

# Kindergarten Lesson

*Lesson Plan for Grade K, Science Standards*

*Prepared by Lewis Farms & Petting Zoo*

## OVERVIEW & PURPOSE

The purpose of this lesson is to teach your students what certain animals need to survive in captivity as well as in the wild. Therefore, we try our best to reconstruct their enclosures to meet their needs. Follow the lesson plan to learn how Jeffrey our camel reconstructs his enclosure as well as our Prairie Dogs.

## EDUCATION STANDARDS

K-LS1-1

Use observation to describe patterns of what plants and animals (including humans) need to survive.

K-ESS2-2

Construct an argument supported by evidence for how plants and animals (including humans) can change the environment to meet their needs.

These standards were provided by the Michigan Department of Education.

[https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/K-12\\_Science\\_Performance\\_Expectations\\_v5\\_496901\\_7.pdf](https://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/K-12_Science_Performance_Expectations_v5_496901_7.pdf)

## OBJECTIVES

1. To allow students to dig deeper into education by providing for them adequate resources that they wouldn't find in a classroom.
2. Creating a hands-on environment to ensure a better understanding of the topic at hand for the students.

## MATERIALS NEEDED

1. Access to Lewis Farms and Petting Zoo.
2. Captivated audience to ensure every student is getting all the information.
3. Ambition to learn and have fun while doing so.

## VERIFICATION

1. Ask the student questions while performing the lesson or following the lesson.
2. Ask the students to point out the topic that you are teaching them about during the lesson.

## ACTIVITY

In order to successfully conduct this lesson, it will take a little bit of traveling.

Only in the sanctuary of the farm of course, and as experienced school tour guides we are fully aware how much of a challenge it may be to shuffle students around so we kept the stations close. Direct students to station K and K.2 as shown on the map provided in

your teacher bag. We have many education options to link up with these standards, and they are very adorable options.

**Station K:** The most beneficial example will be our prairie dogs! Although these cute little critters look harmless, when given the opportunity to dig, they will dig a hole to China. To provide them with a habitat that can benefit them similar to what they have in the wild is essential to their well being. In our case, we placed a large mound of dirt inside their enclosure and with this mound, they build their own community. Because we are not tiny little prairie dogs we cannot perfectly construct their homes for them. The prairie dogs burrow in the ground and construct bedrooms and even bathrooms similar to the way humans reconstruct their environment to meet their needs by building houses.

**Station K.2:** An additional example would be our camels! They are a hit on the farm and have been here for a very long time. We live in Michigan, therefore, it is pretty difficult to recreate their native habitat. Our Camels dig large holes that they "cush" in. Meaning they lay in the holes. They do this on hot summer days to keep cool. When walking past our camel enclosure you are likely to see them lying in these large holes.

After observing these habitats, ask your students to name one thing that both camels and prairie dogs do to change their environment to meet their needs.

*(Digging holes)*



**Other Interesting Facts:**

Did you know our camel Jeffery actually loves the snow?

Many might think that camels come from a hot climate, however, in the desert, the temperature also drops at night and creates colder weather. Jeffery will actually grow a winter coat, meaning he will put on his coat and snow pants and to play in the snow. He runs and plays in the snow every winter much like a kid would.