



# Paignton Zoo Primary Sessions 2023

Schools go

**FREE**  
*in '23*

[paigntonzoo.org.uk](http://paigntonzoo.org.uk)

Registered charity number 300923

## Free Mini-Sessions at an Enclosure

We now meet most groups at an enclosure for a 20 minute 'mini-session' – this format complements classroom learning back at school, directly linking to your classroom topic, using our live animals and natural exhibits to illustrate key points. This fits well into the day, and the informal nature of these sessions encourages pupil observation and participation.

### What is involved in an enclosure meet?

We will meet your class at an enclosure for 20 minutes. We will introduce the animals that can be seen on the day, and tell pupils a little about them. If we know your class topic, we can explain relevant aspects, using our wild species as examples. We will bring along props and artefacts to help illustrate key points and enhance pupil understanding.

### Location

We use certain enclosures when meeting groups, as these offer large gathering spaces and a reliable chance of a good viewing opportunity. We select these to be as appropriate to the topic as possible. Our favourites are: giraffes, giant tortoises, ape house, big cats and lemurs – but we can use other sites around the zoo.

We are happy to try and meet at a certain enclosure if requested, dependent on other groups visiting on the day, and weather.\*

\* In heavy wet weather, we will try to offer an indoor, artefact-based activity for 20mins.

### Curriculum Links

We deliver sessions that link your classroom curriculum teaching to the experiences that your pupils are soaking up during their whole day here at the zoo. We will try to use the appropriate terminology and cover key points for curriculum learning, to ensure that these connections between classroom and zoo learning are clear.

A good example would be meeting an upper-KS2 class at our giraffes: when they are feeding on branches hung from a pole, pupils can see the way giraffes' long tongues and necks allow them to reach that other animals cannot reach. We can then show pupils a real giraffe vertebra, to talk about adaptations and changes over time – all whilst our beautiful giraffes continue to feed in the background.

## Classroom Workshops

We recognise that some teachers may prefer an indoor session, rather than meeting at an enclosure. These take place in the education centre.

**Not available May – July.** Additional charge of £30 per session, max 32 pupils per session.

### Early Years (30 Mins)

#### Curiosity Quest

A fun hands-on session in which the children investigate a selection of artefacts including eggs, skulls, bones, furs and horns. Prompt cards help accompanying adults to guide pupil investigation of the objects. If we know the class topic, we can choose objects accordingly.

### KS1 Sessions (40 mins)

#### African Safari

Take a trip around the amazing continent of Africa to discover some of the habitats and unique creatures that live there and can be found at the zoo. Pupils will investigate artefacts connected with African species in this fun treasure hunt.

### KS2 Sessions (40 mins)

#### Plastic Oceans

Investigate the problem of plastic pollution in our oceans: where does the plastic come from, what damage does it cause, and what can we do about it? Pupils will sort through material collected in a recent beach clean, and hunt for nurdles in our fun challenge.

#### Conservation Conundrum

In this escape-room-style challenge pupils will learn about palm oil, threats to wildlife and how we can help. Can teams work together to solve the puzzles and save the wildlife?



[paigntonzoo.org.uk/wild-learning](http://paigntonzoo.org.uk/wild-learning)