Dear Educator:

Thank you for signing up for *Adaptation Artistry*, a 60-minute program explores how animals are adapted to their habitat and the impact of habitat loss on their survival.

*Adaptation Artistry* will answer the following Essential and Guiding questions:

- What happens to animals when their environment changes?
  - How are animals adapted to live in their environment?
  - Why is protecting animals and their habitats important?
  - What actions can people take to help protect animals and their habitats?

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

- Define adaptation as a body feature or behavior that helps an organism survive, and differentiate between physical and behavioral adaptations.
- Identify what might happen to animals if their habitats are destroyed.
- Name two actions they and their families can take to help protect healthy ecosystems.
- Feel an increased appreciation for live animals.

The program is correlated to the following academic standards:

**Next Generation Science Standards:**
4-LS1-1. Construct an argument that plants and animals have internal and external structures that function to support survival, growth, behavior, and reproduction.

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

1. Take a virtual trip around the world to explore different habitats (e.g. desert, rainforest, and savannah) and the animals that live in each.
   *Habitats of the World* (Discovery Education)

2. Explore ways animals are adapted to their habitat by reading aloud the following books:
   - *Even An Octopus Needs a Home* (2011) by Irene Kelly

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

1. Assess what students have learned about animal adaptations through one of the following activities:
   - *Designer Animal* (Hot Chalks Lesson Plans) by Rachael Kerr
2. Protect local wildlife by organizing a service project to restore native habitats. A number of organizations are available to help you organize a project in your area:
   - Hillsboro Parks and Recreation – Works with teachers in the Hillsboro School District
   - Metro – Works with teachers throughout the Portland Metro area
     http://www.oregonmetro.gov/how-metro-works/volunteer-opportunities/group-volunteer-opportunities