Design a zoo – Teacher’s Notes
by Fari Greenway

Skills: Speaking and reading
Level: Pre-intermediate+
Age group: Teenagers / adults
Time: 1 hour

You will need:

- Copies of the worksheets for each group.
- Maps and information on a number of zoos (if possible). This can be downloaded from the internet.
- Paper for drawing the plans and making the leaflets.

Warmer

Ask the students what their favourite animals are and collect animal names on the board. Ask them if they have ever been to a zoo and talk about their experiences. Did they see any special shows or events? What did they like best and why? What facilities did the zoo have?

The task

1. Divide the class into groups of three or four learners and explain that each group is going to design their own zoo.

2. Allow each group to work through the worksheets at their own pace, circulating and helping when necessary. Learners are likely to need help with the vocabulary in part two.

3. When groups get to part three, provide them (if possible) with some realia, for example, examples of zoo information including information on events. If not, talk about their experiences or ask them to imagine what they would like to see. For groups that need prompting, suggest events such as: feeding or playing with the animals (when trainers encourage animals to ‘perform’ for visitors), rides or sessions where visitors can hold animals e.g. snakes and koalas.

4. Encourage groups to rehearse their advertisements and provide help and ideas if necessary.

5. Finish the class by having each group present their advertisement to the other learners.
Design a zoo

Remember to have your discussions in English!

Part one:

Choose a name for your zoo: ___________

Now decide what animals you would like to have in your zoo and why.

1. Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________

2. Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________

3. Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________

4. Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________

5 Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________

6. Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________

7. Animal ____________
   Why? __________________________________________________________
8. Animal ______________
Why? __________________________________________________________

9. Animal ______________
Why? __________________________________________________________

10. Animal __________
Why? __________________________________________________________

Part two:

Draw a plan of the zoo and label the different animal enclosures. Decide how much space you will give to each animal.

Useful vocabulary: 
aquarium, paddock, pool, cage, aviary, pen, hutch, enclosure, stable, pond, field, meadow

Don’t forget to think about what other facilities you might like to provide e.g. a café / shop / playground / picnic area / toilets.

Part three:

Write a programme of events for your zoo:

9-10am
____________________________________________________________

11-12pm
____________________________________________________________

1-2pm
____________________________________________________________

4-5pm
____________________________________________________________
Part four:

Write a leaflet for visitors to the zoo; remember to include the following information:

- What visitors will see
- How much it costs
- Where it is
- Why it is a good place to visit
- When it is open

Part five:

Compose a 30-second radio advertisement for your zoo; everyone in your group must take part. Write the script for your advertisement here:

___________________________________________________________________
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