

# December Homeschool Day

## Inside:

- Carrying Capacity!
  - Ambassador Park Activity at the following times
    - 10:15am
    - 10:45am
    - 11:30am
    - 12:00pm
    - 12:30pm
    - 1:00pm
- Know Your Impact!
  - Self-Guided Activity
- Plastic Voyages!
  - Whitney Park Activity
- Animal Observation
  - Any Animal habitat



Our Animal ambassadors are going to help you learn about human impact on our environment. Remember, humans will always have an impact on the environment, but we can choose to make that impact a positive one!

# Carrying Capacity!

Record the number of each food type card you collected in each round. After all the rounds are over, multiply the number of each type of fish by the weight of the fish to see how many pounds of fish you ate in each round!

## Round One:

Anchovies: \_\_\_\_\_ anchovy cards x 0.5 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Squid: \_\_\_\_\_ squid cards x 1 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Herring: \_\_\_\_\_ herring cards x 2 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Total Pounds = \_\_\_\_\_

## Round Two:

Anchovies: \_\_\_\_\_ anchovy cards x 0.5 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Squid: \_\_\_\_\_ squid cards x 1 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Herring: \_\_\_\_\_ herring cards x 2 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Total Pounds = \_\_\_\_\_

## Round Three:

Did you have an impairment? \_\_\_\_\_

Anchovies: \_\_\_\_\_ anchovy cards x 0.5 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Squid: \_\_\_\_\_ squid cards x 1 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Herring: \_\_\_\_\_ herring cards x 2 = \_\_\_\_\_ pounds

Total Pounds = \_\_\_\_\_

Which round did you do the best in?

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What factor impacted your ability to catch fish the most?

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# Know Your Impact!

Answer each question by writing the corresponding number in the space provided.

1. How do you typically get around everyday?
  - a. Walk 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Bike 0 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Car 10,484 \_\_\_\_\_
2. Which form of energy do you use at home?
  - a. Natural 119.58 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Electric 5,455 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Fuel Oil 12,460 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Propane 2,243 \_\_\_\_\_
3. Carbon Emissions From Waste..
  - a. Average person 692 \_\_\_\_\_
4. If you recycle the following items..
  - a. Metal -89.38 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Plastic -35.56 \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Glass -25.39 \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Newspaper -113.14 \_\_\_\_\_
  - e. Magazines -27.46 \_\_\_\_\_
5. Do you leave your electronics plugged in?
  - a. Yes 143 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Sometimes 71.5 \_\_\_\_\_
6. Do you turn sleep mode on for Electronics?
  - a. Yes -107.1 \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Sometimes 53.55 \_\_\_\_\_
7. What is your total Impact?  
\_\_\_\_\_

Adapted from the EPA Assumptions



# Plastic Voyages!

The United States produces over 250 million tons of trash every year, and the amount continues to increase. Disposing of all that waste negatively affects wildlife. Although the production of cheap and disposable plastics has made life more convenient, it causes a great deal of concern regarding litter and quantity of waste. It is not surprising the 12 percent of waste produced each year in the U.S. (30 million tons) is plastic, and only 8 percent of plastic waste (2.4 million tons) is recycled; the rest (27.6 million tons) goes to landfills or into the environment.

Round	How many plastic pieces did you remove?	How many plastic pieces are still in the sand?
1		
2		

During either round, were you able to remove all 50 pieces of plastic?

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How does plastic end up in the ocean?

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How can plastic debris harm marine animals?

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Try to come up with a design that would remove all plastic from the ocean while still keeping marine life safe:

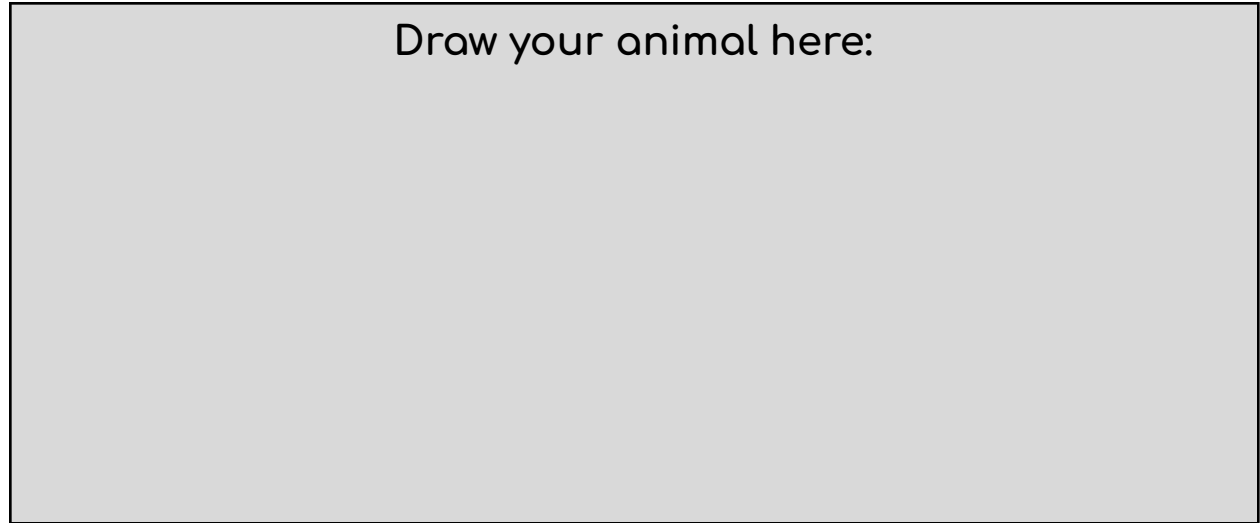


# Animal Observations

Choose one animal at Marineland on which to do a physical and behavioral observation. You may pick any animal you'd like, but you must stick with that individual, so be sure you've identified a distinguishing characteristic about it that will help you keep it in view, even if it lives with a group of other animals that look just like it.

Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Draw your animal here:



List 5 physical characteristics/adaptations (body shape, coloration, number of limbs, etc):

What do these adaptations help the animal do? (Avoid predators, catch prey, camouflage, etc)



Observe your animal's behavior for three minutes. Fill out the following behavioral observation chart. Put a tally mark next to the behavior every time you see it. If you see any behaviors other than the ones listed, please add them in the blank space provided:

Animal: \_\_\_\_\_

Behaviors Seen	Minute 1	Minute 2	Minute 3	Total Tallies
Eating				
Chasing				
Hiding				
Playing				
Breathing				
Sleeping				

What behavior did you see your animal do the most?

What kind of conclusions can you make from your observations? (Keep in mind that your three-minute observation does not represent a full day of the animal's life.)