



TALKING POINTS

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TALKING POINTS – SECONDARY

PENGUINS

What colours are our penguins?	Black and white. Our King Penguins are also black and white, but they also have yellow necks and patches on their head. Our Rockhoppers have yellow crest feathers too!
What do penguins like to eat?	Mainly fish, but in the wild they also love krill and squid. Differing species have different diets and dive to different depths to catch their prey. Which penguin species dives the deepest?
How do penguins swim? Can you watch and see how they move through the water?	Penguins have remarkable adaptations to help them swim, maintain thermoregulation (body temperature) and catch their prey. What adaptations can you see? - Feathers (insulation, waterproofing, camouflage) - Body shape (flippers, rudder like tail, pointed peak, large eyes).
Can you spot Nils? Our famous military Penguin?	Nils' name is on his flipper band. He is a King Penguin, and in the Guinness book of records for being the world's 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.
Do the penguins have feathers or fur?	Penguins have amazing feathers; they are very short and look like fur. They have 2 types of feathers, a fluffy down to keep them warm and waterproof guard feathers for staying dry.

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CHIMPANZEES

Why do you think the chimpanzees bums look the way they do?	When female chimpanzees are in season and ready to have a baby, their genitals swell up, looking very large and pink. This allows them to advertise their fertility.
What can studying chimpanzee behaviour tell us about human evolution?	Chimpanzees are among human beings' closest living relatives (sharing 98% of our DNA). We can learn a lot about behaviour from them because they share many of our traits. Like humans, chimps make and use tools, join in groups and defend group territories
How do chimpanzees deal with any conflict within the group?	May use aggression for status and dominance. Squabbles and fights do take place- some chimps get involved directly, some prefer to stay out of the way. Conflict plays a significant role in chimpanzee social relations. They are also known to console one another after fights.
What do you think about the research being done with the chimpanzees at the RZSS (downstairs, Budongo Trail). How do you think we ensure this is ethical?	Chimpanzees given a choice- they enter the room via a slide and stay only as long as they would like to. For their participation in the research, they receive payment in the form of treats like grapes or fruit juice.
How is the RZSS helping conserve chimpanzees in Uganda?	The field team observe chimpanzees in the wild daily, monitoring their health and alerting the vet team when chimps are injured by snares. BCFS also employ a snare patrol team who spend hours in the forest each day searching for and removing snares laid by hunters.

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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 do giraffes communicate with one another?	They can make some very quiet vocalisations (similar to coughing, hissing). They also use non-verbal communication, paying attention to other members' body posture and eyes, and sometimes by touching each other.
Why do giraffes have ossicones?	Ossicones are boney projections covered in fur, which can be used by giraffes during fights
How do giraffes assert dominance?	Giraffe necking- swinging their necks with the force of a sledgehammer at one another Using their ossicones to thrust into one another

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TIGERS

What are the main threats to tigers the wild?	Habitat loss and fragmentation do impact tiger populations, along with hunting. People and tigers have a complicated history that has led to conflict. RZSS is supporting research into tiger prey species using DNA.
How many sub-species of tigers are there?	Nine, but three of these are now extinct.
What ethical considerations are there for keeping tigers in the zoo?	Ensuring the physical and psychological wellbeing of the animals is paramount. Welfare auditing. Enrichment activities. Enclosure design.
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