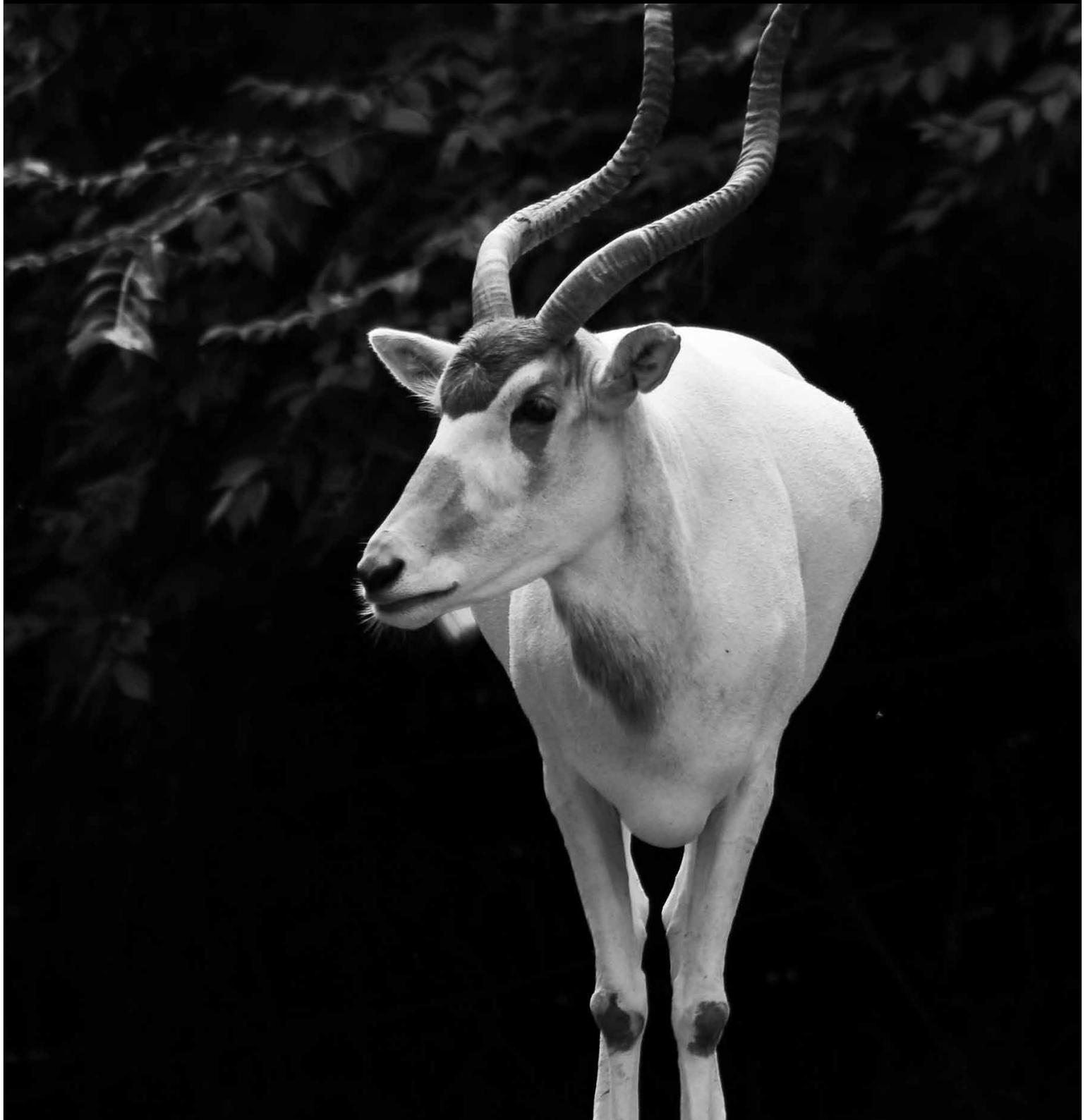


Biblical Animal Scavenger Hunt



This activity developed with the help of Eastview Baptist Church

Biblical Animal Scavenger Hunt Grades 7-12

Leader's Guide

APPROXIMATE TIME: 60 minutes

Suggestions for leaders:

1. Review the scavenger hunt and bible passages with your group before you come to the Zoo. They can find many of the answers on the exhibit signs for each animal or for the animal area in general.
2. It is recommended that the scavenger hunt be done in small groups and students share roles and responsibilities.
3. The scavenger hunt is organized by animal areas and each group should get a Zoo map to help them find each animal area or building. The animal areas include the Herpetarium and Bird House on Historic Hill and Big Cat Country and adjacent Red Rocks. Remind the groups that they need to find the four animals in the first section – Throughout the Zoo – as they complete the hunt.
4. Because the animals at the Zoo are living creatures with very special needs, at certain times some of the animals referred to in this scavenger hunt may not be on public display. Please remind your students to do their best to complete the hunt by carefully observing the animals they find and not to worry about any that are off display.

Answer Key

Throughout the Zoo

1. (Answers will vary for Animal Adaptations/Traits)
Sheep – Naiveté: stays in groups, easily scared and are watched over by a shepherd.
Snake – Deceit: elusive, and associated with treachery and scary
Dove – Peace: beautiful and gentle
Lion – Bravery/Strength: majestic, predator above all others, king of jungle
- 2a-c. Possible answers include: Armenian vipers, hellbender, Grevy's zebra, Addax, horned guan.
Grevy's zebra and Armenian vipers are found near the Middle East.
- 3a-c. Possible answers include: Field research, health studies, conservation programs, teaching programs, surveys, captive breeding programs, reduce causes of decline, protecting habitats, improving fisheries industry, seed dispersal, recovery programs

Herpetarium

1. Possible answers include: air and water pollution, forest homes being cleared, acid rain hampers egg development, agricultural pesticides and fertilizers poison the food they eat, frog legs, UV rays.
Save Energy and reduce pollution.
2. Mountain Chicken – over hunting, habitat loss, introduction of alien predators

Red Rocks

1. Bongo
- 2a. Overhunting
2b. Competition with livestock for limited grazing ground and water sources

3. Answers will vary: Animals kept from crossing borders that are fenced, animals are hunted for food, reserves are no longer protected, etc.
4. Ostrich, *Struthio camelus*
Females combine eggs into one large nest which is protected by the dominant male and female.
5. Camel
Broad feet to keep from sinking in soft sand
Can go without water for long periods of time
Long eyelashes to protect eyes from sand storms
Nostrils can close to keep out blowing sand
False – The hump stores fat.
6. Camel (U) no hard covered divided hoof
Babirusa (U) does not chew cud
Somali Wild Ass (U) no divided hoof and does not chew cud
Speke's Gazelle (C) both hard covered divided hoof and chews cud
Leopard (U) a predator that do not have hooves nor eat plants
7. Many possible answers including cows, horses, pigs, sheep, camel
8. Transportation, food, performs work, pets, etc.
9. Competition over food and water resources, Inter-breeding, Disease transmission between species.

Bird House

1. Answers will vary depending on which birds they choose.

Grades 7-12

The world is filled with many wonderful animals. Many of these animals appear in the Bible. This scavenger hunt is designed to familiarize you with some of those animals and how their populations and habitats have changed since the Bible was written. As you complete this scavenger hunt, think about your role in the survival of all animal species.

Psalm 104 God the Creator and Provider

¹Bless the Lord, O my soul.

O Lord my God, you are very great.

⁵You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken.

¹⁰You make springs gush forth in the valleys;

They flow between the hills, ¹¹giving drink to every wild animal;

The wild asses quench their thirst.

¹²By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation;

They sing among the branches.

¹⁶The trees of the Lord are watered abundantly,

the cedars of Lebanon that He planted.

¹⁷In them the birds build their nests;

The stork has its home in the fir trees.

¹⁸The high mountains are for the wild goats;

The rocks are a refuge for the coney.

²⁰You make darkness, and it is night,

When all the animals of the forest come creeping out.

²¹The young lions roar for their prey,

seeking their food from God.

²²When the sun rises, they withdraw and lie down in their dens.

²⁴O Lord, how manifold are your works!

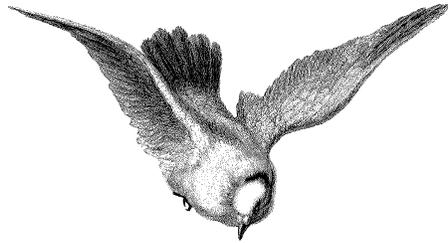
In wisdom you have made them all;

The earth is full of your creatures.

³¹May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

May the Lord rejoice in His works.

Throughout the Zoo



1. As you complete this scavenger hunt, keep an eye out for these animals found in the Bible (Dove, Lion, Sheep, and Snake). See if you can list some adaptations (physical or behavioral) that might have lead Biblical authors to identify these animals with these characteristics? Match the Animal to the characteristic it represents:

A. Dove	B. Lion	C. Sheep	D. Snake
Animal	Characteristic	Animal Adaptations/Traits	
_____	Naiveté (needing the Guidance of others)	_____	
_____	Deceit	_____	
_____	Peace	_____	
_____	Bravery/Strength	_____	

Genesis 1:26:

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

This “dominion” given to humans by God was not meant to be the exploitation of nature that is so prevalent today. God set us in position to be good stewards of creation, to take care of it and sustain it for future generations.

Our Zoo has developed The Saint Louis Zoo Wildcare Institute to help conserve animals and their habitats. As you tour the grounds you will see special large signs that give information about each of these twelve Conservation Centers and the animals they help.



2. Find three species for which the Saint Louis Zoo has developed Conservation Centers. One of the animals should be found near the Middle East (Look in Antelope area of Red Rocks or Herpetarium).

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

3. Give three examples of how the Zoo is helping these animals through the WildCare Institute.

- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____

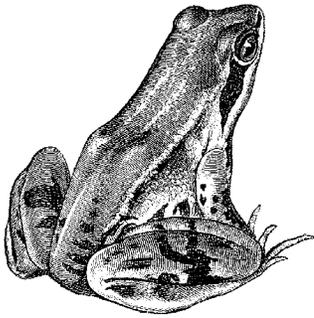
Herpetarium

Exodus 8

¹Then the LORD said to Moses, “Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, ‘Thus says the LORD, “Let my people go, that they may serve me. ²But if you refuse to let them go, behold, I will plague all your country with frogs.

³The Nile shall swarm with frogs that shall come up into your house and into your bedroom and on your bed and into the houses of your servants and your people, and into your ovens and your kneading bowls.

⁴The frogs shall come up on you and on your people and on all your servants.”



amphibian ark
2008 YEAR OF THE FROG

God used an overabundance of frogs as one of the ten plagues against Egypt to free the Israelites from slavery. Today we are experiencing an extreme shortage of many amphibian species. The Saint Louis Zoo has partnered with other institutions to create the Amphibian Ark. This project works to breed and protect amphibian species that are on the brink of extinction with hopes of releasing them back into the wild when their habitats are once again suitable.

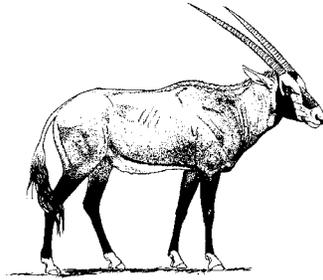
1. Find the “Disappearing Amphibian” graphic. Give two reasons amphibians are disappearing and one thing you can do to help.

2. Find the frog that has the name of a bird and describe how its population is threatened.

Red Rocks

Genesis 6:19-20:

¹⁹And of every living thing of all flesh, you shall bring two of every sort into the ark to keep them alive with you. They shall be male and female. ²⁰Of the birds according to their kinds, and of the animals according to their kinds, of every creeping thing of the ground, according to its kind, two of every sort shall come in to you to keep them alive.



1. In the Bible, God had Noah conserve the animals of the world on the Ark while their habitat was unsuitable. In much the same way, zoos are refuges for animals whose wild populations are in danger of extinction. Three animals that are or once were extinct in the wild but have been conserved in zoos are the Arabian Oryx, Wyoming Toad and Partula Snail. Likewise the Saint Louis Zoo has participated in repatriation projects which return animals to regions that they previously inhabited. Find one such animal in the Red Rocks area that has “gone home to Kenya.”

2. Name two factors that contributed to the reduction of the Somali Wild Ass’ range.

a. _____

b. _____

3. Political unrest and wars frequently occur in this region. How could fighting between two countries affect animal populations? For example: The Arabian Oryx re-introduction into S. Negev failed because they would cross into Jordan and were not protected.

4. The deserts of the Middle East were once occupied by this large flightless bird which was hunted to extinction by the middle of the 20th century. It now is found on the Savannahs of Africa. List this animal’s common and scientific names.

How does this bird protect its eggs? _____

5. **Matthew 19:24** says, “It is easier for a _____ (large animal used for transport in the desert) to pass through the eye of a needle, than it is for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.” Go to this animal’s habitat.

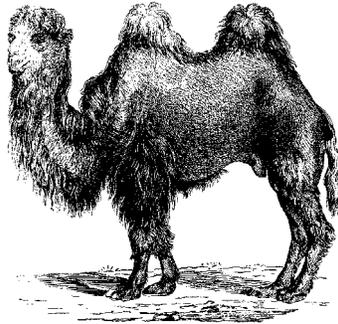
Although the Saint Louis Zoo is home to a different species of Camel than spoken of in the Bible, the Bactrian and Dromedary camels share some adaptations for life in the desert. Go to the Camel's habitat and look at the following characteristics then write down how they might be useful in a desert environment.

Feet - _____

Eyelashes - _____

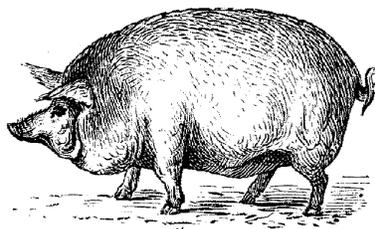
Nostrils - _____

True or False: Camels store water in their humps.



Leviticus 11:

²Speak unto the children of Israel, saying, These are the beasts which ye shall eat among all the beasts that are on the earth. ³Whatsoever parteth the hoof, and is clovenfooted, and cheweth the cud, among the beasts, that shall ye eat. ⁴Nevertheless these shall ye not eat of them that chew the cud, or of them that divide the hoof: as the camel, because he cheweth the cud, but divideth not the hoof; he is unclean unto you. ⁷And the swine, though he divide the hoof, and be clovenfooted, yet he cheweth not the cud; he is unclean to you.



In Judaism, Kosher is the set of dietary laws governing what can or cannot be consumed. Some of the reasons proposed for these laws include avoiding animals associated with pagan practices, preserving the Israelites' separateness from others and prevention of the spread of infectious diseases. Clean mammals are those that chew the cud and have cloven hooves. "Chewing the cud" or rumination is when the animal brings the food back up from the stomach to be chewed again. This helps the animal more efficiently digest the grasses it eats. Cows, sheep and antelope are ruminants. Animals with cloven hooves have a hoof with a hard outer covering split into two toes such as in pigs, sheep and antelope.

6. According to the above specifications, would these animals be unclean (U) or clean (C)? Also list your reasons.

___ Camel _____

___ Babirusa _____

___ Somali Wild Ass _____

___ Speke's Gazelle _____

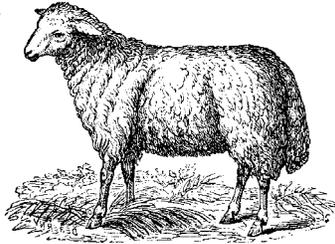
___ Leopard _____

Genesis 7:14

With them in the boat were pairs of every kind of animal—domestic and wild, large and small—along with birds of every kind.

Matthew 9:36

³⁶When he (Jesus) saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.



7. The previous passages show that people kept animals for domestic purposes in Biblical times. Find two examples of animals whose relatives are domesticated today.

a. _____

b. _____

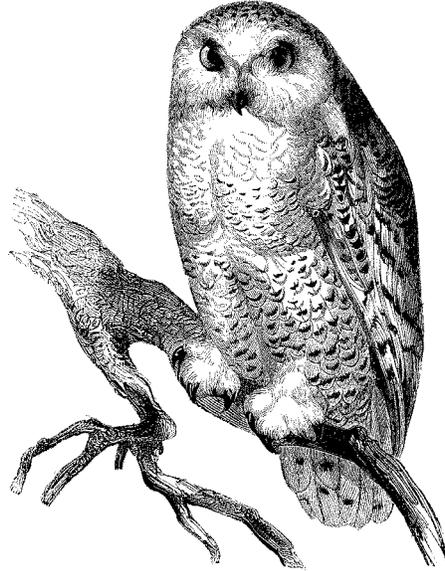
8. What are some ways we are helped by domestic animals?

9. What are possible problems when domestic animals share the same territory as wild animals?

Bird House

Isaiah 34:15a:

There the owl will make her nest and lay her eggs. She will hatch her young and cover them with her wings.



1. There are many variations in nest types among the birds. List three different kinds of nests and the birds that make them.

a. Nest type _____

Name _____

b. Nest type _____

Name _____

c. Nest type _____

Name _____