

Overview – The *African Safari* education experience explores the animals of the African Savannah and investigates how they interact with each other and the environment as they struggle to survive.

Lesson Logistics – There is a moderate amount of movement involved during this experience. It will take place in one of our outdoor education experience spaces and throughout the Australian Bushwalk. This education experience requires at least a 1:10 ratio of adult supervision. This experience can be modified if weather is inclement.

Duration – 50 minutes

Conservation Message – Survival often comes down to an animal's ability to eat and avoid being eaten!



African Lion

Panthera leo

Links to the Australian Curriculum

Science:

	Science Understanding Biological Science	Science Inquiry Skills
Year 4	Living things, including plants and animals, depend on each other and the environment to survive (ACSSU073).	With guidance, identify questions in familiar contexts that can be investigated scientifically and predict what might happen based on prior knowledge (AC SIS064). Communicate ideas, explanations and processes in a variety of ways (AC SIS110).
Year 5	Living things have structural features and adaptations that help them to survive in their environment (ACSSU043).	
Year 6	The growth and survival of living things are affected by the physical conditions of their environment (ACSSU094).	

Geography:

	Geographical Knowledge and Understanding
Year 4	The importance of environments to animals and people, and different views on how they can be protected (ACHGK022). The natural resources provided by the environment, and different views on how they could be used sustainably (ACHGK024).
Year 5	The influence people have on the human characteristics of places and the management of spaces within them (ACHGK029).

Cross Curriculum Priority – Sustainability:

	Organising ideas – Systems
OI.2	All life forms, including human life, are connected through ecosystems on which they depend for their wellbeing and survival.
OI.3	Sustainable patterns of living rely on the interdependence of healthy social, economic and ecological systems.



Before Your Zoo Visit

It would be very useful to consider the following topics prior to your *African Safari* Zoo education experience.

Adaptations – Explore behaviours and body functions that enable species to survive in their environment.

Group dynamics – Investigate social relationships of different animals. How do they assist in hunting or protecting themselves.

Habitats – Overview of the main habitat types in Africa.



African Painted Dog

Lycaon pictus

Be sure to visit the Perth Zoo website for the most up-to-date student activities to support your education experience. Follow the link to <https://perthzoo.wa.gov.au/schools/years-4-6>. Feel free to photocopy these for your visit to the Zoo. It's a great idea to bring along a camera for the day so you have images that you can use for activities when you return to school.

Back at School

The *African Safari* experience explores the interdependence of life on the African Savannah and how conservation strategies are imperative in protecting species from extinction. To offer your students an opportunity to elaborate on their experience, you might like to explore the following with your class:

Animal Fact File – Create information packs about African animals and maybe even adopt a Perth Zoo animal as a class!

Creative Presentation – As an alternative to a written report, students could research African animals and incorporate this information in a form such as a board game, TV game show or an Arts project.

Food Chains – Consider various food chains for African animals. Compare the effect of introduced species and other human impacts on these food chains.

Going, going, gone – Research which animals are at greatest risk of extinction from poaching and why they are targeted.

Same but different – Group African animals in as many ways as your students can. The groupings could be based on diet, which vertebrate group they belong to or to which conservation status they have been assigned.

Action! – Find out more about or get involved with conservation projects in the wild such as Painted Dog Conservation Inc.

