Mexican Gray Wolves

Mexican gray wolves live in forests, plains, and tundra across North America. They have adapted many different traits that help them remain top predators in these areas. As you go through their enclosure, read the signs to help you get some background on these animals and answer the following questions. Write down at least 4 interesting facts you learned about the wolves.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Record what behaviors you notice the wolves are exhibiting. Notice their postures as well.

_____

_____

Then write down three ways their exhibit is similar or different to that of their wild habitat.

_____

_____

Why do Mexican gray wolves live in packs?

_____

_____

What are some facts that may have made them the most endangered wolves in North America?

_____

_____

What does a wolf's diet consist of?

_____

_____

_____

Why do wolves need so much land?

_____

_____

_____

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Be a Scientist: Inquiry

Scientists and zookeepers alike observe animals to learn about their behaviors and lifestyles. You will be completing a point observation chart to learn about Mexican Gray wolf behaviors.

The question you will be focusing on is: Will the Mexican gray wolves spend more time moving or resting?

Hypothesis: _____

because _____

Observe one wolf for five minutes. At each 20-second mark you will place a check in the box for the action your wolf is doing at that exact second. If your wolf goes out of view either check the box "Out of View" or just switch to another wolf to observe. Also, draw an arrow in the direction of the wolf's ears, either forward or back, and tail, either up or down. Finally, at the bottom, tally up the checks and arrows for a total of each behavior.

Time	Moving	Resting	Eating/ Drinking	Out of View	Other	Ears Forward or Back		Tail up or Down	
20 sec									
40 sec									
1 min									
1:20 min									
1:40 min									
2 min									
2:20 min									
2:40 min									
3 min									
3:20min									
3:40 min									
4 min									
4:20 min									
4:40 min									
5 min									
						Forward	Back	Up	Down
Total:									

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Be A Scientist: Inquiry

Continued...

Results: What did you find out? Did your observations support your hypothesis?

After you have gathered your information in the chart, use your totals to create a graph that will depict your findings. You can use the space below on this sheet to draw your graph or use a separate piece of paper.

Reflection: What might have affected your results today? What might you do differently? Are there any implications for the larger world with this question?

A good scientific inquirer thinks about what they have learned and then asks a new question based on their own results. What is one thing you would want to ask next time?

Graph: