

Watersheds Around the World Scavenger Hunt

A watershed is the area of land where water can be captured, stored, and eventually released farther downhill to rivers, lakes, and the ocean. All living things are linked by their common watershed and depend on a clean, functional watershed to survive. The Zoo represents different habitats and has wildlife from different watersheds around the world. On our scavenger hunt, let's look for a variety of animals and plants, what the Zoo is doing to help watersheds, and ways you can help. Don't have time to complete the scavenger hunt today? That's ok. A lot of this information can be found on the San Diego Zoo website - www.sandiegozoo.org. There is a lot to find, so work together in teams and have fun!

Discovery Outpost

1. Can you find the Wig L. Worm Composting Garden in the Children's Zoo? There are lots of critters that help us compost. Can you explain at least one way that composting benefits the environment?

2. You will find some "Spineless Marvels" just around the corner. These creatures do quite a lot of work in their watershed. Find a decomposer, gardener, pollinator, OR predator. SKETCH your critter and describe how it helps keep watersheds healthy.

Leaving the Children's Zoo? Don't forget to slither on over to the Reptile House...

3. Islands have watersheds too! **These Big Tortoises have Big Threats.** People introduced three types of animals to the islands. These non-native animals are harmful to the tortoises. What are these non-native animals?



_____, _____, _____

4. You don't need to travel far to find biodiversity (variety of life in a habitat). San Diego County has more biodiversity than any other county in North America! Take a look at some **Native Species** to see why protecting our wetlands is so important.

As an *indicator species*, amphibians are some of the first animals affected by an unhealthy watershed.

How many species of amphibians are there in the world? _____

How many are threatened? _____

Australian Outback and Urban Jungle

1. We live in a desert here in San Diego and try and do what we can to conserve water. Can you find the home to these sleepy marsupials? There is a large water tank at the Queenslander House. How much rainwater do we collect each year from the roof of the building? _____



2. If we got just one inch of rain, how much water could we collect from one square foot of roof?

3. How could you collect water at home? _____

Africa Rocks

1. Head into our newest exhibit, Africa Rocks! As you reach the bottom of the canyon you will spot our colony of African Penguins. These birds are listed as an endangered species. What are two factors that contribute to this?



_____ &

2. The leopard sharks you see in the penguin exhibit are native to the waters off the coast of California. When it rains pollutants travel through our watershed, reaching the storm drains and end up in the ocean. Can you think of a couple of ways to keep pollution from reaching our oceans

_____ & _____

Elephant Odyssey

1. These endangered California condors need some help getting back out into their watershed. They are **SURVIVING IN A MODERN WORLD**. What two things are they being trained NOT to do before being reintroduced?



2. How can you prevent “microtrash” from getting into a watershed? _____

3. Elephants need to migrate in order to find food and water. They need rain and a healthy, clean watershed to survive. Researchers want to track and follow wild elephants to see where they go throughout their watersheds.



What are these large rings? _____

How do they help us track elephants? _____

4. Our **POLLINATORS ARE IN PERIL!** Pollinators like bees, butterflies, bats, and hummingbirds are in trouble, which means we are in trouble. Pollinators help fruits, nuts, and many vegetables develop into the yummy food you eat, but their populations are decreasing. Visit our Pollinator Garden near the Fossil Portal. Can you think of 2 things affecting pollinators and their watershed?

▪ _____

▪ _____

5. What are two plants you could have at your garden at home to help our pollinators?

Northern Frontier

1. Polar bears live in a watershed that is full of water, ice, and snow. They travel on ice to hunt seals, but vanishing ice makes it difficult. Once you have checked out the bears, head past their exhibit look for the arctic fox exhibit. There you'll find your starting point on the ground to play FOLLOW THE ICE game.



Did you reach your seal? _____

How could a lack of ice be a problem for a polar bear in its watershed? _____

2. Continue down the path to the giant **CARBON GRAPH.** Burning fossil fuels such as coal and oil, gives us energy. However, it also releases carbon dioxide into the atmosphere. High levels of greenhouse

gases can cause our climate to change, but there are ways you can help! Draw a line to match the PICTURE to the ACTION STEP below. Check your answers on the Carbon Graph.



PLANTING A TREE IN YOUR YARD HELPS KEEP YOUR HOME COOL IN SUMMER AND ABSORBS CO₂ FROM THE AIR.

UNPLUG PHONE CHARGERS, COMPUTERS, AND OTHER ELECTRONICS WHEN NOT IN USE.

LIGHT-EMITTING DIODE (LED) BULBS USE LESS ENERGY THAN REGULAR LIGHT BULBS.

Lost Forest

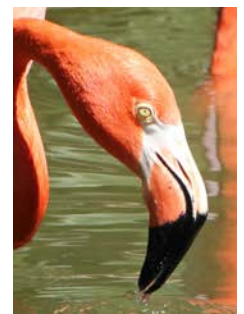
1. Some watersheds in Borneo and Sumatra are in a bit of trouble, because people are cutting down forests for palm oil cultivation. This is also the home to some “red apes”, which rely on those trees. Visit our red apes to learn “What’s the deal with palm oil?” How can you or your parents help?



2. Hippos live in slow moving rivers in Africa. This water may not look clean enough to drink, but the hippos have help cleaning up the mess! What is the animal living with the hippos that helps clean its watershed? _____ How does it help clean up? _____

3. These pink birds live in a watershed that is mostly water! Watch the flamingos for 30 seconds. How do they eat their food? _____

Wetlands and estuaries filter water in a similar way to how flamingos eat. How could filtering pollutants affect flamingos? _____



How could filtering pollutants affect wetlands or estuaries? _____

4. Visit the Gorilla Tropics and head to the main glass viewing area. Why is it important to **Recycle 'Ore' Else?**

We can help endangered gorillas! Since 2004, we have recycled almost 9,000 _____.

This reduces the demand for _____, which is mined in gorilla habitat.

5. Find these "small" hippos that prefer to live in a forested watershed in West Africa. There is a hidden display found near this animal's home that tells you a few ways to be a Watershed Hero.

How many plastic bottles do we use each year in California? _____



What's one way you can be a Watershed Hero? _____

Any Area

1. Find three different kinds of animal poop. Take a picture or *doodle* what it looks like!

Poop #1

Poop #2

Poop #3

What should pet owners do with their pets' poop to keep watersheds clean? _____

_____ What does the Zoo do with their doo? We compost!

2. Go into any gift shop in the Zoo. Can you find reusable bags? _____ How does limiting plastic bags help our watersheds? _____

What other items can you find that help watersheds? _____

3. Find a recycle bin and a trash bin next to an animal enclosure. How does picking up trash help the watershed? _____

What types of things can be recycled in that blue bin? _____

How does recycling specifically help the animal you are next to? _____