

MONAR TO
ZOO



WATERHOLE SECONDARY



Government of South Australia
Department for Education and
Child Development

Acknowledgements

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For the Teacher

General Information

Welcome to Monarto Zoo!

Monarto Zoo is a fantastic educational resource. It is a 1450 hectare open range zoo located on former farming land. Large tracts of remnant mallee scrub exist in the areas between animal enclosures, and this natural scrub is being extended annually through an on-going revegetation program which involves many community and school groups. A huge variety of native fauna roams freely in the scrub areas.

Monarto Zoo is involved in many animal conservation programs and these include both native and exotic species, with a heavy focus on threatened species from desert and arid habitats.

Experiencing Monarto Zoo and learning about animals, ecosystems and conservation can be undertaken via

- Observing and handling the huge range of prepared skins, bones and other animal biofacts at the Visitor Centre.
- A safari bus tour of animal enclosures with a commentary provided by a trained host (for groups of 22 or more students in your own bus),
- Walking through the mallee scrub on signposted tracks,
- Taking as much time as you want to observe animals from viewing platforms around the Visitor Centre and at “Bus Stops”.

Activities and tasks in this resource relate only to the African Plains enclosure which features Giraffe, Ostrich and Eland. Students can undertake these activities from the Waterhole viewing platform, which is located in this area.

Nearness to the animals will vary depending on the weather, time of day and other factors. A flexible approach to completion of these activities is therefore recommended.

In planning this excursion, please consider your schedule and how you would like to arrange the class' activities on the day. Discuss this with the Education Officer at the time of booking your visit.

Estimated time to complete the Waterhole Activities: 30 – 45 minutes

Key:



Observe carefully



Discuss and share ideas with your group



Write down your thoughts



Did you know?



A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

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To Gate House
2.5 km
Alfred James
Memorial



J10	Addax		M11	Giraffe	
R4	African Lion		K13	Indian Antelope	
R2	African Painted Dog		E11	Meerkat	
K11	Barbary Sheep		J14	Mesopotamian Fallow Deer	
D17	Bison		G11	Ostrich	
H14	Black Rhinoceros		E13	Przewalski's Horse	
K13	Bongo		H11	Scimitar-horned Oryx	
L5	Cheetah		Q3	Spotted Hyaena	
G12	Chimpanzee		M6	White Rhinoceros	
J13	Chital Deer		F12	Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby	
N9	Eland		I14	Zebra	


Legend

- Lookout
- Bus Stop
- Car Park
- Toilets
- First Aid
- Cafe
- Zu-loop route
- Walking Tracks
- Creek


Monarto Zoo is smoke free.

WATERHOLE ACTIVITIES - SECONDARY

These large, African species are found in the African savannah, which includes grassland and light woodland.

 Observe the Giraffe moving and eating, if possible. Giraffe are able to kick in any direction with their front legs, and Giraffe kicks have been known to break the ribs or jaws of attacking lions!


When do you think Giraffes would be most vulnerable to predators? Explain your answer.




 Observe the interactions between members of one of the species **for 5 minutes**.


Would you call this species “social?” Give reasons for your answer.


Species _____




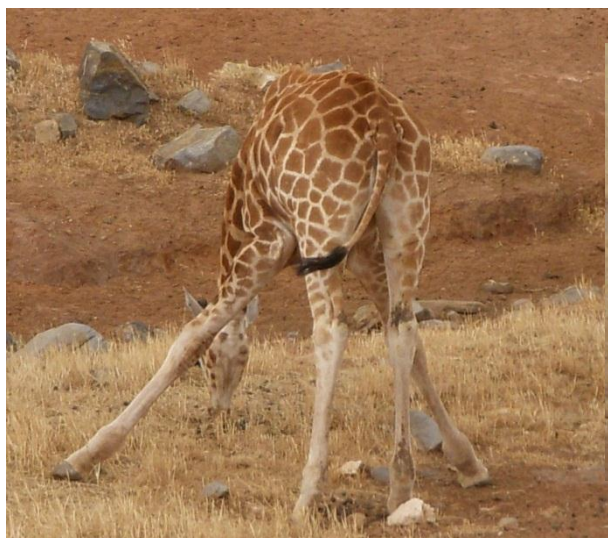
 In the African Savannah, there are many large predators which eat these species. Yet they still exist.

What are some of the adaptations that help these species to survive in the wild?


 Giraffe: _____

 Eland: _____


 Ostrich: _____



 Observe the patterns of 2 Giraffe carefully. Identify the differences.

 In the spaces below, draw a small section of their patterns **from the same location of their bodies** which shows a difference.


Pattern from animal 1



Pattern from animal 2

? All captive animals at Monarto Zoo, except Giraffe, have a microchip inserted under their skin on the left side of their neck for identification. When the keeper or vet needs to identify an animal, they can use an electronic scanner, held against the neck, to do so. With Giraffe, the chest patterns of baby Giraffes are photographed, and these photographs remain in their files for life to identify them.


Why do you think **Giraffe are not microchipped** like the other animals?



Why is it so important for zoos and other groups of people who keep and breed captive animals, to be able to identify them accurately?




What factors could make some members of a group of herbivores weaker than others?



? Predators of these African herd animals generally spend a lot of time watching the animals in a group before deciding which one to hunt. They normally hunt weaker members of the group.

Why is this behaviour an adaptation which helps the predators to survive?





Identify a herbivore in this enclosure which would be the one most likely to be hunted by a predator if it was in the wild. Describe the animal you chose and explain why you chose it.