

Animal Geography

Activity 1

At ZSL Whipsnade Zoo we have animals from all around the world.

Find out where the following animals are found in the wild.
Pinpoint that place on the world map.

Animal	Country where they are found in the wild	Capital of country	Distance from school (km)
Californian Sealion			
Ring-tailed lemur			
Sloth Bear			
Amur Tiger			

Now calculate the distance from your school to the capital of the countries the animals are found in and add it to the table.



Activity 2

ZSL zookeepers make sure that the animals they are looking after always have the correct temperature in their indoor enclosure (and sometimes in their outdoor enclosure; our cheetahs have heated rocks in their enclosure for those cold days at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo).

Compare the following animals and group them into cold or hot climates.

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo animal	Hot or Cold climate?
Cheetah	
Amur tiger	
Bactrian camel	
Egyptian tortoise	
Lynx	

Activity 3

ZSL scientists work around the world to protect animals and their habitats. Before the scientist goes out into the wild to do research, they learn about the country they are going to visit. The main things they try and find out about are:

- What language do they speak in the country?
- What is the largest city in that country?
- What other countries is it near?
- What is the largest river in the country?
- What is the nearest ocean to the country?
- Does the country have the same seasons as the UK? Are the seasons in the same months of the year as in the UK?
- Are there any dangers in that country? e.g. earthquakes

In groups, imagine you are heading off on a ZSL project. Decide on one country which ZSL works in (www.zsl.org/conservation/regions) and try and answer all the above questions. You can create a poster about the country that you are researching.