

NOVA Wild! At Cosley Zoo

Welcome to the NOVA WILD! Experience at the Cosley Zoo! We will have an evening of fun with your Cub Scouts and teach them valuable lessons about animals native to our area, Endangered Species, and Invasive plants and animals. By the end of the evening, they should complete all requirements for this STEM NOVA award if you help them complete the additional work at home. Use this sheet to record their requirement completions and to complete the home work.

1. With your Cub, watch the following videos and work with them to note a question or two they have for discussion:
 - a. Habitats for Kids (15 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7jwJ2bI9Lg>
 - b. Food Chains (15 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CZhE2p46vJk>
 - c. Invasive Species (10 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IZUliR5Di-g>
 - d. Endangered Animals (5 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7k8CcAU2Lt0>
 - e. Endangered Animals (7 minutes) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=E5cVr3HdLa4>
 - f. Questions:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____
 - g. Initial here when you have completed this requirement _____
2. At the zoo, we will have a station where we will:
 - a. Explain what natural resources are and why it's important to protect and conserve them.
 - b. Make a poster that shows and explains the food chain, and discuss that happens when the food chain becomes broken or damaged.
 - c. Learn about an endangered species, make a picture of one, discuss how the species becomes endangered, and what is being done about it.
3. At the zoo, we will Explore:
 - a. What is wildlife?
 - b. Explain the relationships among producer, prey, predator, and food chain.
 - c. Draw a picture of a favorite native plant, reptile, or fish, native bird, and native mammal that live near us, and discuss why they like them and how they fit in with the ecosystem.
 - d. Talk about what they learned with the station leader.
4. An adult leader will work with them on the following:
 - a. Investigate the endangered species in Illinois:
 - i. Make a list of three to five animals and plants that are endangered.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____

5. _____
 - ii. Design a poster that shows 10 endangered species in our area
 - iii. Discuss the differences between threatened, endangered, and extinct species.
- b. Investigate Invasive Species
 - i. Make a list of five mammals, plants, fish, birds, insects, or other organisms in our state.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
 - ii. Make a poster of invasive species
 - iii. Discuss with the counselor what an invasive species is, how invasive animals or plants cause problems for native species, and how these invasive species could affect an ecosystem and food chain.
5. This requirement is fulfilled by this visit to Cosley Zoo where we will be discussing native species, invasive species, zoo animals, etc. and talk about the studies in school that allowed the zoo staff to work with animals.
6. The Cubs will discuss their experiences at the end of the visit and what they learned at the Zoo about:
 - a. Why wildlife is important
 - b. Why biodiversity is important
 - c. The problems with invasive species and habitat destruction.