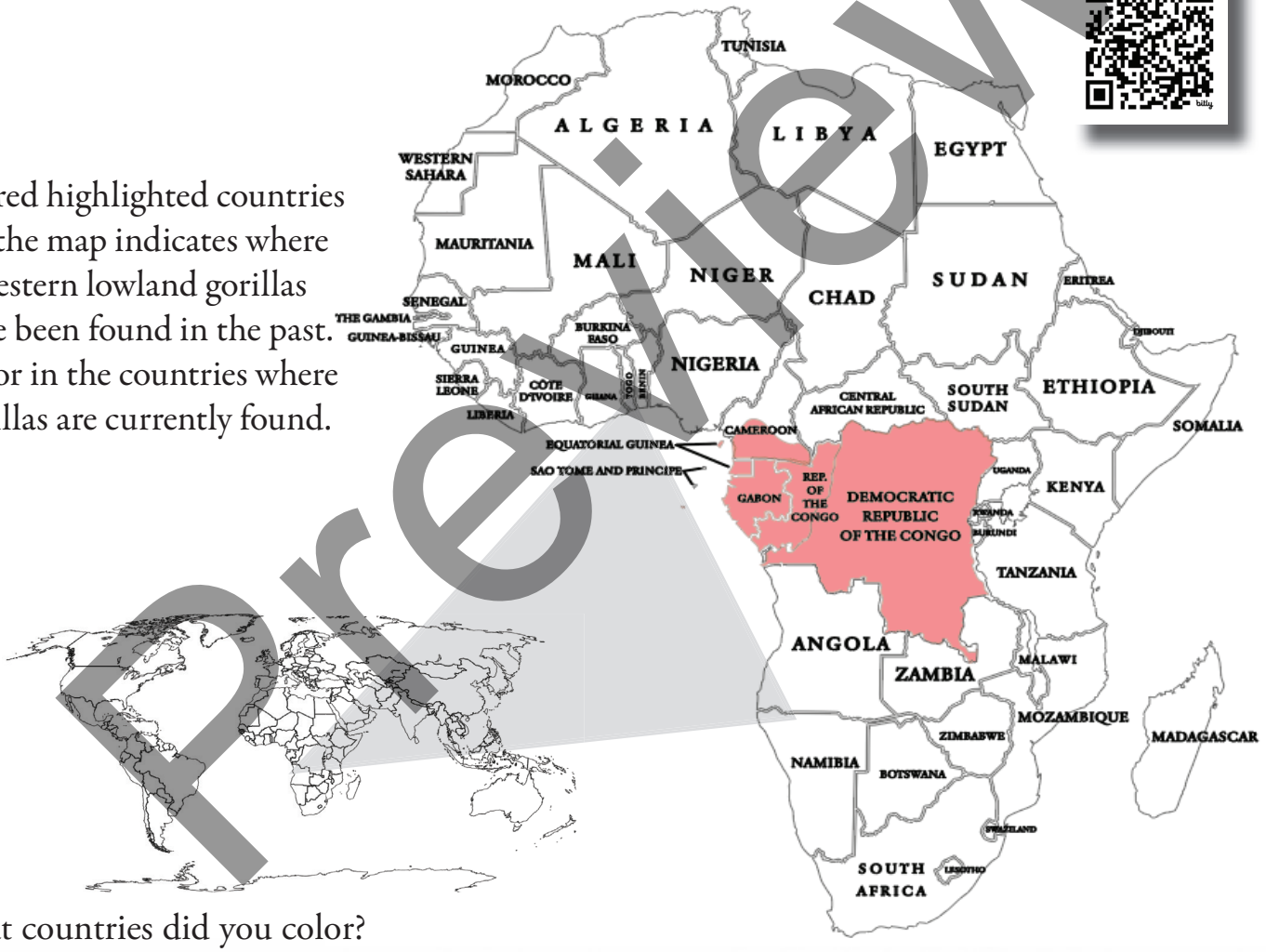
Task 3: Conservation

At a zoo, conservation is everyone's responsibility. The **conservation manager's** role is to ensure the entire zoo is working together to accomplish its mission of protecting animals. For this task, you will be responsible for studying the threats western lowland gorillas face in the wild and determining how the public can help.

LEAST CONCERN	NEAR THREATENED	VULNERABLE	< ENDANGERED>	CRITICALLY ENDANGERED	EXTINCT IN THE WILD	EXTINCT

What is the conservation status of western lowland gorillas? Mark it on the IUCN chart above. Follow the QR Code to learn more about the IUCN.

The red highlighted countries on the map indicates where western lowland gorillas have been found in the past. Color in the countries where gorillas are currently found.



What countries did you color?

Preview

Has the western lowland gorilla's range (where they live in the wild) changed over time?

Circle one: Yes No

Has the western lowland gorilla's population changed? Why or why not?

What threats do western lowland gorillas face in the wild?

Green initiatives help improve environmental health. What green initiative will your zoo participate in?

How can the public help western lowland gorillas?

Preview

Task 4: Diets

There are many people at the zoo who work together to make sure animals are receiving a well balanced diet. **Veterinarians** make diet recommendations based on the health of each animal. **Commissary specialists** are responsible for weighing and preparing each animal's diet.

As a part of the care team for the gorillas, you'll be responsible for planning their diet. Gorillas are fed every day. Their food is weighed in grams (g).

When planning the diet for each gorilla, remember the following:

- Greens must weigh between 2,500 g - 4,000 g
- Vegetables must weigh between 700 g - 900 g
- Starchy vegetables must weigh between 125 g - 175 g
- Fruits must weigh between 200 g - 400 g

Using the diet information in this section, create a diet plan for the gorillas. The first two days are done as an example. Remember, animals love variety!

Diet	Day 1	Day 2
Greens (Between 2,500 g and 4,000 g daily)	2 Heads Green Leaf Lettuce (1000 g) 3 Heads Romaine Lettuce (1,875 g) 20 Leaves Kale (240 g) 1 Head Collards (450 g) **Total:3,565 g**	4 Heads Green Leaf Lettuce (2000 g) 3 Heads Collards (1,350 g) **Total:3,350 g**
Vegetables (Between 700 g and 900 g daily)	10 Snap Peas (50 g) 2 Zucchini (400 g) 1 Sweet Pepper (100 g) 1 Broccoli (200 g) **Total: 750 g**	1 Onion (180 g) 1 Sweet Pepper (200 g) 1 Squash (250 g) 5 Green Beans (40 g) **Total: 870g**
Starchy Vegetables (Between 125 g and 175 g daily)	1/2 Sweet Potato (100 g) 1 Carrot (60 g) **Total: 160 g**	1/2 Potato (140 g) **Total: 140 g**
Fruit (Between 200 g and 400 g daily)	1 Banana (150 g) 1/2 Apple (90 g) 10 Grapes (50 g) **Total: 290 g**	1 Apple (180 g) 1 Pear (160 g) 12 Grapes (160 g) **Total: 400 g**

Preview

Options for Greens

Green Leaf Lettuce 500 g each head	Romaine Lettuce 625 g each head
Kale Leaves 12 g each leaf	Collards 450 g each head

Options for Starchy Vegetables

1/4 Potato 70 g
1/4 Sweet Potato 50 g
1/2 Carrot 30 g

Options for Vegetables

Onion 180 g	Sweet Peppers 200 g
Squash 250 g	Zucchini 200 g
Broccoli 200 g	Snap Peas 5 g
Green Beans 8 g	Tomato 100 g

Options for Fruit

Apples 1/2 - 90 g 1 - 180 g	Pears 1/2 -80 g 1 - 160 g	Oranges 1/2 - 85 g 1 - 170 g
Grapes 1 grape - 5g	Bananas 1/2 - 75 g 1 - 150 g	Strawberries 1 -15 g

Day 3	Day 4
Total:	Total:
Total:	Total:
Total:	Total:
Total:	Total:

Preview

Task 5: Zoo Architect

Part of providing excellent care for animals at the zoo is making sure they have an appropriate place to live. It takes a team of **architects**, planners, and animal care teams to make sure each animal's needs are met in a zoo habitat. As part of that team, you'll be designing a zoo habitat for the gorillas that helps promote their natural behaviors.

Zoo habitats must meet high standards set by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA).

They must have:

- ☐ A source of water
- ☐ A place for the animal to have protection from the weather
- ☐ Fences or barriers, keeping safety and public viewing in mind
- ☐ Enrichment items or elements throughout the habitat

Additionally, western lowland gorillas are forest dwelling apes, and have several special requirements for their habitats. Using your research, list three natural behaviors of western lowland gorillas.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

In the space below, explain what you would put into your design to encourage each of these natural behaviors.

_____

_____

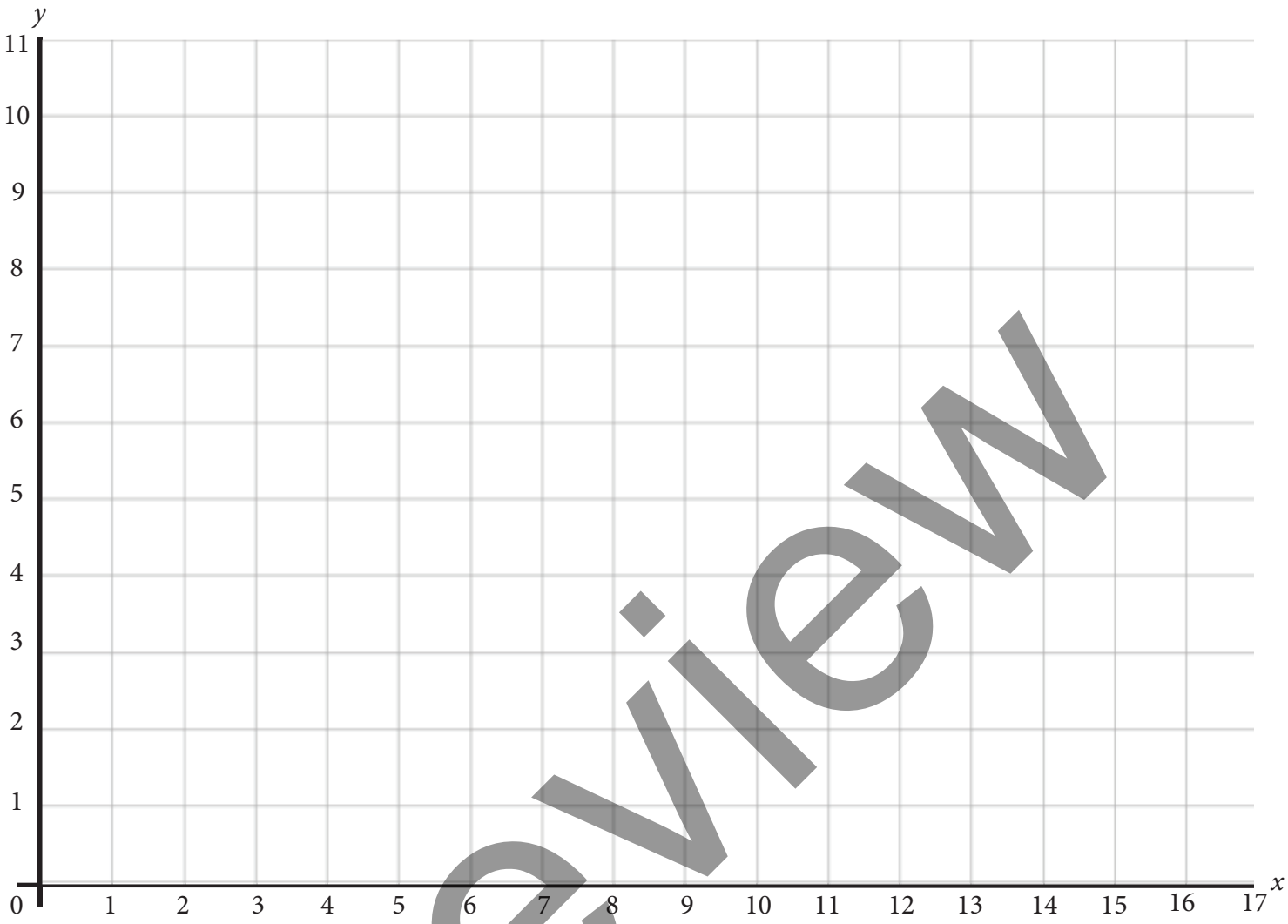
_____

_____

_____

Preview

Use the space below to design a zoo habitat for the western lowland gorillas.



Preview

List a set of coordinates (*x*,*y*) that the following parts of your habitat are in:

- A water source _____
- A place for the animal to have protection from the weather _____
- A fence or barrier _____
- An enrichment item or element _____

What are some parts of the habitat that were designed to encourage natural behaviors of western lowland gorillas? List them, and their coordinates.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Task 6: Marketing

An important goal of zoos around the world is finding new and exciting ways to attract guests to visit the zoo. That job falls to the marketing team. Marketing includes careers like maintaining social media accounts (**social media manager**), creating maps and signage (**graphic designer**), and even planning and decorating for special events (**event coordinator**).

Your zoo is celebrating World Gorilla Day! As a member of the marketing team, how would you persuade the public to come to World Gorilla Day at your zoo?

_____

_____

How will you advertise or promote your event? Brainstorm below:

Why should people visit?

What will people be doing?

World Gorilla Day

How will people find out about it?

Where will you hold the event?

Preview

Use the space below to brainstorm and create an advertisement for a World Gorilla Day event at your zoo.

Preview

Task 7: Retail

Selling items in the gift shop helps support all areas of the zoo. The profits from these sales can help purchase food for the animals, fund conservation programs, or even help raise funds for a new animal habitat. The **retail manager** is responsible for finding new products for the gift shop, as well as setting prices for merchandise. **Retail team members** help run the cash registers and make sure there is enough product on the shelves for people to purchase.

What kind of items do you think you would find in a zoo gift shop?

You are tasked with designing an item to be sold in your zoo's gift shops.

What will you make? _____

Use the space below to design your item.

Preview

Now that you have created your product for retail, answer the following questions, using whole dollar amounts:

Your teacher will provide you with the information in blue.

How much does it cost to produce your item? $ _____ Production Cost

Average number of your item sold each day. _____

How much will you sell your item for? $ _____ Sale Price
(Sale Price = Production Cost × 2.5)

What is your profit on each sold item? $ _____ Profit from One Item
(Profit = Sale Price – Production Cost)

Your zoo is getting ready for a busy weekend. You need to purchase 100 of the item you designed. How much will this cost?

$ _____ Production Cost × 100 = $ _____ Total Cost

Listen to the scenarios your teacher will give you, and fill in the sales chart below for five days of sales at your zoo's gift shop.

	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5
Scenario Given					
Number of items sold x					
Profit from 1 item =					
Total Profit Per Day					

How many items did you sell over these five days? _____

How much profit did your item make for your zoo? Show your work.

Preview

Task 8: Education

Educators at the zoo share what they know with learners of all ages. They use a variety of interpretive tools to help share their message, like maps, furs, skulls, and pictures.
As an educator for your zoo, use the template below to plan your message about the gorillas. Messages should be about a specific topic or piece of information that you want to share with others about gorillas.

Introduction:

Hook:

Supporting Information:

Preview

Conservation Message:

Call to Action: What can your guests do to help western lowland gorillas?

Now that you have planned out what message you want to share, choose a visual aide from the pictures below to make your message more meaningful.

Other:

Preview