

A Day as a Keeper

Remember the things you observed throughout the day—
from cleaning, to feeding, to raking up hay.
Choose one animal that you saw at the zoo.

Write a list of the things you would do
if you had the chance to be a zookeeper
and care for this really cool creature.

Daily Routine

| Time | Task |
|------------|------|
| 8:00 a.m. | |
| 9:00 a.m. | |
| 10:00 a.m. | |
| 11:00 a.m. | |
| 12:00 p.m. | |
| 1:00 p.m. | |
| 2:00 p.m. | |
| 3:00 p.m. | |
| 4:00 p.m. | |

Remember to allow time
for feeding, cleaning,
training and your breaks.



KEEPER for a DAY



_____ 's Keeper Journal



Stop 1: Watani Grasslands

Make a list of what a zookeeper would need to do to keep this exhibit safe, clean and suitable for the African elephants. African elephants are the largest land mammals on Earth. If you were the keeper in charge of looking after the elephant, what could you do when you clean the enclosure to ensure your own safety and the safety of the animal?



Stop 6: Rocky Coast

Check the times for the daily seal/sea lion feeding; then, stop by to watch the keepers in action. Zookeepers train animals in their care so they may receive adequate exercise, health checks and medicines, establish trust in the event it becomes necessary to move the animal to another location, and for visitor presentations. List some examples of trained behaviors you see at the seal/sea lion feeding. What does the animal receive as a reward for completing the desired behavior?



Stop 5: Grizzly Bear

Keeping the animals stimulated and encouraging them to display natural behaviors is an important part of a keeper's day. Check out the grizzly bear exhibit. Draw or list the different things keepers have placed in the exhibit to help the grizzly bear stay active, e.g., logs.



Stop 2: Lions and Lemurs

Assisting in the design of animal exhibits is one of the responsibilities of zookeepers. The exhibits are designed to meet the needs of the animals, the zookeepers and the Zoo visitors. The keepers and design staff recreate the animal's natural habitat to ensure good quality of life. Observe the lion and lemur exhibits. List all the features that have been built to recreate the animals' natural habitats.



Stop 3: Kitera Forest

Zookeepers spend a lot of time observing the animals. They need to be aware of how each animal is behaving and be able to read any signs of illness, aggression, excitement or injury. Watch the chimpanzees for five minutes and draw or list all of the behaviors you see.



Stop 4: Forest Glade

Designing the best possible diet for Zoo animals is an important part of the zookeeper's role. Giving animals too much food or too little food can lead to unhealthy animals. The diet of the animal is determined based upon what it eats in the wild. In their natural habitat, western lowland gorillas are herbivores (plant-eaters). Stop by the gorilla exhibit at a scheduled feeding time (11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. daily). Draw pictures of the foods being fed to the gorillas.

