

Dear Educator:

Thank you for signing up for *Animal Nutrition 101*, a 60-minute program that gives students an opportunity to learn about and practice the techniques used by zoo keepers to ensure the animals in their care receive proper nutrition.

Animal Nutrition 101 will answer the following questions:

- Why is nutrition important to the health and welfare of zoo animals?
- What is a nutritionally complete diet?
- What factors impact whether an animal gets a nutritionally complete diet?
- What steps can be taken to ensure all animals get a nutritionally complete diet?
- What benefits come from zoo animals having a nutritionally complete diet?

The Oregon Zoo hopes that as a result of this program, students will be able to:

- Describe the basics of animal nutrition
- List at least three ways to ensure zoo animals are receiving a nutritionally complete diet.

In an effort to prepare students for their Zoo School program, please consider the following activities:

1. Show students one of these short videos about being a zoo keeper.
<https://kids.usa.gov/watch-videos/jobs/zoo-keepers/index.shtml>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JtNrDu7VHsA>
1. Show students this video about human and animal digestive systems:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=s06XzaKqELk&list=PLUQLU0mPLhGLahq7vDW_tUV7O5bBgZf3o

Continue the learning after we leave your classroom with the following enrichment activities:

2. Share in-depth information about what it takes to be a zoo keeper.
Zookeeping As a Career (American Association of Zoo Keepers)
<https://www.aazk.org/zoo-keeping-as-a-career/>
3. Stock your classroom with one or more books about zoo keeping as a career.
American Association of Zoo Keepers
<https://www.aazk.org/books-about-animal-careers/>