



# Grade 4 Full-day Workshop: *Habitats & Human Influences on Habitats*

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## OVERVIEW & PROGRAM GOALS

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This educational program has been designed with the intention of providing direct curriculum links to the Grade 4 Understanding Life Systems: Habitats and Communities strand of **The Ontario Science and Technology Curriculum**. This exciting full-day workshop provides students and teachers the opportunity to explore the curriculum expectations outside the classroom. The main objectives of this program are for students to:

- Identify a variety of habitats and adaptations that have allowed plants and animals to survive in specific habitats
- Describe ways in which humans can influence habitats and the effects these changes have on plants and animals with the habitats

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## SPECIFIC EXPECTATIONS

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### **Relating Science and Technology to Society and the Environment:**

- 1.1. Analyze the positive and negative impacts of human interactions with natural habitats and communities, taking different perspectives into account, and evaluate ways of minimizing the negative impacts
- 1.2. Identify reasons for the depletion or extinction of a plant or animal species, evaluate the impacts on the rest of the natural community, and propose possible actions for preventing such depletions or extinctions from happening

### **Developing Investigation and Communication Skills:**

- 2.3. Use scientific inquiry/research skills to investigate ways in which plants and animals in a community depend on features of their habitat to meet important needs
- 2.5. Use appropriate science and technology vocabulary, including habitat, population, community, adaptation, and food chain, in oral and written communication

### **Understanding Basic Concepts:**

- 3.1. Demonstrate an understanding of habitats as areas that provide plants and animals with the necessities of life
- 3.2. Demonstrate an understanding of food chains as systems in which energy from the sun is transferred to producers and then to consumers
- 3.3. Identify factors that affect the ability of plants and animals to survive in a specific habitat

- 3.4. Demonstrate an understanding of a community as a group of interactive species sharing a common habitat
- 3.5. Classify organisms, including humans, according to their role in a food chain
- 3.6. Identify animals that are carnivores, herbivores, or omnivores
- 3.7. Describe structural adaptations that allow plants and animals to survive in specific habitats

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## TENTATIVE AGENDA

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<b>10:00 am</b> <i>Classroom</i>	<b>Arrival, Introduction to the Topic, and Activity</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check-in with Guest Services</li> <li>• Meet Program Leader and Volunteer and travel to classroom</li> <li>• Introduce habitats and vocabulary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Identify components that make up a habitat</li> <li>○ Identify various types of habitats</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Habitat Activity (<i>optional</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>10:30 am</b>	<b>Morning Snack</b> ( <i>optional</i> )
<b>10:40 am</b> <i>On-site Tour</i>	<b>Habitats &amp; Animal/Plant Adaptations Tour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tour a section of the Zoo (e.g. Australasia Pavilion) and explore different types of habitats and identify adaptations that allow plants and animals to survive in specific habitats</li> </ul>
<b>12:00 pm</b>	<b>Lunch</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunity for students to explore biofacts (e.g. skulls, furs, feathers, etc.)</li> </ul>
<b>12:25 pm</b> <i>Classroom</i>	<b>Conservation and Human Influences on Habitats</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss how humans can alter habitats and the impact that those changes can have</li> <li>• Introduce conservation and discuss the reasons that lead to the endangerment or extinction of species</li> </ul>
<b>12:40 pm</b> <i>On-site Tour</i>	<b>Endangered Species Tour</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visit a different section of the Zoo and learn about the ways that the Toronto Zoo is working to protect endangered species</li> </ul>
<b>1:50 pm</b>	<b>Wrap-up and Departure</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recap some of the ways that animals and plants adapt to survive in a specific habitat and discuss how everyone can help conserve species</li> </ul>

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## VOCABULARY

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habitat	niche	community	population
conservation	endangered	extinct	adaptation
producer	consumer	decomposer	food chain
herbivore	omnivore	carnivore	