# HomeSchool Academy - Dates & Topics - Fall 2016 Semester

## **Grades K-2: Creature Quarters**

Discover the different places that animals live, from on the ground to under the ground. Investigate how animals find food, water and shelter in these places, and learn what adaptations animals have to help them survive these creature quarters.

### Dates:

**September 14 – On the Ground** - Find out why these amazing animals are adapted to hunt, survive, and live on the ground.

October 12 – In the Trees - How would you like to live up high in the treetops? Explore how creatures spend their lives among the trees.

**November 9 – Underground –** Lights out! Discover how innovative animals have learned to survive and live underground without sunlight.

**December 14 – In the Water** – In need of a water-filled fun day? You'll learn about super mammals, reptiles and birds that have built their homes in water.

## **Grades 3-5: Zoo Detectives**

Something's going on at Zoo Atlanta! We need your help to solve these animal mysteries. Track down clues about animals and piece together the puzzle to determine "whodunit." Each month is a different mystery to solve.

### Dates:

**September 14 – The Case of the Stolen Food** – Who grabbed the fruit? Who took the insects? We'll tour the Zoo's animal nutrition kitchen to help us determine the culprits.

October 12 – The Case of the Cranky Zoo Animals – Shhh? Did you hear that noise? Students will learn to identify various animals by the sounds that they make.

**November 9 – The Case of the Pollinated Plants –** Did you know that there's more than one way for plants to pollinate? Learn the hows and whys of a plant's life.

**December 14 – The Case of the Mad Recycler –** Do you like to recycle? What about our Zoo animals? Learn about some of the animal world's most helpful recyclers!

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## Grades 6-8: Advanced Reptile Classification

Go beyond their scales and delve into the world of reptiles. Discover four different types of reptiles and the characteristics of each. We'll learn what makes these animals different from the rest.

### Dates:

**September 14 – Crocodilians –** Did you know there are 23 species of crocodilian? We'll learn about these animals and what characteristics make them unique.

October 12 – Turtles – What's the difference between a turtle and a tortoise? One lives in the ocean and one on land? One has flippers and one has claws? Not quite! We'll explore the differences between these complex creatures!

**November 9 – Lizards –** Have you always wanted to see a dragon? Well, now's your chance to learn about our amazing Komodo dragon, along with numerous other lizard species.

**December 14 – Snakes** – Check out our snake biofacts, participate in our Scaly Snake Scavenger Hunt and discover what makes these animals ssssssuper!

### Grades 9-12: Neuroscience

Discover the different parts of the brain and learn which parts influence different behaviors. Compare the brain anatomy of humans, other mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

### Dates:

**September 14 – Human Brains** – The human brain is a very complex organ. We'll explore your brain and its many functions.

**October 12 – Mammal Brains** – What do mammal brains have that help them survive? A neocortex that involves a high functioning sensory perception, spatial reasoning and more! Learn the diverse details of mammals' brains.

**November 9 – Bird Brains** – Explore the brains of different birds and what incredible functions their brains allow them to do.

**December 14 – Reptile & Amphibian Brains -** Alligators have an incredible bite, and frogs can make tremendous leaps; but what about their brains? Get up-close and personal with these reptile and amphibian brains.