



# Scavenger Hunt for Grades 9-12

All of the answers to this scavenger hunt can be found by reading signs or by observing the animals. In some cases you will be asked to come to a conclusion based on information provided and your observation of the animals.

## Reptiles

1. List 4 adaptations of alligators have for life in the water.
2. What is the reason that both the Pine snake and Komodo dragon are endangered?
3. What happens to a male painted batagur turtle's head during breeding season?

## Birds

4. Which male bird brings his mate fruit as an offering to strengthen their pair bond?
5. Which kingfisher is known for its loud, laughing call that can be heard in the early morning and late evening?

6. What do the cassowaries and ostriches have in common?
  
7. What is a raptor? List three raptors on display at the Birmingham Zoo.

### **Predators**

8. Identify two endangered species in the Predator Building. Why are they endangered?
  
9. Most cats dislike getting wet. Two exceptions are tigers and fishing cats. How are fishing cats adapted to take advantage of an aquatic food source?

### **Savannah**

10. How is height an adaptation for giraffes?
  
11. What do you think are some disadvantages that go along with being as tall as a giraffe?

### **Pachyderms**

12. What do elephant trunks and spider monkey tails have in common?

13. Why are elephants endangered?

14. What adaptations do hippopotamuses have for life in the water? What animal did you observe earlier during this scavenger hunt that has similar adaptations?

## **Primates**

15. How is being social an adaptation for survival?

16. List 3 endangered species in the Primate Building. Why is each endangered?

17. Look at the tails of the lemurs and the spider monkeys.  
How are the tails similar? How are they different?

# Answer Key

## Scavenger Hunt for Grades 9-12

### Reptiles

1. List 4 adaptations of alligators to life in the water.
  - *Webbed feet*
  - *Broad tail to propel animal through the water*
  - *Can stay underwater for long periods*
  - *Eyes, nostrils and ears on top of head so that most of body can remain submerged*
  - *Camouflaged, water-tight skin*
2. *Habitat destruction* is the reason that both the Pine snake and Komodo dragon are endangered.
3. A male painted batagur turtle's head *changes color* during breeding season.

### Birds

4. The male *Swainson's Toucan* brings his mate fruit as an offering to strengthen their pair bond.
5. The *kookaburra* is known for its loud, laughing call that can be heard in the early morning and late evening.
6. Cassowaries and ostriches are both *ratites (flightless birds)*.
7. A raptor is a *bird of prey*. List three raptors on display at the Birmingham Zoo..  
*Bald eagles, Cinereous vultures, Spectacled owls, Barn owls*

### Predators

8. Identify two endangered species in the Predator Building. Why are they endangered?  
Asian small-clawed otter (hunting, habitat destruction), bald eagle (pesticides, habitat destruction, poaching), Bengal or Indochinese tigers (poaching, habitat destruction)
9. Fishing cats have *partially webbed feet, small ears, shape of face*.

## Savannah

10. Giraffes *can reach food other browsers cannot, and can see over long distances.*
11. Being so tall makes a giraffe *more visible to predators, harder to bend over to drink and more vulnerable when bending down to drink*

## Pachyderms

12. Elephants' trunks and spider monkeys' tails are *prehensile (can be used for grasping).*
13. Elephants are endangered because of *poaching for ivory, habitat loss.*
14. What adaptations do hippopotamuses have for life in the water? What animal did you observe earlier during this scavenger hunt that has similar adaptations?
  - *Can stay underwater for long periods*
  - *Eyes, nostrils and ears on top of head so that most of body can remain submerged*
  - *Water-tight skin*
  - *Alligator*

## Primates

15. How is being social an adaptation for survival?  
*Shared responsibilities in rearing young, more eyes to search for predators and food, living in a group lessens an individual's chance of being killed by a predator*
16. List 3 endangered species in the Primate Building. Why is each endangered?  
*Gorilla, white-handed gibbon, orangutan, mandrill baboon, cotton-top tamarin, ring-tailed lemur*
17. Look at the tails of the lemurs and the spider monkeys. How are the tails similar? How are they different?
  - *Long, slender, etc*
  - *Spider monkeys have prehensile tails and the others do not*