

## GENERAL FIELD TRIP LAYOUT

1. I will send out a schedule ahead of time to everyone involved in the field trip. It will lay out the play, who is doing what, times etc.
2. If they arrive by bus, the main contact should meet them in the parking lot outside the Ed gate. If they are arriving by cars, they can park in the lot and come through the lobby
3. If homeschool, they probably need to pay per family. Most large schools pre-pay or have me bill them.
4. Once they are all off the bus (busses can stay in our lot (parallel if we aren't busy), park across the street or just come back at the end to the same location), have them quiet down and explain that you will be bringing them inside in a line so you can do an introduction for everyone. Ask them to do their best to stay together and not be too loud as we pass by some of the animals – they will get to see them later during the trip.
5. Bring them to the amphitheater and have them sit down.
6. Welcome them – **OUTLINE OF SCRIPT:**
  - a. Welcome to Liberty Wildlife. My name is Laura (yours is X ☺ ) and I'll be one of the people showing you around today.
  - b. Before you arrived here today, had any of you heard of Liberty Wildlife?
  - c. How many of you by a show of hands have brought us an animal for our hospital?
  - d. How many of you have come here to walk around?
  - e. How many of you is this your first time ever being here? (Most will raise hands!)
  - f. Now that you are here, what do you think LW does?
    - i. I generally take as many answers as I get even though some are repeat
  - g. Tell them they pretty much got it all right – LW is a NON PROFIT WILDLIFE RESCUE REHABILITATION EDUCATION CONSERVATION ORGANIZATION. Which is just a long name for:
    - i. Non-profit – we don't get any money from the government. The money we use for feed and care for our animals comes from field trips like this, visitors and donations from the public
    - ii. Wildlife rescue – pretty self-explanatory
    - iii. Rehabilitation – we are taking care of all the sick, injured and orphaned wildlife in our hospital with the hope of releasing them back to the wild
    - iv. Education – If they cannot survive in the wild, they can join our education side and get to meet people and schools
    - v. Conservation comes from the hope that when they leave ,they will appreciate the wildlife of Arizona a bit more and make sure to conserve habitats and take care of our lands
  - h. Do they think they'll see any lions? (NO!) Do they think they'll see any giraffes? (NO!) Do they think they'll see owls? (YES!)
    - i. We can take of native wildlife which is the wildlife that lives here in AZ naturally and what we might see on a hike or in our own back yards.
    - ii. We are known for birds, but we take in all kinds of wildlife including bobcats, coatis, other mammals and snakes, lizards and even tarantulas
  - i. Rules
    - i. Easy rules to follow and ones they probably follow at school
    - ii. No running even though it looks like a wide open space – we don't want anyone falling and getting hurt AND we don't want to scare the animals

- iii. No yelling – it's great to be excited about the animals, but we don't want to scare them by having people yelling on campus so use your normal everyday voice
    - iv. Most important especially when on the Ed trail – Stay on the paths. Lots of people want to get a closer look in the enclosures, but what do birds of prey have to protect themselves? (TALONS) So please don't want on the rocks – just stay on the paths
7. Sometimes we have an eagle presentation with one of our handlers. I will work that in to the time schedule I create and send out ahead of time.
8. Split up
  - a. Explain that we will split into however many groups I scheduled that day (it is usually 3 or 4). The plan is to rotate through the stations. We'll rotate through 2, then have a snack/bathroom break and then finish up with 2 final rotations. We'll end in the amphitheater so if they want to leave their stuff there for the duration that is fine.
  - b. Let them know where the bathroom and water fountain is – they can go at any time that they need just let a chaperone know.
  - c. The teacher may have already split them ahead of time but otherwise let her know that we need them divided into 3 or 4 groups. Call the first group down and use the schedule to determine what their name will be and where you are sending them.
  - d. Have them go to whichever volunteer is their first station. Do that for the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> – try to give a little space/lag time between it because they can get muddled and send them on their ways.
9. Stations
  - a. Rotate per the schedule
10. Snack
  - a. Snack time is half way through the rotations – give them a few minutes warning before starting them off on their rotations again. Have the trash and recycling out at the top of the amphitheater.
11. Closing
  - a. Have them all join back in the amphitheater to thank them for coming for a field trip
  - b. Let them know we are open to the public so they can bring friends/family here to show them what they've learned. Have them look online for Liberty Wildlife for info – but we are also on FB, IG and Tiktok (and if Tiktok excites them, let them know we will follow them back if they follow us)
  - c. Try to sell any upcoming special events etc
  - d. Have them gather all their stuff up and line up at the back of the amphitheater where you will walk them back out to the busses.
  - e. Say goodbye etc until they are loaded up and then shut that door and go get a drink!
12. Clean up

## STATIONS

1. Trail – depending on the age there may or may not be a trail challenge with clipboards and pencils. The volunteer will lead the group around and attempt to help answer the questions. With smaller groups I might allow them to wander on their own with all the volunteers on the trail to help guide/assist. This will be dictated on the schedule I create
2. Birds – usually 2-3 birds depending on time limit and age of students
3. Interactive Room – usually present 2 reptiles and then let them wander a bit on their own
4. Tour/Binos – depending on age time limit, give brief history of Liberty Wildlife, show triage window, show surgery window. Discuss how LW is like a human hospital with all the steps/rooms. You can mention OC if you want. If time/age warrants, either go in the NEFR room (gentle hands) OR have them stand outside and bring the feather picture, the RTH tail and the fan out to discuss. If time/age warrants, go to wetlands to look at fish and/or use binoculars to look for stuffies.
  - a. You should explain that they need to put the strap around their necks
  - b. Explain how to look through them and focus
  - c. Tell them they should NEVER walk with binoculars up to their eyes