


Animal art — Design an Enclosure

Activity 1

A lot of planning goes into the design of a new enclosure. Zoo staff will meet and discuss the different requirements of an animal and research what the animal needs to live a happy and comfortable life at the zoo, keeping in mind the five freedoms for good animal welfare:

1. Freedom from hunger and thirst.
2. Freedom from discomfort.
3. Freedom from pain, injury or disease.
4. Freedom to express natural behaviour.
5. Freedom from fear and distress.

An example below shows what requirements Zoo staff would look at for an Amur Tiger enclosure design:

Animal	Indoor/Outdoor ratio	Material for outdoor area	Plants	Water	Barriers
 Amur Tiger	Sleeping den inside Large outdoor area with dens to hide 1:4 ratio	Grass Logs to climb Den to hide	Shrubs for hiding Trees for scratching poles	Small pond to bathe in outside Water to drink inside & outside	High level security – very dangerous animal

Imagine that you are designing an enclosure for an animal at ZSL London or ZSL Whipsnade Zoo – for example you could design an enclosure for a brown bear, lion or common hippopotamus.

Complete a table like the one above, and draw an aerial design of your enclosure on 1cm x 1cm graph paper. Make a scale for your drawing, showing how many metres each cm represents.

Activity 2

When working with architects, zoo staff like to see what the enclosure will look like to imagine it in the zoo.

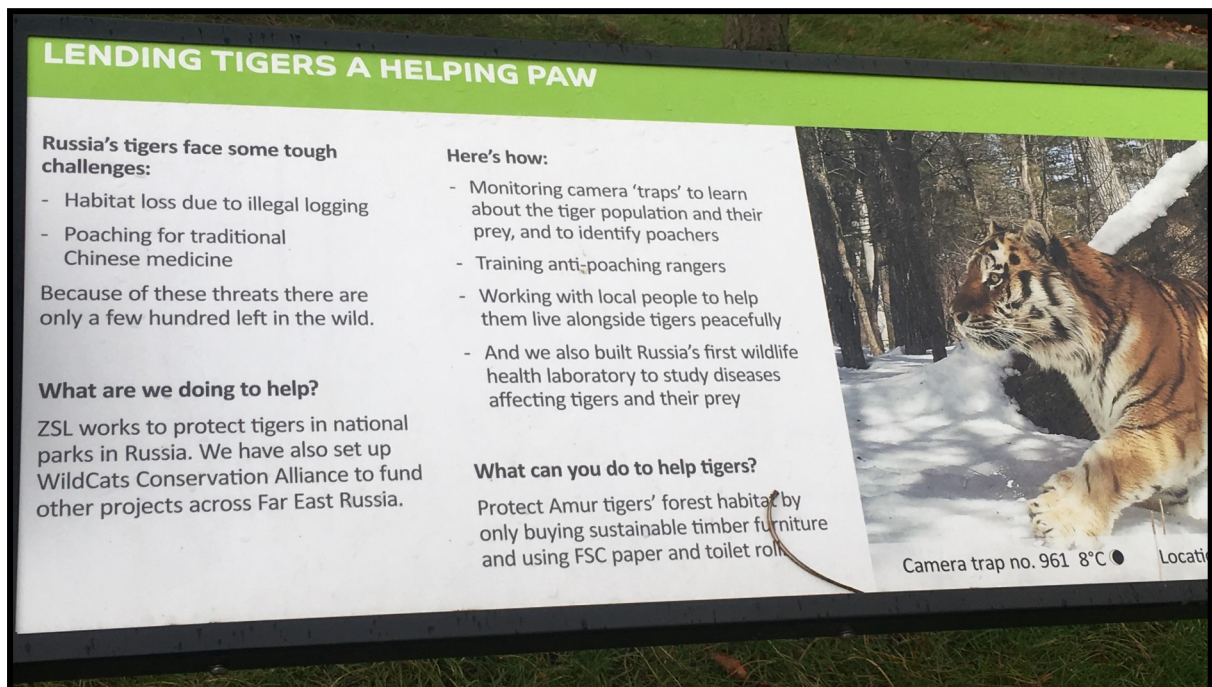
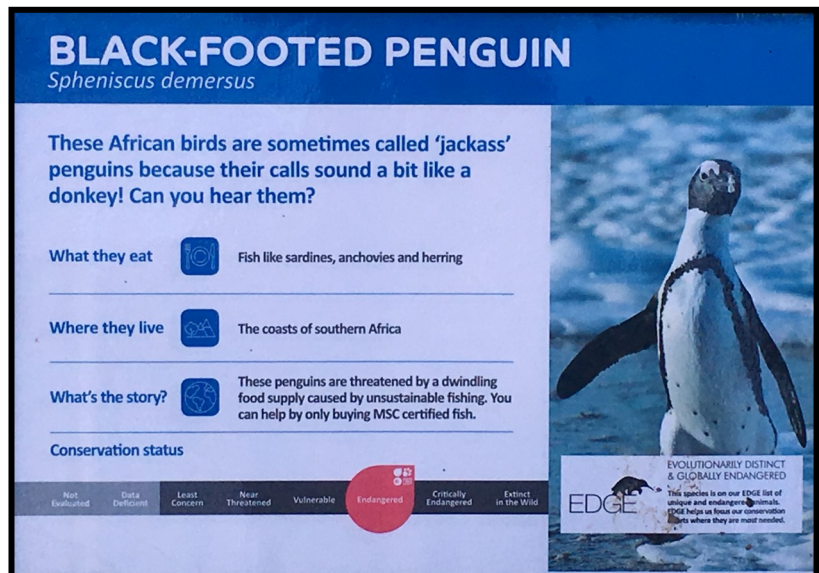
Make a 3D model of your enclosure using materials found around your house or garden.

Activity 3

ZSL scientists and zoo staff also work throughout the world ensuring the protection of the animals and their habitats in the wild.

Many animals are under threat in the wild, due to things such as poaching, habitat loss and disease.

Here at the zoo we make posters to give the public information about the animals and the threats they face in the wild, as well as what the public can do to help protect them.



Create a poster that could be displayed at your enclosure.

In your poster you should have information about the animal, why this animal needs protection and what your school could do to help protect that animal in the wild.

Present your enclosure and poster to those in your house!

Extension Activity

Imagine that you are the animal seeing your new enclosure for the first time. Write a letter of "thank-you" to the designer and explain what you like about your new home.