

World of Wonder

Educational Standards and Suggested Activities

Release week February 10, 2013: Jane Goodall

Standards

- Current Events: Students will use reporting and scientific observation skills to record what happens on a playground between students.
- Science: Students will report on the “alpha male.”
- Science: Students will research the difficulties Jane Goodall experienced while trying to study chimpanzees in Africa.

Activities

1. Use the News: In some ways, reporters are like scientists when they observe an event and record what happens. During a recess break, observe a few other kids playing together. Notice who seems to be the leader. Is there any argument or disagreement? If so, how is it dealt with? Are some children not participating? Back in class, write a short description of what you observed (just like Jane Goodall did with the chimps). Don't use the other children's names, just describe them as Boy 1 or Girl 2, etc.
2. What does it mean for one chimp to be the “alpha male”? What does he do? How did he get to be it? Does it serve a purpose for the group? Research and write a report about chimpanzee alpha males.
3. What difficulties did Jane Goodall experience with the chimps or humans during her research in Africa? Who made it hard for her, and who helped her? Did the animals always accept her? What did she do to protect herself?

World of Wonder meets many state educational standards. This guide helps teachers identify standards and related activities generally intended for grade 6, but teachers can modify activities to the appropriate grade.