



Australian Adventure Scavenger Hunt: Grades 4-6

1. Head inside the koala building. One major problem facing koalas in the wild is habitat loss. Trees in Australia are being cut down for the construction of buildings and homes. Observe the koalas and read about their diet and behavior. After learning more about them, how do you think habitat loss affects koalas? Why do they need trees?
2. Inside the koala building, try and locate the echidna. They are very shy, so he may be hard to find. If you can't find him, look at the pictures of him on the informational board in the middle of the exhibit. What do you notice about his coat? What is the advantage of having this type of coat?
3. Observe the tree kangaroo in her exhibit. Chances are she is hanging out in a tree. Why might living primarily in trees be safer for an animal like the Matschie's tree kangaroo?
4. Head across the road to Lorikeet Landing. Lorikeets are small parrots that are often bred and sold as pets. Observe the lorikeets in their enclosure for a few minutes. Study their behavior and their interactions with each other. Based on what you have observed, why might owning a lorikeet be difficult?
5. Walk over to the Wallaby Walkabout. Kangaroos have long, thick tails. Observe the kangaroos, particularly those that are standing or hopping. How do they use their tail?
6. Kangaroos are highly social animals. Observe the kangaroos. Are any of them engaging with each other? What social behaviors do you notice?
7. Kookaburras are carnivores, which means they eat meat. They use their large, strong beaks to catch and eat lizards, mice, small birds, eggs, and insects.
8. Head over to the petting zoo and barn. The animals in this area are all livestock animals. Livestock animals are all domesticated, or tamed, and provide some type of service or product for humans. Observe the goats, rabbits, miniature horses, donkeys, and sheep. What do these animals provide for humans? What are these animals used for?
9. Alpacas are raised on farms in the U.S., the Netherlands and Australia. There are two breeds of Alpacas, the Huacaya and the Suri. Huacaya is the most common breed, with hair (fleece) that is short, coarse, and compact. The Suri's fleece is long, fine and can grow long enough to touch the ground. Look at our Alpacas. What type of fleece do they have? Which breed are they?
10. Head over to the dingo exhibit. Dingoes are considered an apex predator. This means that they are at the top of the food chain and they are not preyed upon by any other animal. Thinking back to all of the animals you have seen in Australian Adventure, what animals do you think a dingo might prey on in the wild? (Hint: keep in mind that dingoes mostly hunt on the ground).