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## Included in your

## TOOL KIT

(envelope of fun in the back of the book!)

- » 27 Field Fact Cards
- » 7 Biome Cards
- » 3 Field Journals
- » 12 name badges



## Section I: BEFORE THE ZOO

Your *Complete Zoo Adventure* begins with seven exciting “Devotionals,” each with a “Looking Ahead,” to help you build the concepts and enthusiasm you need to get the most fun and most knowledge from your awesome adventure. To give you time to discuss and digest your “food for thought,” we recommend reading one bite-sized Devotional-Looking Ahead pair each day for seven days before your zoo trip. (See Planning Calendar, p. 10–11.)

Based on repeatable observation, science is a fantastic way to learn about animal life in the present. But scientists can't see into the past beyond scientific records. The Bible, on the other hand, takes us all the way back to the very beginning of life, and it gives us a record of earth history from God's perfect creation, ruined by man's greed and selfishness, almost destroyed by Noah's flood, to be restored to new life in Jesus Christ. Working together, science and Scripture can help us better explain some of our zoo observations, such as why some animals with sharp teeth and claws eat meat (a change in behavior after man's rebellion) while others with teeth and claws just as sharp and strong eat only plants (the original diet God created).

We trust Christians will enjoy and benefit from putting present day science together with Scripture's revelation of God's plan — past, present, and future. But you don't have to be a Christian to enjoy contrasting ideas, and comparing assumptions with evidence helps to develop science process skills, logical thinking, and understanding and appreciation for differing world views.



As you explore animals from around the globe on your awesome zoo adventure, see if you can relate evidence in GOD'S world to 4 Cs in GOD'S WORD:

*Designs in God's perfect world — **Creation**, ruined by struggle and death following man's sin — **Corruption**, nearly destroyed in a global flood — **Catastrophe**, restored to peace and new life in Jesus **Christ**.*

—The Genesis Foundations



# How to use your COMPLETE ZOO curriculum

*Dear Parents and Teachers,*

More than a guide to animals in your local zoo, *The Complete Zoo Adventure* is a course of study and hands-on activities — a complete *curriculum*. It will help homeschoolers, Christian school students, and individual families learn more about where animals live, how they got there, why they eat what they do, what special features (adaptations) suit each animal for its environmental role and its unique place in God's plan, and how we, as God's chief stewards, can preserve and protect (or heal and restore) what He created. Unlike most zoo signs, nature programs, and writings about animals, this *Field Trip in a Book* contrasts humanistic evolution with biblical creation, encouraging readers/explorers to think for themselves about the origin, history, and destiny of life on earth.

## Your "TOOL KIT" of Teaching and Learning Aids include:

### BEFORE THE ZOO

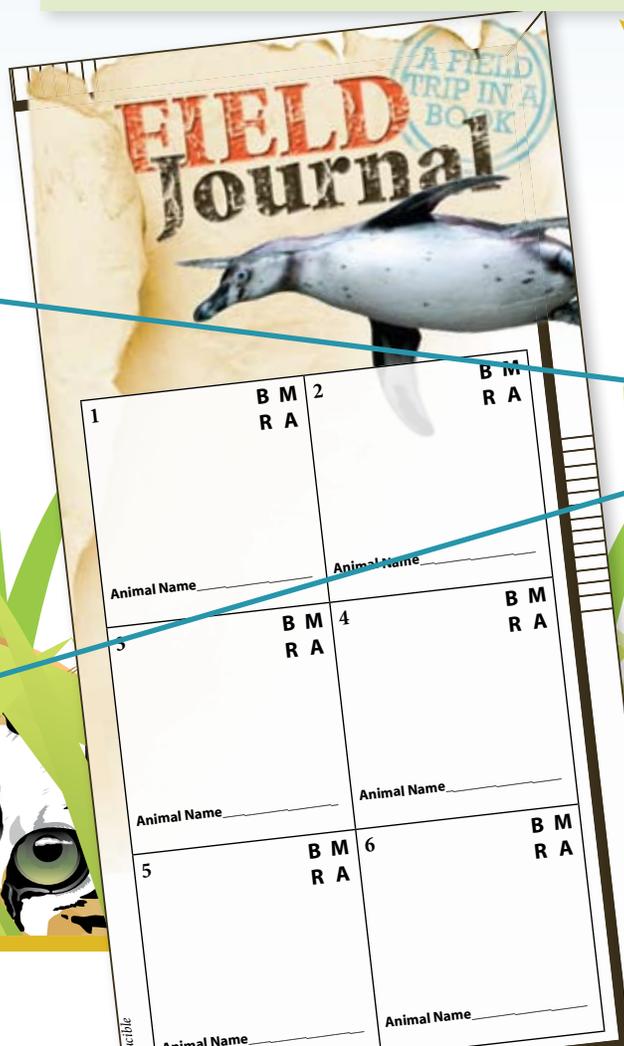
1. **Planning Calendar:** <pp. 10–11> Suggested plan for activities Before..., At..., and After the Zoo.
2. **Devotional/Looking Ahead** <pp. 12–25> Seven pairs of short, interesting readings provide the background in Scripture and science to help you get the most from your zoo adventure.
3. **Field Trip Prep Time!** <p. 26> Tells you what to bring to the zoo.





## FIELD FACT CARDS

A fantastic set of colorful cards with eleven question and answers about 27 awesome zoo animals is included in a special packet in this book. The geometric symbols will help you easily locate data to make research comparisons after your trip. The Field Fact Cards can be used for practice, review, testing, and even a challenging game of Zoo Trivia!



## AT THE ZOO

### 4. Encounters with God's Creatures:

<pp. 31–103>

Beautifully illustrated descriptions of 27 common zoo animals and where they fit in God's plan.

### 5. Field Fact Cards:

Packet of 27 cards with 11 “fun facts” about each creature.

### 6. Biome Cards:

Packet of seven cards describing major biomes for land animals.

### 7. Field Journal:

Foldable, card stock notebook to record your field observations, as instructed on page 28.

### 8. Hooty's Smart Rules:

Sayings of a “wise old owl,” <p. 29> provide humor and a guide to God-honoring conduct at the zoo. Also, look for Hooty's fun facts — one with each animal encounter!



### AFTER THE ZOO

9. **Questions** for “**Personal Sharing**” and “**For Deeper Discussion**” stimulate individual reflection on the place of each animal — and of each person — in God’s plan.
10. Numerous **Activity Sheets** at different levels are provided. They may be copied for testing and for reviewing and re-living your fabulous zoo adventure. Suggestions for **group activities** (bulletin boards, oral reports, etc.) are also included.
11. Numerous **Teacher Aids** include Professional Educator Notes for Parents/Teachers (with Learning Objectives, on Subject Matter Integration and using Bloom’s Taxonomy to extend learning); list of Scripture memory texts; resources for further study; etc.

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## Before the Zoo



## PLANNING CALENDAR

<b>Day 1</b>	Devotional 1	Looking Ahead 1
<b>Day 2</b>	Devotional 2	Looking Ahead 2
<b>Day 3</b>	Devotional 3	Looking Ahead 3
<b>Day 4</b>	Devotional 4	Looking Ahead 4
<b>Day 5</b>	Devotional 5	Looking Ahead 5
<b>Day 6</b>	Devotional 6	Looking Ahead 6
<b>Day 7</b>	Devotional 7	Looking Ahead 7

**Call Ahead:** Call your zoo or search online for zoo history and zoo map. Get admission cost — don't forget parking expenses.

- » Get your Field Pack (below) together
- » Review Field Fact cards
- » Make copies of Field Journal — one per each child.

## At the Zoo — Field Trip Day!

27 animals to explore!  
<pages 31–103>



<b>Field Assignments:</b> Hand out field assignment, badges, and Field Journal	(one per child)
<b>Review Zoo Map, Route, and Zoo Rules</b>	Safety First! Don't forget to review a meeting point.
<b>Family Prayer</b>	Suggested prayer <p.30>
<b>Review Field Fact cards</b>	May divide up cards and trade
<b>Around the Campfire</b>	Discussion questions <page 104>

### Field Pack (supply list)

Things to Take for Your Complete Zoo Adventure:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Research Tools</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» This book, with its “Encounters with God's Creatures” &lt;pp. 31-103&gt;</li> <li>» Field Journal</li> <li>» Field Fact cards</li> <li>» Pencils/pens</li> <li>» CAMERA</li> <li>» Extra notebook</li> <li>» Map/directions</li> <li>» Cell phones</li> </ul> <p><b>Business</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Money</li> <li>» ID cards</li> <li>» Zoo membership/coupons</li> </ul> | <p><b>Nourishment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Water/beverages</li> <li>» Snacks/lunches</li> </ul> <p><b>Health Aids</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Special medicines</li> <li>» Sunscreen</li> <li>» Sunglasses</li> <li>» First aid kit</li> <li>» Health cards</li> </ul> <p><b>Clothing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>» Backpack</li> <li>» Hat</li> <li>» Layered clothing (jacket and sweats, if needed)</li> <li>» Poncho/rain gear</li> </ul> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## After the Zoo

Use Field Fact cards and questions from “Around the Campfire” <p. 104> to test your knowledge.

Make a bulletin board or scrapbook with drawings and pictures of your adventure.

Activity Sheets for younger adventurers <pp.106–121>

Activity Sheets for intermediate to advanced adventurers <pp. 122–137>

Activity Sheets for advanced adventurers <pp. 138–140>

Explore the Biome Cards — included in your Tool Kit, see page 141 for how to use your Biome Cards

Scripture Memory Text <p. 142>

See also: Professional Educators Notes for Parents/ Teachers <pp. 143–147>

Glossary <pp. 148–151>

Index <pp. 152–154>



# DEVOTIONAL 1

## Genesis 1:1; John 1:1–14 Jesus, the Creator — the Presence of God

As we think toward our visit to the zoo, let's turn our minds and hearts toward the Creation and to what God's Word says about the creation of all things. If we want to get answers for how everything began on earth, we don't go to books written by people who were not there in the beginning, who offer only opinions and often make mistakes. Instead, we want the Word of God who was there in the beginning, who knows everything, and who doesn't make mistakes. Genesis 1:1 says, "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." John 1:1–14 tells us that the Creator is the Lord Jesus. "All things were made by him; and without him was not anything made that was made" (vs. 3). Verse 14 says, "And the Word [vs.1] was made flesh and dwelt among us (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father), full of grace and truth." Knowing that God's Son is indeed the Creator helps us understand the absolute importance of the book of Genesis, which is the foundation for the rest of Scripture. Jesus quoted from the book of Genesis more than any other book in the Bible. Today, let us be thankful to God as He has revealed to us His Son, Jesus, who is not only our Savior but also our Creator.

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**In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1**



*Prayer: Thank You, our Father, for sending us Your Son and our Creator, our Lord Jesus, who was there in the beginning with You. Thank You for Your Word that tells us the truth about the history of the earth. Help us to trust Your Word every day as we get answers about life on earth. In Jesus' name we pray, amen!*



## The 4Cs — God's Love vs. Darwin's War

Would you visit a zoo if the lions and tigers and bears were allowed to roam freely? Nowadays there are many animals that would hurt each other and hurt people (and people who would hurt animals). Was it always that way? Not at all. The Bible tells us that God created a perfect and peaceful world, with no struggle and death, where animals and people were designed to eat only plants, not each other.

What happened? God put the first people He created, Adam and Eve, in a perfect and peaceful environment, the Garden of Eden. He gave them the love of each other as husband and wife, put them in charge of caring for the whole earth, and walked and talked with them daily as Creator. In spite of these rich and abundant blessings, our first parents fell for the temptation of that fallen angel, Satan. They rejected God's gifts and God's love and God's Word, desiring instead to make themselves equal with God (Gen. 3:5–6). Unfortunately, people today still tend to sin, to act selfishly, and to put error-prone human opinion (especially their own!) above the absolute and loving truth of God's Word.

Mankind's sin brought (and continues to bring) struggle and death into the world that God had created "very good." Some animals began to kill others, and the first person born in our sin-cursed world (Cain) killed his brother (Abel). The "violence and corruption" that filled the fallen world grieved God "at his heart" (Gen. 6:6). After offering repentance and forgiveness through Noah for 120 years, God destroyed that "corrupted creation" in a worldwide catastrophe, the Genesis flood, providing the ark to save Noah and his family (eight people), and at least two of each kind of dry land animal, male and female (Gen. 7:15–16; 1 Pet. 3:20). In a way, Noah's ark became the world's first floating zoo, a place where selected members of each kind are kept for care, protection, study, appreciation, and preservation.

Many zoos save endangered species and release them to the wild. When the ark/zoo landed, it released a wonderful

menagerie of creatures to multiply and fill the blossoming new post-Flood world. The restoration following the Flood points us toward the final restoration of peace and harmony that comes when Christ returns!

What we see on our trip to the zoo will remind us of "4 Cs" in biblical history: God's perfect world (Creation), ruined by man's sin (Corruption), destroyed by the Flood (Catastrophe), restored to new life in Jesus (Christ)!

Unfortunately, a man named Charles Darwin saw only the struggle and death in our present fallen world and among fossils. Missing the evidence of God's wondrous creation and the glories of new life in Christ, Darwin made struggle and death, which he called the "war of nature," a substitute for God. His *Origin of Species* (1859) became the basis for evolution, the belief that it was millions of years of struggle and death — not God — that brought man and all other creatures into being, and that struggle and death will continue for millions of years until death finally wins and life becomes extinct.

Praise God, science supports Scripture, and our trip to the zoo will provide lots of evidence that Darwin and his followers are wrong about evolution and that the Bible is right about God's creation, man's corruption, Noah's flood, and Christ's restoration. Johnny Hart's newspaper cartoon "B.C." put it this way: ". . . our world wasn't made for wallowing in sickness, death, and sin; or scoundrels who sell drugs to kids or beat up on their kin. Our world was once a perfect place, a gift of [God's] love, not [Darwin's] war, and we still have the power [in Christ] to make it like before."

