

Girl Scouts North Carolina Coastal Pines invites girls, families, and volunteers to stay involved while at home. We know that today's girl is ready to pivot on a moment's notice and is willing to embrace new ways to explore Girl Scouting. That's why we're promoting these options for engaging with us while you're at home today ... or any day!

STEM encourages Girl Scouts to look at the world around them with inquisitive eyes, experiment, push boundaries and learn as they go! Each Friday check out our activities, stories, and videos aimed at helping girls become better problem-solvers, critical thinkers, and inspirational leaders. Join the conversation online. **#OurGSNCCPCommunity**



Animals Among Us

Over seven million species of plants and animals live on planet earth. There are two types of animal categories Invertebrate (animals without backbones) and Vertebrate (animals with backbones).

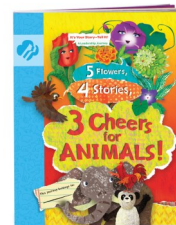
The most numerous by far are insects, totaling five million species. The rest of the invertebrate species add up to another 1.75 million animals. Besides insects, invertebrate animals include worms, centipedes and spiders. Many sea animals also belong to invertebrates, such as shellfish and crabs, sponges, coral, jellyfish and sea anemones.

Our Vertebrate Animals are the least numerous which are only about 80,000 species. These include mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians and fish. Mammals account for the fewest species totaling only 5,500.

In the following activities we will explore the world of animals. Along the way earning steps towards our 5 Flowers, 4 Stories, 3 Cheers for Animals Journey, Pets, Animal Habitat, Animal Helper, and Voices For Animal badges.

Daisy and Brownie

Have you ever held a fuzzy kitten and listened to them purr? Dreamed of going on a African Safari and seeing elephants, giraffes, lions, and Rhinoceros? Caring for animals is fun and a very important job. Do you have any pets you care for?



Now to begin our journey into the exciting world of animals. Juliette Gordan Low loved animals of every kind. One of her favorite pets was a parrot named Polly Poons. Just liked she cared for Polly Poons, We can learn to care for our animals friends.

[Click here to Watch this video on Pet Care Basics.](#)

[Click here to Print a fun Matching Game](#)

[Click here to learn how to make a fun origami animals](#)

[Brownies: Click her to learn how to muck out a horse stall](#)

Pets love to play. Make a toy for your pets.

[Watch this fun video on DIY toys for your furry friends.](#)



Daisy and Brownie Continued

We learned great ways to care for our animals. It's not so different than what we do or what mom and dad does to care for us. Make a list of all the ways mom and dad take care of you and how you take care of yourself. Lastly, can you think of ways you can share what you have learned with others.

Juniors

Imagine exploring the rainforest of Peru what would you find? Maybe an Amazon river dolphin, a jaguar, or even a Humboldt penguin. These animals live in the wild, so we don't spend time with them in their natural homes—their habitats. With the power of the internet we can still learn all about these amazing animals and how we can help them.

[Click here to watch this video on Wild Wolves](#)

- What behaviors are similar to our pet dogs we know and love?
- What is Different?
- Do you have any wild animals that live around your house?
- If so what kind? Do they ever interact with humans?



Just as you're careful around pets, be even more careful when observing wild animals— and never feed or approach them.

Now that you have made some observations let's have fun and go on a virtual trip to some Zoo across America.

[Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden](#) watch great video on animals at the zoo.

[The San Diego Zoo](#) observe baboons, penguins, pandas, giraffes and many more animals on Live Cam

[Monterey Bay Aquarium](#) observe the Aviary, coral reef, the open sea and more sea life.

While you virtual tour these great places see if you can find out the following:

- What country is the animal you're watching naturally found?
- How does its fur or skin help the animal live in this habitat?
- How does it stay clean?
- How does it get around its habitat?
- What kind of food can it find in this habitat?

We have explored so many great wildlife animals on our journey today. Now what can you do to help protect them? Animals become endangered everyday. Choose one of these two ideas to help you on your adventure.

- Ask mom or dad and create a backyard habitat, [Check out Audubon Society here](#) for some great ideas.
- Help clean up an animal habitat. Trash and litter are everywhere and many times they destroy animal habitats. Go out and get some fresh air and clean up your local, woods, stream, or city park.

Questions? programteam@nccoastalpines.org

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Cadette

Animals do so much for us. They provide food, clothing, transportation, and of course love and companionship. Did you know animals can be trained to help assist people with disabilities. Lets investigate the relationship between animals and humans as it pertains to helper animals.

[Click here to watch this video on training service dogs](#) then answer the follow questions.

- How are they trained?
- What characteristics does a medical service dog need?
- Why is it a poor decision to pet or play with service animals?
- What are the pros and cons of training assistance animals?

Now we know how animals help with physical disabilities. Did you know they can be trained to help with emotional needs too. Studies have shown that being around an animal can reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and make people feel happier. These animal are Therapy animals or emotional support animals. Watch the videos below and answer the questions.

[Click here to learn about Pet Therapy or Animal assisted Therapy](#)

[Click here to watch Pet therapy at Johns Hopkins](#)

- What kind of animals can be used in pet therapy?
- What kind of organizations help with pet therapy ?
- What effects does pet tharapy have on people?



Senior

Our relationship with animals plays such a big role in our lives. Unfortunately they can't talk so we need to be their voice .

"Recognize and respect Earth's beautiful system of balance, between the presence of animals on land, the fish in the sea, birds in the air, mankind, water, air, land. Most Importantly, there must always be awareness of the actions by people that can disturb this precious balance."

-Margaret Mead, Anthropologist

[Click here](#) to delve into what a day in the life a animal Humane society volunteer is like.

- What was there daily routine like?
- How many different people were needed to help the facility run?

Now compose you own pet's right document. Address some of the following issues.

Is it ok to declaw a cat? Or to use a shock collar on dogs? What guideline should be set for classroom pets, or family dogs. Look at your local pet park policies to help you.

[Click here for a sample.](#)

Senior Continued

Animals are used in science research in many places. Whether they are used in medical research or used for product research. The use of animals in research is a very controversial issue. Research and decide where you stand.

[Click here](#) to watch a video tour of Cedars-Sinai Medical center animal research hospital.

Look into the Animal welfare act.

- What year was the act created?
- What does the act govern?
- Have there been updates or changes since it was created?

Now choose a beauty product you may use. Create a visual time line with the following information

Find out how it was developed

Were animals used? If so how ?



Everyone

I hope you enjoyed our dive into the world of animals. By completing these activities today you have earned steps toward your animal badges.

Daisy = Earned sections in your 5 flowers, 4 stories, 3 cheers for animals

Brownie = Pets Badge Step 2 and Step 4

Juniors = Animal Habitats Step 1, Step 2, and Step 5

Cadette = Animal Helpers Step 3 and step 4

Seniors = Voice for Animals Step 1, and Step 2

For more fun exploring the world of animals check out the San Diego Zoo Kids Site. They have videos, games, activities and stories to enjoy.

[Click here](#) to go to the site.

Need a copy of a Journey, badge requirements or want to order patches? While our shops are closed, please feel free to [shop online](#) or [email](#) us for merchandise needs. We will provide free shipping within our council footprint on orders emailed to us (please provide phone number in

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