

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES AT LINTON ZOO

"ENTHUSIASM ABOUT ANIMALS IS INFECTIOUS AND ZOO VISITORS ARE HIGHLY 'SUSCEPTIBLE' TO EDUCATION"

**GREAT FOR
ECO-SCHOOLS**

At Linton Zoo we are committed to the conservation of endangered species through captive breeding programmes and also education. We feel the two go hand in hand. Like other good zoos we offer an opportunity for people to find out more about some of the creatures with whom we share the world. Our award winning education programme suits a wide age range and is geared to start with visitors as young as pre-school age.

No one can deny the enormous value of practical sessions and hands-on teaching and that learning is generally much more fun outside of the classroom! Knowledge is more easily retained when taught in this way and where better to have lessons than the stimulating, yet tranquil, environment of the zoo. Children have the opportunity of seeing, smelling, hearing and even touching real live animals.

THE NATURAL WORLD IS YOUR CLASSROOM!

Our education team can enhance a class visit to the zoo with talks, demonstrations and animal encounters tailored to the relevant curricula/syllabuses so that you get the maximum benefit from your visit ensuring it will be a lesson they will never forget!



AWARDS AND SUCCESS FOR LINTON ZOO

Over the last year the zoo's hard work and dedication have been rewarded with a number of national awards and commendations including: **"Best Education Project for Schools and Educational Institutions"** for **"Fur, feathers, scales and dinosaurs"**. and **"Best new zoo enclosure"** for the Rare Lemur Breeding Centre, awarded to Linton Zoo by The British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria .



VIRTUALLY ANY SUBJECT FROM ART TO ZOOLOGY CAN BE TAUGHT AT THE ZOO BRINGING THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM TO LIFE!

We are sure that most teachers do not need convincing of the many benefits to children of out of school lessons. To see, touch and smell real live animals will leave a lasting impression and the children are more likely to retain the knowledge they have gained when taught in such a stimulating environment.

ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS AND KEEPER TALKS

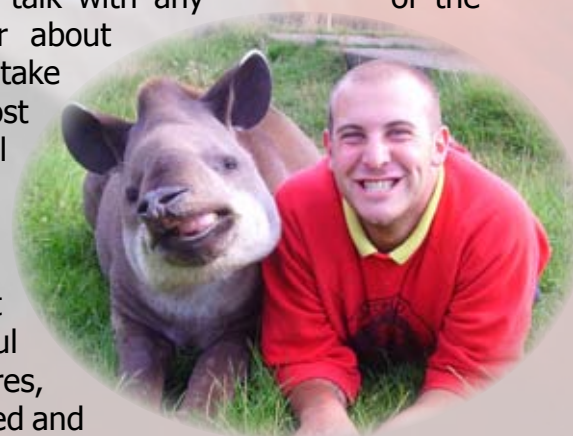
Many animal encounters and keeper talks are already scheduled for the year. However, if you would like to enhance your school visit with a keeper talk or an animal encounter on a day when this is not already planned, please let us know and we will try to arrange this for you.

To give children the opportunity to meet and touch a bird, reptile and mammal we can usually offer an encounter with one or more of the following creatures from our education team; barn owl, brown wood owl, royal python, bearded dragon, giant millipede, stick insects, guinea pigs or cockroaches.



Above: Max meets a Philippine Beauty Stick Insect.
Left: Children of Bramford School meet Percy the Royal Python.

You can book a talk with any of the keepers to hear about the animals they take care of. The most popular one of all is the tapir feed and keeper talk where you can find out all about these wonderful rain forest creatures, see them being fed and watch them have a tickle.



Zoo keeper Ben with one of our Brazilian tapirs.

RISK ASSESSMENTS

Save time when doing your risk assessment by using our safety guidelines, just a few tweaks to suit your individual needs and your done!

WORK SHEETS AND QUIZ TRAIL

To encourage observation and learning at the zoo, a selection of National Curriculum linked worksheets and I-Spy trails for different age groups have been prepared by our education team.

Topics include life processes, classification, adaption, feeding relationships, animal figures, countries and habitat and map reading skills.

Left: Children of Barton Seagrave School got an extra special treat when they met Zara, the hand-reared African lion cub.



CONSERVATION, EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND RECREATION FOUR ROLES OF A GOOD MODERN ZOO.

Many species of animal are rapidly disappearing in the wild, but their presence in zoos around the world provides a unique opportunity to inform and instruct people. The British and Irish Association for Zoos and Aquaria (BIAZA) demands a commitment to education from its members, most of which employ full or part-time education staff, though relatively few receive financial assistance from local authorities.



School children meet Percy, the Royal Python at our Fur, Feathers, Scales and Dinosaurs talk.



Meeting a more familiar animal, the guinea pigs are always a favourite.

BIAZA constantly assesses the needs of zoo visitors, school children and teachers, as well as those of zoo educators. A survey showed that, in the UK, over 2 million pupils use the education services in BIAZA Zoos each year. This statistic does not account for school visits which do not use formal education facilities. Nothing can replace the experience of closeness with living animals; they are a zoo's greatest attraction and its strongest educational resource.



A Brown wood owllet meets children of Bramford School.

Through their education programmes, zoos can raise people's curiosity in, and awareness of, the natural world and thereby create respect and empathy with a conservation ethic which, in turn, helps to mobilise resources in support of conservation.

NATURAL HISTORY AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

We have a vast quantity of customs confiscated items made from endangered species which we can show the children. These items are generally holiday souvenirs brought into the country without licensing. Included are bags, shoes, drums, jewellery and ornaments made from endangered species of snakes, crocodile, zebra, cats, sea turtles and many others.

(This is not generally recommended for very young children such as pre-school).



Left: Children of Earith School get to see a 65 million year old dinosaur egg.

Right: Ben Abbott shows young zoo visitors custom seizure tiger and zebra skins at the Tiger Conservation talk.



BRINGING THE ZOO TO YOU!

We have a variety of smaller animals such as invertebrate species, reptiles, small mammals and birds which give us endless scope to teach a range of science, history, geography, art and maths related subjects at your school or playgroup.



Stanley, Max and Emma take a look at the beetle tank.

We have a range of live animals we are able to bring including frogs, lizards, millipedes, cockroaches, stick insects, snails, tarantula spiders, owls, tortoises, guinea pigs and snakes.



Stanley, Max and Emma meet the giant land snails and a giant millipedes.

We will discuss our visit with you first, to ensure the sessions are tailored to your own individual requirements.

We can make suggestions for follow-up work in the classroom and you can enhance our visit to you by bringing the children out to the zoo in the summer to experience the wonderful world of wildlife.



For more information please call us on 01223 891308, email us at lintonzoo@hotmail.co.uk or visit our website www.lintonzoo.com
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