



**MINNESOTA ZOO**  
Changing how you see the world

# Animal Habitats

## Grades 1-3

### Post-visit Activity

#### **MN Graduation Standards supported:**

##### **Grades K Strand I.B**

The student will raise questions about the natural world.

##### **Grades 1-2 Strand I.B**

The student will raise questions about the natural world, make careful observations, and seek answers.

##### **Grade 2 Strand IV.C**

The student will understand that organisms live in different environments.

#### **Vocabulary:**

(see pre-visit activity)

diorama  
desert  
forest  
habitat  
jungle  
prairie  
ocean  
rainforest  
savanna  
supplies  
tundra

#### **Introduction:**

This post visit assessment is a tool that can be used to check student learning about animals and their habitats. It is a cross-curricular activity and is of high interest to students. In addition, students gain oral presentation and listening skills.

#### **Objectives:**

Students will demonstrate understanding of how an animal lives as evidenced by the creation of a diorama that shows a scene from that animal's habitat.

#### **Procedure:**

1. Gather the needed Supplies:
  - Shoe Box (3-D) or Paper Plate (2-D)
  - Construction Paper
  - Scissors
  - Glue
  - Pencils, Crayons or Markers
2. Using direct instruction and modeling, introduce/review the concept of making a diorama.
3. Students may use their Hunt for Habitat on-site assignment as their source for information on an animal and its habitat.
4. Using listed supplies, have students recreate the habitat in their box or on their paper plate.
5. Share/display – host an “Animal Habitat Exhibit”
6. Observe, question and help students throughout the process.

## Links:

### Examples of Habitat Dioramas:

[www.google.com](http://www.google.com)

Click on Images

Type  
Elementary School Animal  
Habitats  
In Search Box

[www.mnzoo.org/animals/  
index.asp](http://www.mnzoo.org/animals/index.asp)

## Procedure Continued:

### Special Notes:

- Use construction paper to make a bold background.
- 2-D objects can be glued to the habitat background.
- 3-D objects can be glued in the foreground of the box. If showing things that fly or swim, hang them from the top using thread.
- This can be a collaborative project using bigger boxes.