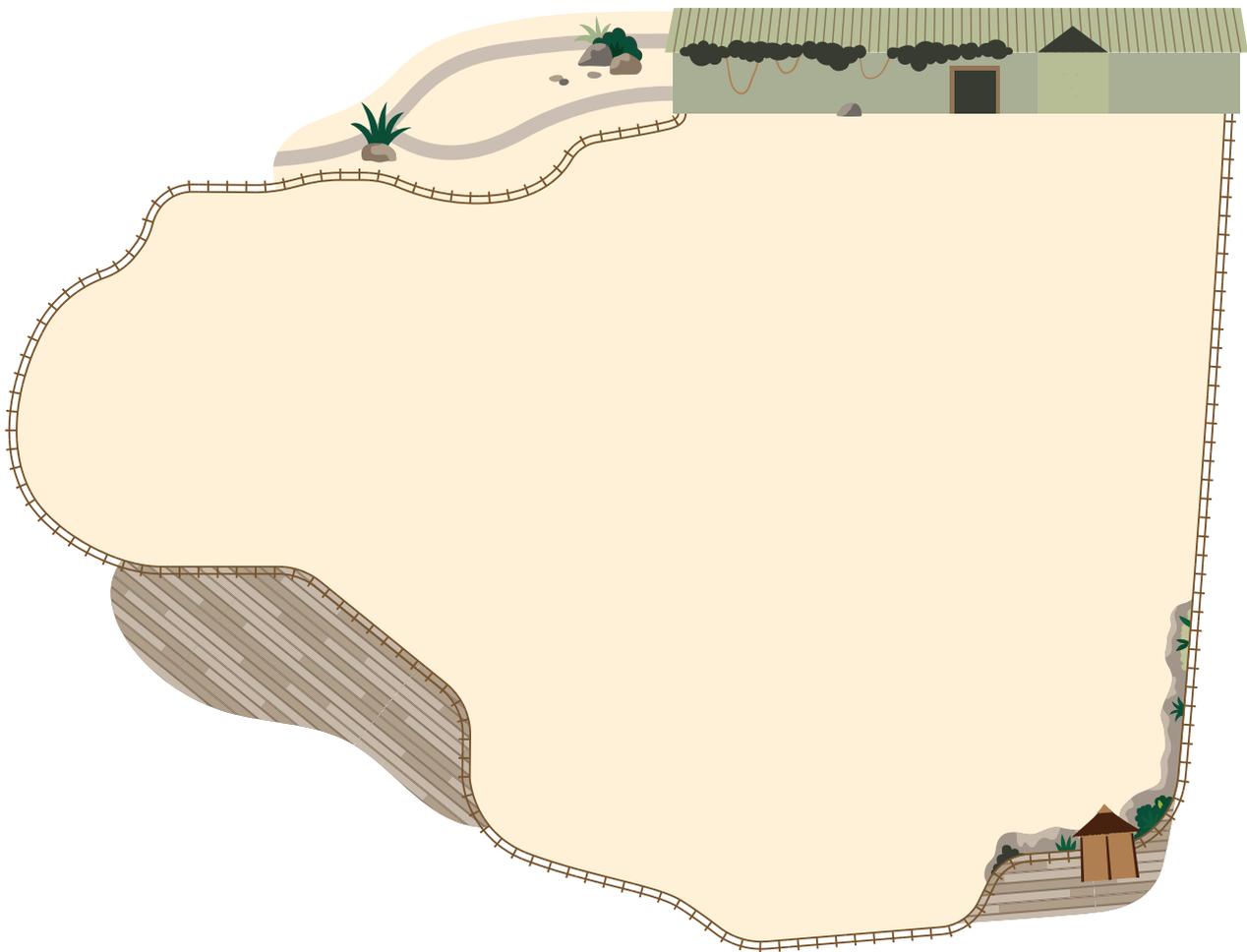# Zoo Jobs:
Habitat Designer Activity

Every animal needs access to food, water and shelter. Many animals have other specific needs. Habitat designers make sure that the habitat is suitable.

Use the animal facts provided to design a suitable habitat for a species of your choice. Don't forget to label the key features.

Habitat design

Snow leopard - *Panthera uncia*

Habitat needs

- Habitat needs to be large enough for two adult snow leopards
- Lots of rocks and steep areas
- High places where they can rest
- Caves, ledges, boulders, logs
- Some soil for digging
- Some grass, bushes, and trees
- Water – a small stream or shallow pool
- An inside area with straw and wood chippings
- An inside area with air conditioning to stay cool in the summer

What else?

- How will zoo guests be able to see this animal? Can you add guest viewing areas like windows or platforms?
- How will keepers be able to look after this animal? Can you add doors and paths for the keepers to use?
- How will keepers be able to feed this animal? Think about how this animal eats in the wild. What can you add to the habitat to help it eat naturally?

Habitat design

Sumatran orangutan - *Pongo abelii*

Habitat needs

- Habitat needs to be large enough for six adult orangutans
- Lots of climbing structures
- High platforms where they can rest
- Trees, ropes, netting
- Soft soil or wood chipping for the floor
- Large trees
- Some bushes and grass
- Water – a small stream or shallow pool
- An inside area with heating to stay warm in the winter

What else?

- How will zoo guests be able to see this animal? Can you add guest viewing areas like windows or platforms?
- How will keepers be able to look after this animal? Can you add doors and paths for the keepers to use?
- How will keepers be able to feed this animal? Think about how this animal eats in the wild. What can you add to the habitat to help it eat naturally?

Habitat design

Reticulated python - *Malayopython reticulatus*

Habitat needs

- Habitat needs to be large enough for a 7-metre-long snake to stretch out
- Soft soil or wood chippings
- Low bushes and plants
- Large pool
- Areas to hide
- Heat lamps to keep warm
- UV lamps to replace natural sunlight

What else?

- How will zoo guests be able to see this animal? Can you add guest viewing areas like windows or platforms?
- How will keepers be able to look after this animal? Can you add doors and paths for the keepers to use?
- How will keepers be able to feed this animal? Think about how this animal eats in the wild. What can you add to the habitat to help it eat naturally?

Habitat design

American flamingo – *Phoenicopterus ruber*

Habitat needs

- Habitat needs to be large enough for 40 flamingos
- Large area of water with shallow and deep sections
- Large island
- Large areas of shallow mud for nest building
- Muddy or sandy banks
- Grass, buses, trees
- Small pool of shallow water for feeding
- An inside area with heating to stay warm in the winter

What else?

- How will zoo guests be able to see this animal? Can you add guest viewing areas like windows or platforms?
- How will keepers be able to look after this animal? Can you add doors and paths for the keepers to use?
- How will keepers be able to feed this animal? Think about how this animal eats in the wild. What can you add to the habitat to help it eat naturally?