



Rainforests

(mid elem. to jr. high) Learn about the global importance of the rainforests and the dangers facing them. This box contains a video, biofacts, artifacts, plus a book and teacher's guide.

Reptiles

(mid elem. to jr. high) Take an in-depth look at reptiles and their special survival adaptations. You'll find slides, biofacts and books in this kit.

Rulers of the Sky

(jr. high to adult) General biology and identification of Great Lakes birds of prey is presented, emphasizing adaptations and habitat relationships. Beautiful biofacts include study mounts and wings; also a slide show, books, silhouettes, and a teacher's guide.

Spiders

(elem.) From the "Itsy-Bitsy" to the one that frightened Miss Muffet, spiders fascinate us even if we fear them. Biofacts, books, activities and more will bring a greater appreciation of these amazing creatures!



Tigers

(mid elem. to adult) We've supplemented the outstanding National Geographic educational kit, "Habitats: Realm of the Tiger". Learn about biomes, habitats, adaptations, populations, life cycles, conservation, and more.

Wild Cats

(mid elem. to jr. high) Discover the dangers these beautiful animals face. Excellent case study of an endangered species, the snow leopard, is included. This kit contains a slide show and tape, biofacts and magazine articles.

Wetlands

(upper elem. to jr. high) Use learning stations, hands-on experiments and videos to guide students to a greater understanding of this vital habitat. Tie in with a Michigan unit, or when discussing local habitat destruction and its consequences. Contains biofacts, videos, field guides and student experiment guides.

Winter

(elem.) How do animals cope with winter's cold and snow? Find out by examining different survival adaptations and behaviors through biofacts, slide shows, books and a teacher's guide.

Wolves

(upper elem. to jr. high) The social structure of wolves and their value as predators is revealed by the taped account of a researcher's field work. Immerse students into the world of wolves with activities, biofacts, books, and life-size wolf, coyote & fox silhouettes.

These boxes are part of our updated Discovery Box Library



Discovery Boxes

Teaching Kits with WILD Appeal!

Discovery Boxes are exciting, inspiring, but simple ways to bring a bit of John Ball Zoo into your classroom! These teaching kits are loaded with ideas and items to supplement and enhance your instruction. Inside you will find a variety of valuable "tools" for meeting your curriculum needs. Teacher Guides, lesson plans, games, audio-visual materials, books and/or magazine articles, manipulatives—especially animal biofacts (animal artifacts), are just a few of the possibilities!

Discovery Boxes are available for a two-week rental period, and require a \$25 refundable deposit plus a \$10 rental fee. Rentals can be extended for an additional \$5 per week.

Call **336-4310** for reservations or more information. Reserved Boxes may be picked up at the Zoo's Administration Office, 8 AM to 5 PM, Monday through Friday.

Browse through this brochure for a brief overview of the many topics available from John Ball Zoo's Discovery Box Library. Each box description includes a suggested range of grade levels, but many boxes offer materials that can be easily adapted to other levels.

Reserve a John Ball Zoo Discovery Box and open your classroom to a whole new adventure in learning!



Call 336-4310

Only \$10 per two-week rental, with refundable deposit

Discovery Boxes

Amphibians (elem.)

Lead your class on an interactive exploration of slippery amphibians, from classifying and basic biology, to life cycles and needs. You'll find biofacts, models, books and more.

Backyard/Urban Animal

(elem.) Learn about local animals and habitats, plus basic classification, adaptations, animal signs, and human impact on the natural environment.

Bats (mid to upper elem.)

Bats are among the most numerous mammals in the world, yet poorly understood. From pollinating plants to consuming vast amounts of insects, they are vital to maintaining a healthy ecosystem. A video allows you to explore the nocturnal world of the bat and see the wide variety of these flying mammals. Excellent basis for discussing endangered species, adaptation, and ecosystems.

Bird Adaptations

(mid to upper elem.) Bird Adaptations are explored by studying bird beaks and feet. A slide show illustrates how birds are matched by adaptations to their environment. Beaks are compared to common kitchen utensils, revealing how each works.

Birds, Birds, Birds (elem.)

What is a bird? Students have the opportunity to learn about birds by handling a variety of feathers, eggs, and nests. A slide show explains different ways in which birds eat.

Bird Identification

(mid to upper elem.) This box helps teach about native birds common to the eastern forests of the United States (including Michigan). Nests and eggs of U.S. birds are included. Feathers from birds around the world help compare and contrast with those of native birds.

Birds of Prey (Raptors)

(mid. elem. to jr. high) From the little kestrel to the great eagles, birds of prey have been admired for their strength and beauty. This box allows the student to investigate the raptor world using biofacts, books, and life-size felt silhouettes of birds of prey in flight.

Classification (elem.)

An introduction to the vertebrate animals, this box teaches children to distinguish fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds and mammals. (Even more effective when combined with a zoo trip!) A slide show, animal biofacts and a self guided tour included.

Connections (Ecosystems)

(mid elem. to jr. high) It's the Web of Life! Investigate animal needs, relationships and interactions, energy flow, food chains, bio-diversity, and interdependency in ecosystems.

Eggs (pre-K to mid elem.)

Chickens aren't the only ones to lay eggs! The wide variety of eggs laid by animals ranging from snakes to birds are explored. Different kinds of eggs are included for the students to see up close.



Endangered Species

(mid to upper elem.) The major causes of extinction are presented and explained. Students are encouraged to examine their daily practices to gauge their impact on the world and its wildlife. Possible solutions are offered with a call to action.

Fish (elem.)

Discover the fascinating world of fish. Learn about these vertebrates through biofacts and other great teaching tools.

Forests (Michigan)

(upper elem. to jr. high) This box examines many types of forests and their importance as habitats and renewable resources. Animal and plant biofacts, slide show, books and field guides included.

Insects (elem.)

This box explores the great numbers and variety of insects, and their place in the ecosystem. Plan your insect unit with the help of our biofacts, books and teacher's guide.

Kinder-Kits (Preschool-K)

Open eyes, ears and minds to nature and the world of animals using fun manipulatives, multi-sensory exploration, literature, creative play, and more! Choose from two different Kinder-Kits, or try both!

Life Cycles (elem.)

Examine life, needs, growth, parents & young, metamorphosis, and more for many different animals. This kit is a wonderful tool for helping meet your Michigan Life Science Standards.

Mammals

(low to mid elem.) Children take a closer look at mammals and some of their basic characteristics. Books, biofacts and activities are included.



Oceans (lower elem.)

Oceans cover most of the earth's surface, yet we know so little about them. Children are introduced to this exciting world with biofacts, books and activities.

Owls (elem.)

This box contains a variety of materials with many instructional options. Explore these special creatures with storybooks, life-size silhouettes, a dissected owl pellet, feathers and even an owl wing.

Penguins (mid elem. to jr. high)

Not all penguins live on the ice, and they are never hunted by polar bears. This box explores the life and habitats of penguins. Feathers, skulls, an egg, a video, books and a teacher's guide are included.

Ponds (low to mid elem.)

The richness and diversity of pond habitats is presented. Food webs and ecosystem concepts are introduced using biofacts, books, a teacher's guide and videos.

Predator/Prey (mid to upper elem.)

The very important predator/prey relationship is examined with emphasis on animal adaptations. Skulls and audiovisual material are included. Combine your study with a zoo trip for extra impact!

