LEARN AT CHESTERZO DESIGN YOUR OWN ZOO

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to have your very own zoo? Do you think you could you build your own zoo?

You can use anything you like to do this; you could draw your creation, or you could build it. You could use things like plasticine, building blocks or even use books, cardboard boxes and anything else you can find!

Ok, let's get started!

First of all, think of which animals you'd like to have in your zoo.

Useful tips: There are some important things to think about when building each animal habitat in your zoo. Have a think about your answers to the following questions to help you make some important decisions about your zoo design.

What is your favourite habitat at Chester Zoo?

Can you think of *why* that might be? Try to add your favourite features to your own animal habitats.

What type of habitat will your animal need?

For example, underwater animals will need lots of water.

What type of habitat does your animal live in in the wild? How could you recreate this wild habitat in your zoo?

For example, if it's a rainforest animal, could you plant trees to make this habitat like a rainforest? (Take a look at our <u>Rainforest Animal Fact File Collection</u> or our other <u>rainforest resources</u> to find out more information).

Does your animal like to live alone (is it a solitary animal)? Or does it live in a group (a social animal)?

(Take are look at our Animal Fact Files to find more information about your chosen animal).

What size is your animal?

Is the space you've created big enough for that animal?

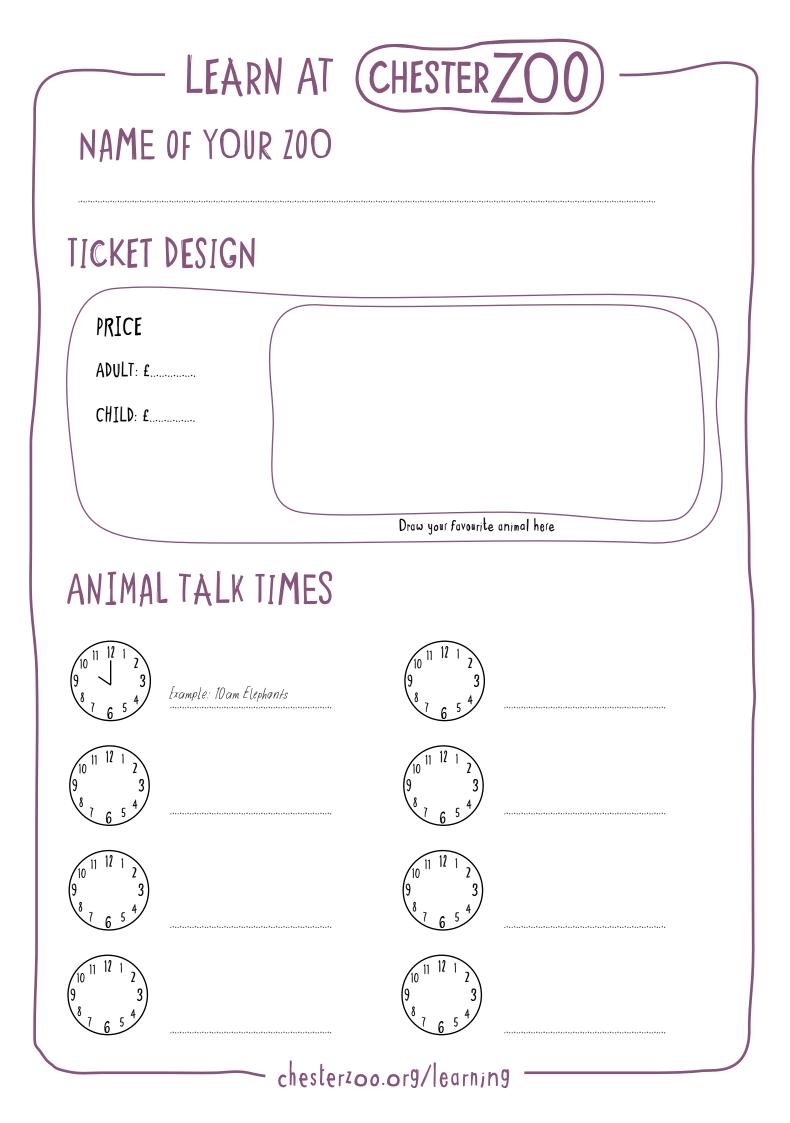
Smaller animals won't need as much space as large animals.

What will your animal need in order to be healthy in this habitat?

For example, clean water, shelter and an inside space to get warm.



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YOUR ZOO MAP

A zoo map is really important to help your visitors find their way around your zoo. Why not draw a map of your zoo below and come up with a route that let's everyone see all of your animals.

Remember to include all of your different animal habitats.

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LEARN AT CHESTERZC KS2 & KS3 EXTENSION ACTIVITY

Visitors: Visitors will come to your zoo to see your animals.

How can you make sure that visitors can see the animals, but without causing too much disturbance to the animals?

Enrichment: We want our animals to use their brains and keep mentally healthy. To do this, keepers add things to their environment to play with and keep them busy.

Can you add anything to your habitat that might keep your animals mentally healthy and stimulated?

Here's a photo of one of our Jaguars playing with a hessian sack full of hay and smelly herbs like lavender



Foraging and locomotion: We want our animals to stay active and to use the senses they would use in the wild in order to find food. Sometimes our keepers will hide food in the animals' habitat for the animals to use their sense of smell to find it.

How could you feed your animals to make it a challenge for them and to keep them active?

We'd love to see your designs.

💟 Share your zoo with us on Twitter: @LearnatCZ

