



“I Scienced” At-Home Activities

Recommended Grades: PreK-2



This week, Brookfield Zoo Animal Care staff are presenting you with a variety of animals that eat very different kinds of food. What an animal eats depends on several things. First, it depends on where the animal lives, or its habitat. That’s because different places have different types of plants, animals, and insects. Also, an animal’s diet depends on how well it can catch, chew, and digest its food.



Be an Animal Chef!

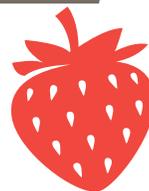


Materials:

- 2 plates (Ask your parent for a plastic paper.)
- Different foods (Color and cut out the different animals and plants on the next page, or you can draw them yourself and color them with crayons or markers.)

Each day, listen carefully when animal care staff talk about an animal, its habitat or where it lives, and the foods it eats. Using that information, make a meal for the animal using the foods you have.

Put foods on the plate that you think the animal could eat. Explain why you choose those foods with family members. Now take another plate and use the food pictures or playset foods to prepare a meal for yourself. What foods would you eat? What foods *could* you eat? How does your meal compare with the one you prepared for the animal?







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“I Scienced” At-Home Activities

Recommended Grades: 3-5



This week, Brookfield Zoo Animal Care staff are presenting you with a variety of animals that have unique diets. An animal’s special diet is based on the place or habitat it lives in, the type of food available in that habitat, and the ability of the animal to catch, chew, and digest its food. Animals are categorized by the type of food they eat. For example, they can be herbivores, carnivores, omnivores, insectivores, or piscivores.

Fill in the blank boxes in the chart below by answering the questions on the left. If you don’t already know the answers, do some research and find out what animals in these categories eat.

	Herbivores	Omnivores	Carnivores	Insectivores	Piscivores
What animals did the zoo present this week that belong in each of these five categories?					
What foods do these animals eat?					





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Family Game Night! GO HUNT!

Materials:

- Index cards, or paper cut into rectangles like playing cards
- Pictures of animals—use pictures cut out from magazines or available online, or you can draw and color the animals with crayons or pencils

1. Make several sets of 4 cards with three categories: *Herbivore*, *Carnivore*, *Omnivore*.
2. On each card, draw or paste a picture of an animal, write its name, and include a few things it eats.

How to play:

Collect all the cards and mix them up. Deal five cards to each player. Place the rest of the cards face down in a draw pile.

Choose a player to go first. This is Player A. Player A asks any other player (Player B) for a card as follows: “Player B, do you have a [carnivore, herbivore, or omnivore]?” Player A must be holding the kind of card he or she is requesting from Player B.

If Player B says “yes,” he or she must give a card up. Then Player A asks another player (Player C): “Do you have a [carnivore, herbivore, or omnivore]?” Player A continues taking turns with other players until someone says “No, go hunt.” Then Player A draws the top card from the pile. If the card drawn is the kind of card requested, he or she shows it to the rest of the players and takes another turn.

But if the card drawn is not the kind of card requested, it goes into Player A’s hand, and the player on Player A’s right takes a turn asking.

When a player collects four cards of a kind, he or she places them down, face up, for everyone to see. The game continues until one player has no more cards left. The winner is the player with the most sets of four.

