Roar & Explore

Thank you!

Thank you for downloading and using this Phoenix Zoo field trip resource! We hope it helps make your visit engaging, meaningful and memorable for your students. After your field trip, you'll recieve a follow-up email from our team with a short feedback survey. Your suggestions help us improve these resources and create even better experiences for future students and teachers.

Teacher Guide

Grades: PreK – 2

Overview:

Roar & Explore is a playful, picture-based scavenger hunt that encourages young learners to observe dinosaurs, move like prehistoric animals and count what they discover throughout the Dinosaurs in the Desert exhibit. Students practice observation, communication, movement and early math skills while exploring like young paleontologists.

Objectives:

Students will:

- Observe and identify dinosaur features.
- Compare similarities and differences among dinosaurs.
- Practice counting and classifying.
- Build observation and language skills through conversation.
- Explore the exhibit through movement and imaginative play.

Arizona State Science Standards Alignment:

This activity supports the Arizona Science Standards through observation, comparison, classification, communication, and pattern recognition. Example alignments include:

- K.L1U1.6 – Organism body parts for survival.
- K.L1U1.7 – Specialized structures and their functions.
- 1.L4.U1.10 – Classifying organisms by similarities.
- 2.L2U1.9 – How organisms obtain energy.

Before entering the exhibit:

- Give each student a pencil, scavenger hunt and a clipboard or similar.
- Explain that they are becoming dinosaur explorers.
- Encourage students to look carefully and use their eyes before answering.
- Remind students that they do not have to finish every challenge. The goal is to explore, observe and have fun.

While in the exhibit:

Allow student groups to move through the exhibit at their own pace. Encourage parents, chaperones and classmates to talk about what they notice. Young learners build observation and language skills by describing, comparing and asking questions together.

Encourage learners to:

- Find dinosaurs with different features.
- Act out dinosaur movements.
- Count what they discover.
- Talk with a partner, teacher, parent or chaperone about their observations.
- Celebrate each challenge they complete.

Prompt extended learning by asking questions such as:

- What do you notice?
- What do you wonder about that dinosaur?
- Which dinosaur is your favorite?
- How are these dinosaurs different or similar?

After your visit:

Invite students to share when you return to the classroom. Celebrate everyone's accomplishment as an official dino explorer!

phoenix zoo
ARIZONA CENTER for NATURE CONSERVATION

WELCOME, EXPLORERS!

Get ready to discover amazing dinosaurs at the Phoenix Zoo!

Complete these fun challenges and adventures as you explore the Dinosaurs in the Desert exhibit.

When you finish, celebrate with a big dinosaur ROAR!

FIND IT! Can you find a dinosaur that...

- ☐ Has a long neck?



- ☐ Has horns?



- ☐ Has big teeth?



- ☐ Is very small?



- ☐ Has spikes or plates?



- ☐ Was discovered in Arizona?



- ☐ Can fly?



- ☐ Is Arizona's state dinosaur?



TALK TOGETHER

Which do you wish was real/alive or came to life?

MOVE LIKE IT!

Find the dinosaur, then move like it.
Have fun and show us your best moves!



Stretch your neck up high!



Roar like a T. Rex!



Flap your wings like a Pterosaur!



Stomp like a heavy dino!



Sneak quietly like a hunting dino!



Pretend to eat plants!



Swing your tail like Ankylosaurus!

TALK TOGETHER

Which dinosaur was the silliest to act out?



COUNT IT!

How many can you find?

..... How many meat eaters?

..... How many plant eaters?

..... How many flying reptiles?

..... How many dinosaurs have horns?

..... How many footprints can you find?

..... How many dinos walk on four legs?

..... How many dinos walk on two legs?

..... How many were discovered in Arizona?

TALK TOGETHER

Which dinosaur was your favorite? Why?

I DID IT!



I found dinosaurs.



I moved like a dinosaur.



I counted dinosaurs.

I'M A DINO EXPLORER!

My favorite dinosaur was ..... because .....

.....