

Get Prepared

1. Discuss the purpose of the field trip, what they will be seeing and how it relates to what they are learning in class.
2. Introduce vocabulary words that will be used by docents during the tour.
 - a) Examples include: carnivore, omnivore, herbivore, canine teeth, binocular vision, family, genus, species, sub-species, prey, endangered, extinct, conservation, pride (family), cubs, litter, heat or estrus cycle, gestation, arboreal,
 - b) View pictures of the unique animals these larger cats eat like capybara, anaconda, Thompson's gazelle, water buffalo, roe deer, and tapir.
3. Assign students, or small groups of students, a cat species to research prior to the fieldtrip. There are 39 species of wild cats as of today, but it is recommended that you help the students select cat species that will be found at the Cat Haven. Students will participate in giving information on tour for the cats they studied.
 - a) Our cat selection varies, but you will usually be seeing lions, Bengal tigers, jaguars, Amur leopards, snow leopards, clouded leopards, cheetah, Eurasian lynx, Canada Lynx, Bobcat, Serval, Jaguarundi and Pallas Cat. Other good choices are Mountain lion and Fishing cat.
4. Review the Reminder Checklist and consider sending a copy home with the permission slip.
5. Discuss appropriate behavior for your fieldtrip (no yelling, no running, being respectful to the animals, ie., no hissing at them, no barking at them, etc.)