Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will understand the different types of animal habitats found in the wild and in zoos. They will be able to identify key characteristics of these habitats and discuss how they support the animals living in them.

Materials and Prep

- Notebook or paper for notes and drawings
- · Pencil or pen for writing
- Access to a computer or device (optional for research)
- Knowledge of common animal habitats (forests, deserts, oceans, etc.)

Activities

• Habitat Mapping:

The student will draw a map showing different habitats (e.g., forest, desert, ocean, savanna) and label the types of animals that live in each. This will help them visualize the diversity of habitats and the animals within them.

• Zoo Habitat Comparison:

The student will choose two animals from the zoo and research their natural habitats. They will compare these habitats to the enclosures provided in the zoo, discussing how the zoo tries to replicate the animals' natural environments.

• Animal Adaptation Discussion:

The student will select an animal and write a short paragraph on how its physical and behavioral adaptations help it survive in its habitat. This will encourage critical thinking about the relationship between animals and their environments.

Talking Points

- "What are some examples of different habitats where animals live?"
- "How do animals adapt to their environments? Can you think of specific examples?"
- "How do zoos work to create environments that are similar to the animals' natural habitats?"
- "What are the benefits and challenges of keeping animals in a zoo compared to their natural habitats?"
- "Why is it important to protect natural habitats for wildlife?"