

Dear Educator:

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

*Animal Training 101* will answer the following questions:

- Why is training important to the health and welfare of zoo animals?
  - What training technique is used and how does it work?
  - How is positive reinforcement applied to different species (including humans)?
  - What benefits come from training?

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

- Describe the basics of positive reinforcement
- List at least three benefits that come from training

***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>
2. 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/>

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

1. 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/>
2. Encourage students interested in becoming a zoo keeper to read more about the use of positive reinforcement in animal training.  
*Don't Shoot the Dog* (1984) by Karen Pryor