



## CHAPERONE'S ACTIVITY OUTLINE

Make sure you know which animal your group has been assigned to observe. At the animal's exhibit, find a location where the students can see the animal and you will not be in the way of other guests. If there is more than one individual of the assigned species on exhibit, the students should select a single animal to watch.

You will serve as the official time keeper for the group. The ethogram will designate how frequently, usually every 30 seconds, that the students will record an observation. Students will *only* write an observation on their data sheet every 30 seconds for a total of 10 observations in a 5 minute period. This means that an animal may engage in a behavior that is not recorded because it does not occur at a designated time.

After the group has all materials (data sheets and pencils/pens) ready, give the command to start, and students will record their first observation. Then note every 30 seconds by saying "now" or another command that students will recognize as the cue to record an observation.

At the end of the observation period, your group may want to make some notes at the bottom of the data sheet. Notes could include the date and time of the observations, the weather conditions, or any other behaviors seen during the observation period.

Students should make sure not to lose their ethogram data sheets, since they will use the information to report on their observations.