



At the Zoo

Learning values

- Interacting with others, planning and taking turns
- Using mathematical ideas such as counting and categorizing
- Using language to describe animals and their differences and similarities

Recommended materials

- Wild Animals Set
- XL LEGO® DUPLO® Brick Set
- World People Set or Community People Set

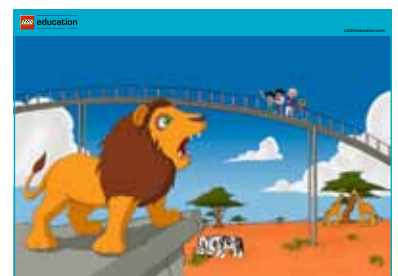
Vocabulary

Encourage the use of these words during the activity:

- Zoo
- Dangerous animal
- Non-dangerous animal
- Separation
- Living conditions
- Enclosure
- Visitor
- Viewing facilities
- Souvenir

Connect

- Ask the children if they have ever been to a zoo. Have them mention different animals, name them and categorize them as dangerous or non-dangerous animals. Talk about their favourite animals. What do they look like and what do they eat?
- Have the children think about how animals are kept in zoos. Some animals are very dangerous and need to be separated in their own enclosures; others can be allowed to move around more freely, though still within designated areas. Why is this, and is it possible to keep animals enclosed and still provide them with good living conditions?
- Discuss with the children why visitors come to look at the animals, what they can learn, and in what way visitors can be kept safe while still providing the animals with good living conditions.



Use the illustration to support the Connect story

Construct

- Have the children create and build an animal park where the animals have good living conditions and the visitors can safely look at them.

Contemplate

- Consider how big the animal park should be and how it should be divided for the well-being of all the animals.
- Have the children make categories of animals and separate them in appropriate sections. Which animals belong together, which animals need a lot of space and why, which animals will thrive in little enclosures, and which need cages, e.g. birds?
- Have the children consider how best to create viewing possibilities for the visitors. Is it possible to build bridges across the different sections or would it be better to allow visitors to stand on the outer edge of the sections and watch from there? Have the children make sure that the viewing facilities are safe for visitors. Explore risk factors!

Continue

- At the zoo, caretakers need to move around in cars to provide food and care for the animals. Have the children design and build a vehicle that can carry food, but which also has space for carrying cleaning equipment.
- Visitors to zoos like to buy souvenirs to take home to remember what they experienced. Have the children build a small souvenir stand and decide what kind of souvenirs the stand should offer. Consider where the stand should be placed at the zoo.



