

ZOOLOGIST

Zoologists study animals and their behaviour, looking at things like their evolution, anatomy and where they live. They are different to zoo keepers as they study, research and analyse animals in all environments whereas the primary focus of a zoo keeper is the welfare of animals in captivity.

The role of a zoologist is extremely varied. They do things like study animals in their natural environment to identify, record and monitor species and to model habitats and population numbers to make predictions for the future. They also rehabilitate and release animals back in to the wild and teach in research centres and educate members of the public.

Find out more here - <https://www.prospects.ac.uk/job-profiles/zoologist>

DID YOU KNOW?

The word zoology is derived from the Greek words meaning 'animal' and 'knowledge'.

There are many different areas that zoologists can specialise in, including:

- herpetology (reptiles and amphibians)
- mammology (mammals)
- ornithology (birds)
- paleozoology (fossilized remains)
- entomology (insects)

Through zoology we have learnt things like an octopus has three hearts, there are more than 900,000 different insect species in the world and the blue whale makes the loudest noise of all animals on the planet.

YOUR CHALLENGE - test out your own zoology skills

 **DON'T FORGET TO TAKE PICTURES!**

1 OBSERVE

Become an entomologist for the day and go on your very own minibeast hunt.

Look under rocks, beneath logs and on windowsills.



2 IDENTIFY

Use a website like <https://www.buglife.org.uk/> to find out what type of bugs you've found.



3 RECORD

Make a record of the minibeats you have found. You could list, draw or even photograph them.

Include information like where you found them and what they looked like so that you can go back at a later date and compare your notes.