

# NATIONAL ZOO AND AQUARIUM SCHOOL EXCURSIONS

## DISCOVERY LEARNING SESSIONS



Discovery Learning Sessions (School Tours) cater for all school years; Primary and Secondary. These comprehensive guided tours provide students with opportunities to gain various understandings and knowledge. Following is a list of tour topics specifically designed to cover scientific understandings required by “The Australian Curriculum”. Each topic is appropriately adjusted to the age of the students on the tour.

### **FEATHERS FUR AND SCALES – *General Overview and Classification***

This session provides an overview of the basic needs of animals (habitat, food) and how animals are classified into different groups. (Upper school years focus only on ‘classification’). Children will meet a mammal, reptile and bird to learn firsthand how they are classified into groups.

### **WHERE THE WILD THINGS LIVE - *Habitats***

Students will meet various animals and learn about their different habitats. This session also encompasses various conservation issues such as habitat destruction and its impact

### **ALL IN THE FAMILY – *Life Cycles***

An introduction to different animal family structures and the variety of ways animals begin their life. e.g. egg layers, marsupials, live birth and so on. Children will meet a variety of animals that raise their young in different ways.

### **WHY IS THE GIRAFFES NECK SO LONG? - *Adaptations***

Students are posed with questions such as Why is the giraffe’s neck so long? Why does the tiger have stripes? From there they will explore the zoo to meet some of these animals and find out about various adaptations and how they help animals to survive.

### **SURFING THE WEB OF LIFE - *Eco systems and Biodiversity***

This session covers general information on how all life is connected through various ecosystems, food chains and natural cycles. Concepts such as biodiversity and conservation are introduced.

### **WHERE HAVE ALL THE TIGERS GONE? – *Endangered Species***

An examination of human actions can impact animals in the wild. Issues from habitat destruction, feral animals and climate change are discussed. Students will be posed with questions of ways to re-gain balance in the natural world.

### **FROM ONE END TO THE OTHER – *Digestive Systems. (High School groups only)***

A practical look at the various biological systems of an animal involved in eating; ranging from the different structures of teeth to what comes out the other end.

### **ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING – *General Tour***

This tour covers conservation, habitats and adaptations. It is a general tour more focused on feeding the animals with less in-depth information.

**Or** Ask for a session to be tailored to your specific curriculum needs.