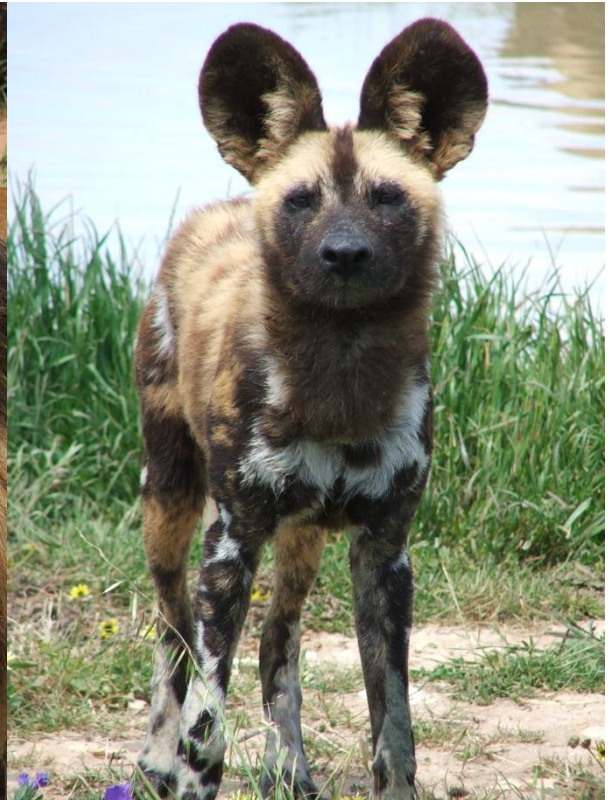


MONARTO  
ZOO



**WINDANA** (lions, painted dogs, hyaenas)  
**SECONDARY**

## 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 Windana lookout area and immediate surroundings. Classes can get to this lookout by stopping during the Safari Bus Tour or by walking there eg. From the Visitors’ Centre or from the Waterhole area.

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 Windana Activities: 20- 30 minutes**

**Key:**



Observe carefully



Discuss and share ideas with your group



Write down your thoughts



Did you know?

# MONARTO ZOO



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.


# WINDANA STUDENT ACTIVITIES

## At the signage before the gate


 Look at the distribution maps of the 3 carnivore species: African Lions, African Painted Dogs and Spotted Hyaenas.

Notice that there is a fair bit of overlap in the areas where these species roam in Africa.

There are some areas of Africa where none of them are found: eg. In the Northern part and in the middle on the western (left) side.

 Discuss what the habitats are like in these two large areas, and why these carnivore species would find it hard to live in them.


North Africa \_\_\_\_\_


 \_\_\_\_\_

Middle, West Africa \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_


## Walking along the path towards the viewing platform

 Notice the branches which are entwined in the fence on the right (lions' ) side for screening. These are recycled from another animal area at Monarto. All the leaves and bark have been torn off and eaten.


 Can you guess which species did this to the branches? \_\_\_\_\_

## From the platform looking out over the dog & hyaena side

Why is there a fence separating the African Painted Dogs and Spotted Hyaena? \_\_\_\_\_

 \_\_\_\_\_

They can still see each other through the fence. Can you see any advantages in this?

 \_\_\_\_\_

## African Painted Dogs



Describe where about the dogs are in the enclosure and what they are doing.



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Usually the dogs are found together in large packs. What are the advantages and disadvantages of living in this sort of social grouping, rather than being solitary or living in pairs?

Advantages \_\_\_\_\_



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Disadvantages \_\_\_\_\_

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In a pack of Painted Dogs, there is always a dominant or “alpha” male and female.

Generally they have fought with others to win that position and they are the only pair to breed.

However, when they have pups, which can number up to 15 at a time, all members of the pack help to feed them.

After a kill, the adults return to the den with a full belly. The pups lick the faces of the adults and the adults respond by regurgitating their meal for the pups to eat.

The adults only “keep” their meals when the pups are no longer hungry.



How does this strange social arrangement help this species? \_\_\_\_\_

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### Spotted Hyaena



The Hyaena are sometimes difficult to see because of their camouflage.



There are different types of camouflage:

**Blending:** The colour, patterns and sometimes shape of the animal blends very well against the background so it is very hard to see unless it moves , eg. Stick insect.

**Disruptive:** Markings on the animal break up the outline of the animal and make it harder to detect unless it moves, eg. Tiger.

**Counter shading:** Different sides of the body have different colours to help it blend with different backgrounds when seen from above or below, eg. Penguin



What type of camouflage do the hyaenas have? \_\_\_\_\_

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The jaws of the Spotted Hyaena are very strong. They can break and chew even the biggest bones of all the animals they eat – some of these are too big and tough for any other carnivore to break up.

In the wild Spotted Hyaenas are both hunters and scavengers at different times.



How would their strong jaws help them to survive during bad seasons when food is scarce and there is a lot of competition from other carnivores?




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Read the signage about the social hierarchy of Spotted Hyaena.

Some people call the African Painted Dogs “hyaenas”, although they are not closely related.

In the space below, draw and label some features of these 2 species which are clearly different.



### African Lions

Describe where the lions are located in the enclosure and what they are doing.

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Lions, unlike other species of the cat family, normally live in mixed-sex groups called “prides.”

There is a pecking order in prides, with the pride male or males being the first to eat any prey killed by the female hunting team.

After that, the adult females eat their fill and then the young lions share what is left. Females in the pride all care for each other’s offspring, even to the point of letting them suckle.



What will happen to the members of the pride in a season with very little prey animals around?




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Can you see the lion off-limit facilities?

These include night quarters for the animals, an exercise yard and cubbing quarters.

At night the lions are always kept off-limits and the mature males are kept separately from the females and any young.

To call the animals into their night quarters, a bell is rung.



What do you think are some of the reasons why the lions are trained to go into the off-limit areas each night? (Hint: Think about safety issues for lions, keepers and visitors).

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_



How do you think the keepers train the lions to go into the off-limit area when they hear the bell?






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In the table below, write in the pecking order for these 3 carnivore species. (use the signage to help in this assessment).



Pecking order	African Painted Dogs	Spotted Hyaena	African Lions
TOP   BOTTOM			