



## **Key Stage 0 (Early Years Foundation Stage)**

### **Introductory Sheet**

There has in the past been some controversy about this learning stage and its usefulness. There is however a lot at Wingham Wildlife Park for children aged 3 to 5 years to learn. We have large numbers of pre-schools, kindergarten groups and nursery schools who bring groups of children to the park, and as such felt that the option of a Key Stage 0 education pack is worth investing our time in.

Children at this stage may require extra help from their teachers to work through, by giving further instruction.

The majority of tasks in this pack are based around observation, illustration and finding information using the interactive flip up signs around the park. These are skills which will be developing in children of these ages, and will help the children get a fuller experience from their trip. We aim to use these packs to help you guide your students around all areas of the park giving them a chance to see animals from all taxon's of animal life, and showing them how they fit in around themselves in life. The main aims of this question sheet is not to try and question what the children know but more to help them find their way around the park, ensuring that they see as many species as possible, while encouraging them to take a closer look at the species on offer and taking time to appreciate them.

Even for children who have not yet developed their skills of reading and writing well, there are a number of activities for them to carry out at the park using this activity pack. Such activities are designed to get the students involved with the animals around the park while having fun by interacting with them or imitating some of their typical behaviours. These activities in particular may need explaining to children. To ensure that teachers and helpers do not need to carry too much excess paperwork, all explanations for behavioural imitation etc. are given in the question text, giving teachers a chance to explain the activity to the children.

To help them find more enjoyment from the pack and to keep them interested they will be guided through some of the activities by Troy and Blade our 2 Tigers. We have chosen these 2 animals because having them at the park may encourage them to connect with the real life animals we have on the premises. This is however not the only way in which we have tried to make the activity sheet a little more engaging and interesting for younger children. The most effective way to make use of this, and to ensure that your children get the most fun and excitement out of the activities it is advised to print these sheets in full colour where possible. We have used a variety of very bright colours to breathe life in to sheets of paper.

*Many thanks*

*Wingham Wildlife Park*