

# Discovery Boxes



## What Are They?

Discovery Boxes are giant treasure chests filled with interactive activity ideas and props! The activities help to focus your observations on the animals, as well as finding out all sorts of amazing facts. The activities meet a variety of learning styles. They are especially good for visual and kinaesthetic learners. There are no worksheets for the activities, so you do not need to print out any sheets before you come.

## How to Book

Discovery Boxes can be booked **for free**, in half hour time slots, every day of the week. To book a Discovery Box for your group, please [click here](#).

### Scouts and Guides groups

Discovery boxes are available for Scout and Guide groups to use during weekends and school holidays

## Where Are They?

At present we have four Discovery boxes around the zoo:

### Penguins

This can be found inside Penguin Cove, upstairs from the 'cave' themed area.

### Cheetah

This box is located at the far end of the Savannah Tracks walk-way.

**Aviary** (birds, including weaver birds, Waldrapp ibis and many more!) This Discovery Box can be found opposite the entrance to the walkthrough aviary in Fur, Feathers and Scales, next to the animal housing.

**Lemurs** (including 3 species of lemurs and the fossa). This is located inside the World of Lemurs exhibit, near the black and white ruffed lemurs.

We are planning to add more Discovery Boxes in the future, so watch this space!



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## What do I do next?

Upon booking, you will be given a combination code to access the boxes. On the day of your visit, simply turn up at your allocated time slot, unlock the Discovery Box, open it and enjoy!

When you have finished using the Discovery box, put everything back as you found it, ready for another class, and lock the box back up again. Please be mindful of your allocated time slot and think about other groups who may have booked.

## Are there any health and safety concerns?

The activities have been designed to be safe and easy to manage with a small group of pupils. To help you to include accurate details for your risk assessment, here are some risk assessment guidelines for using the Discovery Boxes:

[Discovery Boxes risk assessment](#)

[Penguins risk assessment](#)

[Cheetah risk assessment](#)

[Aviary risk assessment](#)

[Lemurs risk assessment](#)

## What is in a Discovery Box?

Inside are 9 or 10 activity packs, suitable for KS1-3 pupils. Each pack has instructions (and answers if necessary!)

In the **Penguin, Cheetah and Aviary Boxes**, there are up to three sets of differentiated instructions to choose from for each activity. They are classed as the following 'star ratings':  
1 star = easier activity  
2 star = medium level activity  
3 star = more challenging activity  
Simply choose the rating you think is most applicable for your group.

In the **Lemur Discovery Box**, there is just one instruction card for each activity and no star ratings. We are trying out a simpler system with fewer, more open questions, which the adult leaders can take to the required level for their pupils (with answers on the back!)

Each activity pack can also contain a variety of props, diagrams or photos which are for use during the activity. In the **Aviary and Lemur Boxes** a couple of the props do not fit inside the activity pack folders, but are clearly labelled.

## How long do the activities take to do?

There are 9 or 10 activities to choose from in each box, but you do not need to do them all. It is up to you how long you want to spend on each activity, but as a rough guide, expect it to take around half an hour to complete 4-8 activities with a small group of around 6 to 12 pupils.



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