

INDUSTRY: ANIMAL CARE
ACTIVITY: SITE VISIT
BUSINESS: FIVE SISTERS ZOO
SCHOOL: INCLUSION & SUPPORT SERVICE (ISS)

FIVE SISTERS ZOO SITE VISIT

In June 2021, Five Sisters Zoo hosted pupils from the Inclusion and Support Service (ISS) on a site visit, where Senior Phase pupils from the Skills Centre had the opportunity to spend time with the Head of Education and a Zookeeper.

ISS works with approximately 250 young people from across all 11 secondary schools in West Lothian. Staff work with young people in a variety of settings including schools, the Skills Centre, West Lothian College and in community centres. ISS support young people with a wide variety of additional support needs by removing barriers and using targeted interventions to enable them to succeed.



With several pupils having expressed an interest in working in animal care, the visit was arranged in order to:

- Provide the pupils with an overview of how the zoo works and introduce aspects of working as a Zookeeper.
- Assist with in school learning (National Qualifications).

Following on from the visit, staff at the Inclusion and Support Service have fed back that the visit was extremely informative and that the young people were fully engaged with the instructor. The pupils were informed of the requirements of working within this sector and what qualifications were required for this, which was extremely beneficial in terms of linking learning to the world of work.





As a direct result of the time the pupils spent with the Five Sisters Zoo staff, the pupils:

- Learned a great deal about the origins and needs of various different animal species, the importance of conservation and the effects of climate change on their habitats.
- Have an increased knowledge of the industry, should they progress to working within this sector.
- Were able to use this knowledge to inform their learning within the National Biology course.

TESTIMONIALS

The feedback we received from the school was extremely positive and included the following comments:

- Enjoyable day.
- Instructor was excellent: engaging, knowledgeable and able to share his experiences and journey to his chosen career.
- Informed the young people of the requirements of working within this sector.
- Pupils added to their learning from National Biology qualifications.

“ ADAM KNOWS SO MUCH! ”

“ GREAT DAY. ”

“ ADAM WAS FANTASTIC. ”

“ THE VISIT HELPED WITH OUR UNDERSTANDING OF HABITATS AND BEHAVIOUR FOR OUR NATIONAL 4 BIOLOGY. ”



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