

## **School Programs – Types & Description**

The following is a brief description of the education programs currently available at the National Zoo & Aquarium. However, if there is another relevant topic you would like do not hesitate to contact us.

Tours generally run for 1 hour/60 students. Therefore for example, for 90 students we would suggest you book for 2 tours.

### *Importance of Biodiversity*

Students will discuss the definition and importance of biodiversity. What human impacts such as habitat destruction, pollution and introduced species have done to reduce the levels of biodiversity and how we as humans can play a major part in conserving the environment that we all live in. A small example of the Earth's diverse biodiversity will be showcased and students will gain a greater respect for them by observing, handling and feeding these amazing animals.

### *Animal Adaptation*

Students will examine the different ways in which animals adapt to both a natural and captive environment. These may be physical or behavioural changes and are evident in the animals we have at the zoo. Students will learn through observation, group discussion and interacting with some of the animals we have here at the zoo.

### *Classification*

Students are introduced to simple classification terms and a brief explanation of how animals are classified. Students will meet several members of the reptile family plus two members of the big cat family.

### *Native Animals 1*

This tour takes a close up look at our native inhabitants at the National Zoo & Aquarium. Tours can involve hand feeding emus, patting a dingo or snake/lizard or watching a shark feed. By the end of the tour students will have learnt the names and facts about lots of Australian Animals, their importance and how we can look after them.

### *Native Animals 2: AWESOME AUSSIE ANIMALS*

This tour is specifically designed for preschool aged children. Walking from one end of the zoo can be challenging for little legs, so we bring the animals to the children. This tour focuses on the uniqueness of Australian animals. The children will learn just how small a baby kangaroo is when it is born and how the mother takes care of such a small baby. In the course of this 'hands on' tour, each child will meet and feed some friendly animals.

### *How do animals learn?*

Just how does a tiger cub learn to hunt and why doesn't a baby turtle need its mother? Students will explore these and other questions about how animals learn. Tours may include giving food puzzles to some of the animals to observe the way they have learnt to solve them and thus receive the food reward.

### *Marine*

This 'hands -on program introduces students to animals that live in our oceans. Students can enjoy and learn from watching a shark or barramundi feed and observing many of the amazing and interesting animals that live in the oceans of the world. There will be strong emphasis placed on the importance and uses of the oceans and their continual need to conserve them.

### *Habitats*

Why can't a giraffe live in the jungle? Students will explore these and other questions and meet animals that live in various different habitats. Students will also learn what they can do to help protect our animal's habitats.