

TAMPA'S LOWRY PARK ZOO

ZOMINATIONS

A CHINESE LANTERN FESTIVAL
NOW - MAY 31, 2015



Tampa Bay
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Activities and crafts inside for parents and children!



Endangered, threatened and vulnerable species

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, endangered species are species that have become so rare that they are in danger of becoming extinct, while threatened species are likely to become endangered within the near future. Animals most at risk of becoming extinct are classified as critically endangered.

Species become extinct because of changes to their environment. These changes can be caused by nature – for example, scientists believe that the dinosaurs became extinct as a result of a huge asteroid colliding with the earth – or by the actions of people.

Southeast Asia is home to some of the planet’s most endangered wild species. Urgent conservation actions are needed to support these species.

Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo participates in 90 Species Survival Plans (SSPs) to help maintain healthy and self-sustaining captive populations. The zoo’s global conservation initiatives have been successful in the rescue, rehabilitation, release, research and protection of many species.

Here is the conservation status of some of the zoo’s animals:

<i>Animal</i>	<i>Conservation status</i>	<i>Population trend</i>
Gharial	Critically endangered	Decreasing
Malayan tiger	Endangered	Decreasing
Sloth bear	Vulnerable	Decreasing
Clouded leopard	Vulnerable	Decreasing
Greater one-horned rhino	Vulnerable	Increasing

From the desk of the director:

Asia and the Pacific Islands are home to a remarkable variety of animal life. China, Indonesia, India and Malaysia together account for more than half of the variety of all animal species on Earth. Indonesia alone has more species of birds and plants than the African continent, and China and Indonesia together have the greatest number of species found nowhere else on our planet. The tremendous numbers of unique species in Asia are spread across vast mainland areas and are also isolated on tens of thousands of islands.

People are also part of the picture. More than 4.4 billion people – about 60 percent of the planet’s human population – live in Asia, the earth’s largest continent. This spring, Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo will focus attention on China, the largest country in Asia, with *Zoominations – A Chinese Lantern Festival*, open evenings through May 31. The festival, celebrating rich traditions that span thousands of years and assembled by craftsmen from Zigong in southwestern China’s Sichuan Province, is on a scale never before seen in Florida. The three-month-long, after-hours event aims to raise essential operating support for Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo.

Around the world and close to home, Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo is committed to saving animals from extinction, caring for animals at the zoo and providing the Tampa Bay community enjoyable ways to connect with wildlife that are as affordable as they are meaningful.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Craig Pugh
Craig Pugh, CEO
Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo

GOING BEYOND THE TEXT

Think about it

More than half of the variety of all animal species on Earth live in just four countries in Asia: China, Indonesia, India and Malaysia. Not only are there a lot of animals, but there are many different species. Choose five countries in Asia and make a chart listing all of the animal species you find in those countries. Use the map on this page as your guide. With a partner, research the animals that live in these countries. You can use an encyclopedia or atlas to help you. List on your chart all of the animal species you can find. Then you and your partner will select two of your favorite to create a trading card for each of these species. Use the following as a model for your trading card: readwritethink.org/classroom-resources/student-interactives/trading-card-creator-30056.html. Share what you have learned with your class.

TAMPA'S LOWRY PARK ZOO
ZOOMINATIONS
 A CHINESE LANTERN FESTIVAL

Zoominations — A Chinese Lantern Festival

is a three-month special exhibition that covers 26 acres of Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo and features spectacular, larger-than-life illuminated lanterns representing traditional Chinese dragons, folklore and zoo animals.

Thirty lantern displays have been constructed by highly-skilled craftsmen from the village of Zigong in China's Sichuan Province. The ancient art of lantern making requires years of study.

One of the largest displays is a replica of the Manfeilong Pagoda. Also known as the White Pagoda or Bamboo Shoot Pagoda, the original is a nearly 1,000-year-old landmark in the Yunnan Province of China. The *Zoominations* display is nearly as tall as the original, at 16 meters, or 60 feet. Craftsmen assembled the Pagoda from 68,000 pieces of traditional blue-and-white porcelain, each carefully applied by hand.

Zoominations also features performances by Chinese acrobats and an artisan market with unique handmade crafts.

Visit TampaLanternFest.org for more details about *Zoominations*. Connect with *Zoominations* on Facebook at facebook.com/Zoominations.



History of the Lantern Festival

In China, the Lantern Festival is held on the last day of the Chinese New Year celebration, or Spring Festival, which lasts 15 days. It is one of the country's most important traditional festivals, tracing back to the Han Dynasty more than 2,000 years ago.

Chinese people celebrate the Spring Festival in a variety of ways, including with elaborate family feasts and firecrackers. Because it symbolizes happiness, success and good luck, the color red is everywhere during

the festival. It is typical to see red envelopes filled with money or good luck wishes written on red paper scrolls. But red is not the only color seen.

During the festival, colorful lanterns are displayed in streets, homes, stores and parks as a vivid demonstration of traditional Chinese folklore.

It is common for Chinese people to return to their hometowns for Spring Festival. Millions of Chinese return home every year to celebrate this important holiday with their families.

Sources: BBC News, China Daily, Encyclopaedia Britannica, Smithsonian Institution



ACTIVITY



Focusing on tradition

According to the Merriam-Webster online dictionary, a tradition is "an inherited, established or customary pattern of thought, action or behavior (as a religious practice or a social custom)." Traditions can include

eating certain foods during celebrations, such as cake and ice cream on a person's birthday, or practicing rituals, such as lighting candles at the beginning of a holiday celebration. What are some of the traditions you practice with your family or friends at school and at home? Make a list of all of the traditions you can think of, and then share them with your class. Write a short story based on some of the items on your list.



Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo's Asian Gardens habitat area features animals native to Asia.

Gharial

Gharials are one of the largest of the crocodylian species. Crocodylians include animals such as alligators, crocodiles and caimans.

Gharials are easy to identify because of their long, narrow snout. Their legs are adapted for swimming and are very weak. In fact, adult gharials are unable to lift their bodies off the ground. Another trait that is hard to miss is the bulbous growth on the snout of the males. This can produce a loud buzzing noise, which may help them attract a mate.

Gharials are found on the continent of Asia. They used to be found in Burma, Myanmar, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Bhutan, but today they are only found in small pockets in India and



Nepal. Gharials are critically endangered. It is estimated that fewer than 200 mature adults are left in the wild. There are multiple factors affecting gharial populations, including poaching, habitat loss and pollution. In addition, waterways are being disturbed and overfishing is removing their food sources.

There are three gharials at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo: one male and two females. You can find them basking in the sun in their exhibit with the tufted deer in the Asian Gardens.



The Indian rhinoceros, also known as the greater one-horned rhinoceros, is the largest of the Asian rhinoceros species. This animal can weigh up to 6,000 pounds. The Indian rhinoceros has only one horn, compared to the two horns seen in most rhinoceros species. The horn is made of keratin, just like our hair and nails, and can grow up to 24 inches long.

Rhinoceroses' skin is a brownish-gray color with many folds and lumps. This makes them look as though they are covered in armor. All those folds make a perfect environment for parasites and little bugs. Different birds, including

egrets and myna birds, will ride along on the Indian rhinoceros' back and feed on the parasites.

As tough as the Indian rhinoceros looks, it's actually an herbivore. It spends the day swimming and wading in water and the evening grazing on plant materials. Indian rhinoceroses usually live alone, except for mothers and calves. Solitary males have a unique way of marking their territory – with three-foot-tall dung piles!

As their name suggests, Indian rhinoceroses are found in India and Nepal. In the early 1900s, there were only 20 Indian rhinoceroses living in the wild. Since strict laws protecting this species were put in place, the population has increased to around 3,000. While this is good news, Indian rhinoceroses are still threatened by poaching and habitat loss.

There are two Indian rhinoceroses at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo: Jaime, an adult female, and her juvenile offspring, JiYu.

Indian rhinoceros



Sloth bear



The sloth bear is unique among bears because its main source of food is insects such as termites and ants. The bear uses its powerful claws to tear open a termite mound or rotten log. Then it sticks its muzzle into the mound or log to slurp up the delicious insects. Sloth bears don't have top incisors, which allows them to purse their lips and use their muzzle almost like a straw or a vacuum. They can close their nostrils so they don't inhale any dirt or dust. Sloth bears also eat honey, fruit

and carrion, or dead animals. Sloth bears are covered in shaggy dark fur with a cream-colored U or Y on their chests. This shaggy fur protects them from stinging insects such as ants or bees as they eat.

As the sloth bears' habitat decreases, they are often brought into conflict with humans. The main threats to the bears' survival are habitat loss and poaching. Land that has been converted for lumber or agriculture takes away part of the bears' natural range, and remaining sloth bear populations live mainly in fragmented protected areas in parts of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

There are two subspecies of sloth bear: the Indian sloth bear and the Sri Lankan sloth bear. Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo has two Sri Lankan sloth bears: Annie, a female, and Ken, a male.



Learning with the *Times* Habitat protection

Many of the habitats of the animals in Asia are being threatened or destroyed due to development, poaching or man-made pollution. If you were a scientist in charge of restoring these habitats, what actions would you take? Keep in mind that food, water, shelter and space are essential parts of a habitat. What would you do to limit pollution? How could you reduce man's interaction in these habitats? How would you ensure that food and water would be available? What would you include in this habitat? Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for ideas about what to include and what to eliminate. Create a 3-D visual representation of your habitat and write out a description of all the things that will be included and excluded. Create a full-page ad promoting your new habitat. Use the ads in the *Times* as your models. Be creative. Share your report, ad and visual representation with your class.

Clouded leopard



The clouded leopard gets its name from the beautiful, black cloud-like patterns on its tawny fur. It has a bushy tail with black rings that is about the same length as its entire body.

The clouded leopard is arboreal, meaning that it spends its time in the trees throughout the forests in Asia. It is highly adapted for climbing, with short legs, large paws and a low center of

gravity. The ankles on a clouded leopard's hind feet are unusually flexible and can rotate outward to allow it to shimmy down branches and even hang upside down from its back legs.

Clouded leopards possess the largest canines in relation to their overall size of any cat, and are thought to be closely related to the now-extinct saber-toothed cat of North America.

Clouded leopards are found throughout Southeastern Asia. They are affected by habitat destruction, poaching and the illegal pet trade. They are classified as vulnerable because they are dependent on forest habitat, and the area they live in has the highest rate of deforestation in the world.

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo has two clouded leopards: Yim, a male, and Malee, a female.



THE DRAGON IN CHINESE CULTURE

In Chinese culture, dragons are mythological creatures made up of parts of all different types of animals. Unlike European dragons, which are often thought of as evil, Chinese dragons are seen as good.

In Chinese history, the dragon was the symbol of the emperor of China. The emperor was thought to have dragon blood in his veins, and one of his titles was “the True Dragon.” Only the royal dragon was allowed to be shown with five claws – all others had only three or four. It was a crime punishable by death for anyone but the emperor to possess a dragon with five claws.

Chinese dragons are thought to bring good luck, fortune and wisdom. They are often pictured holding a beautiful orb called the “Pearl of Wisdom.” To summon this good luck and fortune, the people of China traditionally perform a dance called the dragon dance.

The Chinese dragon is a myth, but the animals that make up the dragon on these pages are real.

Sources: Encyclopaedia Britannica, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, primarysource.org, sacred-texts.com, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo

What are the real-life animals Chinese dragon? Let's find out!

Reeve's muntjac

The Chinese dragon has antlers on the top of its head, just like an Asian deer called the Reeve's muntjac. This tiny deer is only about 16-19 inches long. The muntjac is an herbivore, which means it eats plants, such as grasses and leaves.

This animal has an unusual forehead, with scent glands that produce a smelly substance when rubbed up against objects like rocks and trees. Muntjacs use their scent glands to mark their territory.

The muntjac is threatened by habitat loss. A habitat is the place

where an animal lives. Habitat loss is happening worldwide as people clear land to plant crops, build homes or find natural resources such as wood or minerals. People and wildlife both depend on the land for food and homes. It is important to preserve natural habitats for animals such as the Reeve's muntjac.

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo has three Reeve's muntjacs: two females, named Harriet and Amelia, and one male named Teagan.



THE BARKING DEER

The Reeve's muntjac is nicknamed the “barking deer” because it makes a deep barking sound when it is scared. You can hear the Reeve's muntjac “barking” at downloads.bbc.co.uk/earth/naturelibrary/assets/r/re/reevess_muntjac/5040131.mp3.

Lionfish

When you look at the body of the Chinese dragon, you can see the scales of a fish. One type of fish that you can find in China is the lionfish. Lionfish are native to the oceans surrounding China all the way down to Australia. They live in saltwater areas such as lagoons and coral reefs.

Lionfish get their name from how they hunt. They stalk their prey just like a lion. A unique feature of the lionfish is the venomous spines on its fins. The spines can be used as protection from predators or to help them with hunting.

In the United States, lionfish are an invasive species. Invasive species are exactly what they sound like. They are invasive because they are living somewhere they don't belong. Invasive species are not harmful in their native habitat,

but can cause problems when they live in other places.

Often, invasive species do not have natural predators in their new homes. When there aren't any predators, the number of animals can increase quickly, crowding out native species and competing for their food.

Not only do lionfish have large appetites, they also lay a very large number of eggs – between 2,000 and 15,000 at a time! This means that lionfish spread to new areas very quickly.

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo's lionfish are part of a special exhibit about invasive species in Florida.



TAKE ACTION

Lionfish were first reported off Florida's Atlantic coast in 1985 and have been spotted in Tampa Bay. If you see a lionfish, you should report it to the Florida Wildlife Conservation Commission. You can report your lionfish sighting online at [fishing/saltwater/recreational/lionfish/report](https://www.floridawildlife.com/fishing/saltwater/recreational/lionfish/report) or download the FWC's Report Florida Lionfish app.

that make up the mythological



Did you know that there is a real-life dragon that exists today?

The Komodo dragon lives off the southeast coast of Asia in Indonesia. While it doesn't breathe fire or fly, it is the largest living lizard in the world. It can grow up to 10 feet long.

There are two Komodo dragons at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo: Titus, a male, and Aanjay, a female.



Malayan tiger

Those large paws you see on the Chinese dragon couldn't come from any animal other than a tiger! Tigers are the largest of the cat species. Their roar can be heard more than 2 miles away.

One of the most recognizable features on a tiger is the stripes. Each tiger's stripes are unique, just like our fingerprints. Not only is a tiger's fur striped, so is its skin.

Tigers are very agile and, unlike other cats, they are great swimmers. They are also fast runners, reaching speeds up to 60 miles per hour. Tigers, like most cats, sleep between 16 and 18 hours each day.

All living tiger subspecies are endangered. Three

subspecies have gone extinct in the last 70 years: the Balinese, Caspian and Javan. Poaching and habitat loss are the main threats to tigers.

Poaching is the illegal hunting or collecting of animals and plants. People often poach animals for their parts, such as fur, horns or tusks.

While poaching is illegal in most countries, it still happens because people can sell their illegal items for a lot of money. Often, there are very few game wardens to patrol very large areas of land. This makes stopping the poaching very difficult.

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo's Malayan tiger, a female, is named Bzui.



GET INVOLVED

The United States is the second-largest importer of illegal animal artifacts. Next time you buy a souvenir, make sure you know what it is made of. Avoid animal products that may have been obtained illegally. If there is no demand for these goods, people will stop poaching.

NATIVE AND INVASIVE SPECIES

Native species are those naturally found in a habitat with no human intervention.

Nonnative species are those that have been introduced outside of their native area, either intentionally or by accident.

Invasive species are those that are able to spread into and dominate an area due to a lack of natural predators and disease. Invasive species can cause ecological damage and harm native ecosystems.



Learning with the Times Learning new words

There are so many cool words on these pages – endangered, habitat, mythological. What do they mean? How can you figure out what they mean using the context clues within the sentences? When you study new things, you often come up against some tough vocabulary words. While you read this publication, be sure to highlight or circle all of the words you don't know. Try to figure out the words' meanings by looking for clues in the sentences around them. Write down your best guess, and then look up the words in a dictionary. As a group activity, make a list of the words your classmates identified and see which ones stumped the class. Next, use these words for a news scavenger hunt. See if you can find these words in the *Tampa Bay Times*. The group that finds the most words wins the game.



VOCABULARY

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EXTINCT

HABITAT

HERBIVORE

LAGOON

MYTHOLOGICAL

NATIVE

ORB

POACHING

PREDATORS

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The art of writing

Chinese characters are one of the oldest forms of written language in the world. In fact, “modern” Chinese writing is almost 2,000 years old. Today, one-fourth of the world’s population uses Chinese characters.

In English, the written and spoken language correspond. This is not true of Chinese. The official spoken language in China is Mandarin, but there are many other languages and dialects spoken

throughout the nation. The spoken varieties of Chinese are as different from each other as French, Spanish and Greek, but they can all be written using the same system of writing.

Sources: Asia Society; Brown University; Columbia University East Asian Curriculum Project; *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Stanford Program on International and Cross-Cultural Education, UShistory.org



The Chinese word for dragon is **lóng**.
Learn to write the Chinese character **lóng**:



Learning with the Times The art of communication

Sometimes the tools of communication become works of art themselves, such as a tapestry

or gilded book. Oftentimes, the elaborate and expensive decoration serves to emphasize the fact that only the upper classes in society would have been educated and literate enough to own and use such objects. That is not the case in our culture today, where we are surrounded by information. Look for examples of pictures and words in the *Tampa Bay Times*. A great place to find symbols in the newspaper is on the weather page. Working in groups of two to four, create symbols for several concrete concepts. Share one of your symbols with the class and see if the other students can guess its meaning. Next, create a symbol for several abstract concepts. Share one of your characters with your classmates and see if they can guess its meaning. Which was the hardest word to represent and identify? Why? Were you successful in communicating? How did this affect the way you were able to communicate? What are some other ways that we communicate an idea?

Step 1: Left top

This part of the character for dragon has five strokes, or lines.

First, draw a short line that goes straight down.

Next, draw a horizontal line underneath the vertical line. This line should be longer than the vertical line.

Next, draw two diagonal lines below the horizontal line. The first should start from the left end of the horizontal line toward the middle, and the second from the right end of the horizontal line toward the middle.

Finally, draw another horizontal line under the two diagonal lines.



Step 2: Left bottom

The bottom left part of the character has four strokes. Draw these lines right underneath the first five that you drew.

First, draw a vertical line.

Next, starting from the top of the line you just drew, draw a short horizontal line to the right. Then, keeping your pen on the paper, go down vertically until you reach the same spot as the bottom of your first vertical line (this should look something like an upside-down “U”). The most important part of this stroke is that at the very end you will add a short diagonal line, up and to the left (as if you are making a check mark).

Last, draw two horizontal lines inside of what you have drawn here.



Step 3: Right top

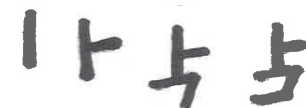
The top right part of the character has four strokes. Draw these lines next to the top left strokes.

First, draw a vertical line.

Next, starting a little bit below the top of the vertical line that you just made, draw a horizontal line to the right.

Next, draw a horizontal line at the bottom of your vertical line, like an upside-down “T.” At the end of that, keep your pencil down and draw another vertical line down. This line should end at the same level as the last stroke of the top left corner.

Last, draw another horizontal line to the left, the same length as the previous one.



Step 4: Right bottom

The bottom right of the character has four strokes.

Starting at the end of our last horizontal stroke, draw a wide backward “J.” The hook should not be deep but it should curve up sharply at the end.

Next, draw three short lines of equal length starting at the edge of the backward “J” and going horizontally to the right.



Adapted from: How to Write the Chinese Character for Dragon on instructables.com

Riddling in the New Year

During the Lantern Festival, houses are festooned with colorful lanterns, often with riddles written on them. Can you solve these riddles?

1. My long nose may look funny, but I use it a lot.
And though you may think me an anteater, I am not.
My colors are the same as a zebra or cow,
And I'm closely related to rhinos somehow!

What am I? _____

2. The horn on my face is my unique feature.
So with that information you know I'm what creature?
And when looking for your next clue keep in mind:
To remember that I am of the Asian kind.

What am I? _____

3. My vacuum-like mouth and long claws I have found
Make it easy to eat termites straight from their mound.
And even though Winnie the Pooh I am not,
I'd also like to eat honey right from the pot.

What am I? _____

4. "Dragon" is my common nickname,
And you can see why since we look the same.
Even though out of my mouth does not come fire,
My bacteria-filled bite can be just as dire.

What am I? _____

5. My teeth are large like a saber-toothed cat,
And I can hang from my feet looking like a bat.
Peek up at the sky and what do you see?
That is how my name was given to me.

What am I? _____

6. My striped skin and fur are well known,
And I prefer to spend my time alone.
Swimming and jumping I am good at,
Which is a sight to behold as I am the largest cat.

What am I? _____

7. I spend most of my time in the water with fish,
My narrow snout helps me catch this favorite dish.
Running or standing is something you won't see:
My legs are too short and weak to hold me.

What am I? _____

8. Because of my looks my name means "pig deer."
My large curving tusks are hard to miss, that is clear.
Despite my appearance I can run with great speed,
And in a swimming race I could take the lead.

What am I? _____

9. By rubbing my forehead I make quite a smell.
It marks my territory so no need for a doorbell.
For a tiny little deer I make quite a sound,
Barking away just like a loud hound.

What am I? _____

10. Unlike other wild cattle, I prefer to be alone,
Unless I'm a mom with a calf not full grown.
My straight horns point back.
Why? To protect from me from attack.

What am I? _____



Scavenger hunt answers: 1. Tapir; 2. Indian rhinoceros; 3. Sloth bear; 4. Komodo dragon; 5. Clouded leopard; 6. Malayan tiger; 7. Gharial; 8. Babirusa; 9. Reeve's muntjac; 10. Anoa.

Market math

Shopping at the market is a part of everyday life in China and many other countries around the world. It is different than going to the mall or grocery store because at these markets you can negotiate the price! Let's look at the following word problems and see what you can get at the market for \$20.

1 Walking around the market, you see a tiger charm bracelet that you would love to have. It is \$7.25. You need to have enough money left to buy gifts for your family, so you barter with the merchant for a better price.

After going back and forth for a little while, he agrees to a price of \$5.93. You give the merchant \$5 in bills. You still owe him 93 cents. Using the least amount of coins, how many quarters should you give him? How many dimes? How many nickels? How many pennies?

2 You now have \$_____ left to spend. You see a small dragon pin that is perfect for your little brother. The pin is \$3 but, after bartering with the merchant, she agrees to sell it to you for \$2.15. However, you must pay in change, as she does not like bills. List two combinations of coins that would total this amount.

3 You still have two people who need gifts, and you have \$_____ left. As you walk around, you spot a stuffed Asian elephant that you think would be a great gift for your father. You barter the price from \$10 down to \$6.50. How many quarters did you save? How many dimes would that be?

4 With only \$_____ left, you have to search hard for the best gift for mom. Across the shop is a beautiful panda statue. You are now a pro at bartering and easily talk the merchant down to \$4.50. How much money is left? What are three different combinations you can have in change?

Paper lanterns

Materials:

Two sheets of colored copy paper or construction paper
Stapler or tape
Scissors
Pencil
Ruler

Directions:

- Cut two strips off the long side of one of the sheets of paper and set aside for later.
- Fold the other piece of paper in half the long way.
- Draw lines parallel to the short edge of the paper about an inch apart from each other.
- Cut along these lines, starting from the folded edge. Do not cut all the way to the other edge of the paper – leave 2-3 inches uncut.
- Roll this piece of paper into a tube shape and staple or tape the edges together.
- Roll up the other sheet of paper and insert it into the center of this tube.
- Staple or tape the strips of paper from step 1 to the top of the lantern to form a handle.

Lighted paper cup lanterns

You will need an adult to help you with this project

Materials:

Patterned paper or cloth
Plastic cups
Glue
Holiday lights
Measuring tape
Scissors

Directions:

- Measure the height and circumference of the cups. Cut the paper or fabric into strips that fit around the cup.
- Glue one edge of the paper or fabric to the cup. Wrap the rest of the strip around the cup. Glue the other edge to the cup.
- Ask an adult to cut a hole on the bottom of each cup. Slip one holiday light into the slit on the cup. Repeat until you have enough cups to decorate the string of lights.

Important safety tip: Never leave holiday lights plugged in when no one is in the room, and always unplug them before you go to bed.

Tin can lanterns

You will need an adult to help you with this project

Materials:

Empty tin cans
Paper
Nails
Wire
Pencil
Tape
Hammer
Paint (optional)

Directions:

- Remove the labels from your cans.
- Fill the cans with water and place in the freezer until frozen.
- Using a piece of paper the size of your can, make a pattern that you want to have on your lantern.
- Once the water in the cans is frozen, remove them from the freezer and tape the pattern on the can where you would like it.
- Ask an adult to hammer the nail into the can, following the pattern. Place two additional holes across from each other on the top for the wire handle. You may need to place the can back in the freezer periodically.
- When you are finished with your design, place the cans in the sink and let the ice melt.
- If desired, paint your can with your chosen color.
- When the paint is dry, attach the wire to their corresponding holes. Your lantern is complete!



Learning with the Times Art and light

While the sun is a natural source for visible light, lightbulbs in their various forms are artificial sources for visible light. What is the difference between natural light and artificial light? Discuss these ideas with your class. There are many types of lights. Look through the pages of the *Tampa Bay Times* and see how many examples of light you can find. Look for words, images and graphics. With a partner, make a list of all of the examples you can find. Are you surprised by the number of items on your list? Share your results with your class.



Learning with the Times Creating a new world

There are a few different theories about how the Lantern Festival began. We do know it has been celebrated for hundreds of years. Imagine if you lived in a world where lanterns were the only light source. What would your everyday life be like? How would things be different for you and your family? Have your teacher split your class into small groups. Each group will write a short story based on the idea that lanterns are the only light source. You are going to write your story for one of the worlds depicted on the comic pages of the *Tampa Bay Times*. You can choose any comic for your story. Write a fully developed paragraph describing this new world. Draw a comic strip to go along with this world. Share your story and comic with your class.

Find the animals

Below are the animals you can find in the Asian Gardens habitat area:

I L F U R T K C J F T B T P H Q T R Q D
 N G O Z G U F B R I P A T N A Y A L A M
 D R H Z Z S N S I E X Q Q A I E K U L D
 I E E A H N S J T V S V O H B O Y I E D
 A E W W R G P T K Y B N W H M R O M E R
 N V I N D I A N S T A R T O R T O I S E
 R E L M V J A E C D X O D X T I B H O G
 H S Z T I V Q L N I L O K N S D P R O I
 I M T M O W W A C S D B G E X U L W G T
 N U V Y Q O L B N R N B L K D A W X D N
 O N E T I W O A A I O L A D A I X Y E A
 C T C X O V K G L H E C O B L E N V D Y
 E J C L Z N O V U C Q G O R I M E K A A
 R A J I A N E S R Q I Y G D T R A A E L
 O C F L S U Z A L O T U E F I M U V H A
 S A I K C N N F V W K H Q Q Y L R S R M
 C R U W R E T U F T E D D E E R E R A M
 S G I P Y T R A W N A Y A S I V Z A B A
 X T Z P Y M C L O U D E D L E O P A R D
 M I D Q X Q V K M J J P S Q A P E F R T

- BABIRUSA
- BAR-HEADED GOOSE
- CLOUDED LEOPARD
- DEMOISELLE CRANE
- GHARIAL
- INDIAN RHINOCEROS
- INDIAN STAR TORTOISE
- KOMODO DRAGON
- LOWLAND ANOA
- MALAYAN TAPIR
- MALAYAN TIGER
- REEVE'S MUNTJAC
- SRI LANKAN SLOTH BEAR
- TUFTED DEER
- VISAYAN WARTY PIG



Zoo School

The Florida Environmental Education Center, or "Zoo School," at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo provides a variety of unique, science-based educational programs for children, teens, adults, families and teachers year-round. Zoo School programs are designed to meet the Florida Standards and to be fun, innovative, imaginative and investigative for all ages. For more information about the zoo's educational programs, visit lowryparkzoo.org or call 813-935-8552 ext. 268.

Early childhood education and pre-K – Zoo School, the only school in the United States run by an accredited zoo, offers early childhood education and pre-K programs for children ages 12 months to 4 years. Using the resources of Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, Zoo School specializes in hands-on learning opportunities for children based on a creative environmental curriculum.

Field trips – Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo offers a variety of guided and self-guided field trips for grades K-12, including animal encounters, behind-the-scenes experiences, scavenger hunts, animal careers workshops and more.

Holiday and summer camps – Each summer, the Zoo School at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo offers week-long camps for students in grades K-8. Zoo School also schedules camps during the holidays and spring breaks of Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties.

Home school programs – Zoo School offers interactive, hands-on experiences on a variety of topics for home school students in grades K-8. Animal-based classroom lessons are followed immediately by application with an animal encounter and/or a Zoo Hike.

Scout programs – Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo offers fun and educational badge workshops for all levels of Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.

Zoo animals come to you – Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo's off-site animal presentations bring educational, entertaining and interactive programs featuring live animals to you. Presentations can be tailored to incorporate specific topics or lessons and include encounters with a variety of animals, including mammals, reptiles, birds and more.

Other programs – The Zoo also offers birthday party, slumber party and Parents' Night Out programs.

Credits

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This publication and its activities incorporate the following Florida Standards for elementary school students:

Florida Standards

This publication and its activities incorporate the following Florida Standards for grades 3-5. **Science:** SC.3.N.3.1; SC.5.N.1.1 **Social Studies:** SS.3.A.1.1; SS.3.A.1.2; SS.3.G.1.1; SS.4.G.1.1; SS.5.G.1.1 **Visual Art:** VA.3-5.C.1.1; VA.3-5.F.3.2; VA.3-5.F.3.3; VA.3-5.O.3.1; VA.3-5.S.1.2; VA.3-5.S.1.3; VA.3-5.S.2.1; VA.3-5.S.2.2; VA.3-5.S.3.1; VA.3-5.S.3.3 **Math:** MAFS.3.MD.4.8; MAFS.3.NBT.1.2; MAFS.4.NBT.1.1; MAFS.4.NBT.1.2; MAFS.4.NBT.2.4; MAFS.4.OA.1.3; MAFS.5.NBT.1.1; MAFS.5.NBT.2.7; MAFS.K12.MP.1.1; MAFS.K12.MP.2.1; MAFS.K12.MP.8.1 **Language Arts:** LAFS.3-5.L.1.1; LAFS.3-5.L.1.2; LAFS.3-5.L.2.3; LAFS.3-5.L.3.4; LAFS.3-5.L.3.5; LAFS.3-5.L.3.6; LAFS.3-5.RF.3.3; LAFS.3-5.RF.4.4; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.1; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.2; LAFS.3-5.RI.1.3; LAFS.3-5.RI.2.4; LAFS.3-5.RI.2.5; LAFS.3-5.RI.2.6; LAFS.3-5.RI.3.7; LAFS.3-5.RI.3.8; LAFS.3-5.RI.3.9; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.1; LAFS.3-5.SL.1.2; LAFS.3-5.SL.2.4; LAFS.3-5.SL.2.5; LAFS.3-5.SL.2.6; LAFS.3-5.W.1.1; LAFS.3-5.W.1.2; LAFS.3-5.W.1.3; LAFS.3-5.W.1.4; LAFS.3-5.W.1.5; LAFS.3-5.W.3.7; LAFS.3-5.W.3.8; LAFS.K12.L.1.1; LAFS.K12.L.1.2; LAFS.K12.L.1.3; LAFS.K12.L.1.4; LAFS.K12.L.1.4; LAFS.K12.L.1.6; LAFS.K12.R.1.1; LAFS.K12.R.1.2; LAFS.K12.R.2.4; LAFS.K12.R.2.5; LAFS.K12.R.2.6; LAFS.K12.R.3.7; LAFS.K12.R.3.8; LAFS.K12.R.4.10; LAFS.K12.SL.1.1; LAFS.K12.SL.1.2; LAFS.K12.SL.2.4; LAFS.K12.SL.2.6; LAFS.K12.W.1.1; LAFS.K12.W.1.2; LAFS.K12.W.1.3; LAFS.K12.W.1.4; LAFS.K12.W.1.5; LAFS.K12.W.1.6; LAFS.K12.W.1.7; LAFS.K12.W.1.8; LAFS.K12.W.1.9



No day of adventure is complete without a visit to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, home to Florida's rescued manatees. Observation pools allow for year-round, up-close viewing of these gentle giants.

Then, explore 56 acres of lush habitats with more than 1,000 incredible animals, including elephants, koalas, tigers, penguins, orangutans and much more.

Plus, enjoy fun rides, water play areas, shops, educational shows and interactive exhibits where you can feed a giraffe, touch a stingray, walk with wallabies and more.

To visit Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, take I-275 to Exit 48 (Sligh Ave.) and turn west. The zoo is just 10-15 minutes from downtown Tampa, Channelside, Ybor City and Tampa International Airport.



Learning with the Times Create your own map

Look in the *Tampa Bay Times* for ads, photos or cartoons that represent different places, people and events that can be found in your county or school. Imagine that you are part of a group creating a mini version of your town. Using the information you find in the newspaper and what you see around you, make a list of all of the items you would include to represent your school, town, city or county. Draw a picture or map showing what would be included in your representation. You can use the map from Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo as a model. With the help of your teacher, write a paragraph about your subject. Share and explain your drawing to your class.

Newspaper in Education

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program (NIE) is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Co. to encourage the use of newspapers in print and electronic form as educational resources – a “living textbook.” Our educational resources fall into the category of informational text, a type of nonfiction text. The primary purpose of informational text is to convey information about the natural or social world.

Since the mid-1970s, NIE has provided schools with class sets of the *Tampa Bay Times* plus award-winning original curriculum supplements, teacher guides, lesson plans, educator workshops and many more resources at no cost to schools, teachers or students. Each year, more than 5 million newspapers and electronic licenses are provided to Tampa Bay-area teachers and students free of charge thanks to our generous individual, corporate and foundation sponsors. NIE teaching materials cover a variety of subjects and are correlated to the Florida Standards.

For more information about NIE, visit tampabay.com/nie, call 800-333-7505, ext. 8138 or email ordernie@tampabay.com. Follow us on Twitter at [Twitter.com/TBTimesNIE](https://twitter.com/TBTimesNIE).

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