



TALKING POINTS

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TALKING POINTS – PRIMARY

PENGUINS

What are the main differences you can spot between our three types of penguins?	<p>Gentoo penguins- medium sized, black with white bellies and temples.</p> <p>King penguins- taller, yellow neck and temples.</p> <p>Rockhoppers- smaller, red eyes, yellow crest feathers.</p> <p>All our penguins, except Snowflake have bands on their flippers- left flipper (girls), right flipper (boys).</p>
How do penguins care for their eggs/chicks?	<p>Gentoo's and Rockhoppers sit on their eggs in a rocky nest- they take turns so that the other penguin can hunt for food.</p> <p>King penguins are a bit different- the male penguin rolls the egg onto his feet, raises his toes upward and balances on his heels. He keeps the egg warm until it has hatched which means no hunting for him. Once the penguin chicks hatch, after some time they join a creche/nursery where they are cared for.</p>
What activities can you see the penguins doing?	<p>You might spot them collecting and offering pebbles during nesting season, sitting on eggs, swimming in the water- "porpoising" when they jump out of the water, or feeding (eating their prey).</p>
Can you spot Nils? Our famous military Penguin?	<p>Nils' name is on his flipper band. He is a King Penguin, and in the Guinness book of records for being the worlds highest ranking penguin. His full title is Major General Sir Nils Olav, Baron of the Bouvet Islands. He is the mascot of the Norwegian Kings Guard and has been knighted.</p>

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CHIMPANZEES

Do you see any similarities between the chimpanzees and you?	We are very closely related species, members of the Great Apes so have front facing eyes and similar hands with an opposable thumb and no tails. We both live in groups and are very curious.
Does it seem like they like to live in a group?	Chimps are social animals. You might see some chimps prefer to be alone for quiet rest, and some prefer to sit in groups. They groom one another, may rest, and play together. In the chimpanzees here, some prefer spending time with certain members more than others. You may also see some fighting and aggression- this is a normal part of their hierarchy.
What threats do you think chimpanzees face in the wild?	The main threats to chimpanzees are habitat loss, disease, and hunting, especially for bushmeat.
Why do chimpanzees swing from branches?	Movement, strong arms- they have adapted well to their life in the trees.

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GIRAFFES

How many bones do you think a giraffe has in its neck?	Same as us - seven – they are just much larger!
How have giraffes adapted to being so tall?	Can reach high branches of trees with their long necks, food sources out of reach for other animals. They have long tongues and fleshy lips to strip leaves from branches. Can reach leaves even on thorny branches without scratching its face and eyes.
Do you see any communication between the giraffes?	They can make some very quiet vocalisations. They also use non-verbal communication, paying attention to other members' body posture and eyes, and sometimes by touching each other.
How much sleep do giraffes need?	In the wild, as little as 5 to 30 minutes in a 24 hour period. They do rest more in captivity due to the absence of predators and a rich diet.
Why are giraffes so patchy?	Camouflage (and for cooling themselves down- under the patches are extra-large sweat glands and unique arrangement of blood vessels, which have almost a sprinkler-like system.

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TIGERS

Do the tigers have any adaptations for hunting in the forest?	Soft toe pads to walk silently Stripes break up their body shape and helps them blend in well with the sunlight filtering through the treetops to the jungle floor. Sharp hearing- can hear infrared sound
What threats do tigers face in the wild?	Poaching and habitat loss. May be forced to compete for space with humans which also causes conflict.
How do tigers use scent marking to communicate?	They spray urine because of the strong odour associated with it and may spread faeces as well. This allows them to communicate their presence and dominance.
What natural behaviours does the enclosure help to encourage?	Large enclosure- space for roaming Climbing structures for the tiger pair Heated rocks to relax on Ponds to splash in 3700 plants to mimic Indonesian nature reserve- provides dense cover for camouflage Scratching posts and places to scent mark on High viewpoints to allow tigers to see what's going on