

# Jackal Jamboree: A Habitat Adventure!

## Materials You'll Need:

- Computer with internet access (for research, videos)
- Paper (plain, colored, construction)
- Drawing/coloring supplies (crayons, markers, colored pencils)
- Modeling clay or playdough (optional, for diorama)
- Shoebox or small cardboard box (for diorama)
- Natural materials (twigs, leaves, sand, small stones - optional, for diorama)
- Scissors
- Glue or tape
- Notebook or journal for notes and sketches
- Printable jackal fact sheets or outline maps (optional)

## Welcome, Nature Explorer!

Today, we're going on an exciting expedition to learn all about a clever and fascinating animal: the jackal! We'll discover where they live, what makes their homes special, and how they survive. Get ready to use your creativity to bring the world of jackals to life!

## Part 1: Meet the Jackals! (Approx. 30-45 minutes)

Let's start by finding out who these amazing animals are.

1. **Jackal Investigation:** Use your computer to research different types of jackals. Some common ones are the Golden Jackal, Black-backed Jackal, and Side-striped Jackal.
  - In your notebook, jot down 2-3 interesting facts about each type you find.
  - Where in the world do they live? (You can even look at a world map!)
2. **What's for Dinner?:** Jackals are omnivores, meaning they eat both meat and plants. Research what kinds of food jackals typically eat. Are they picky eaters?
3. **Jackal Superpowers (Adaptations):** How do jackals survive in their habitats? Think about:
  - Their fur (color, thickness)
  - Their senses (hearing, smell, sight)
  - Their social behavior (do they live alone or in groups?)
  - Their hunting or scavenging skills

List at least three adaptations in your notebook and explain how each one helps them.

## Part 2: Habitat Hunt! (Approx. 45-60 minutes)

Now that we know a bit about jackals, let's explore their homes!

1. **Where in the World?:** Jackals live in a variety of habitats, from grasslands and savannas to deserts and even woodlands. Choose one type of jackal you researched earlier.
  - What is the climate like in its habitat (hot, cold, dry, wet)?
  - What kinds of plants and other animals might be found there?
  - What challenges might a jackal face in this habitat?
2. **Camouflage Kings & Queens:** Jackal fur often helps them blend in with their surroundings. This is called camouflage!
  - Think about the habitat you chose. What colors and patterns would help a jackal hide there?
  - **Activity: Camouflage Art!** On a piece of paper, draw a simple outline of a jackal. Then, color or decorate your jackal so it would be perfectly camouflaged in its chosen habitat.

You can even draw the background habitat around it!

## **Part 3: Creative Jackal Projects! (Choose one or more - Approx. 60-90 minutes)**

Time to put your knowledge and creativity to work! Choose one of these projects to showcase what you've learned about jackals and their habitats.

### **1. My Jackal Habitat Diorama:**

- Using a shoebox or small cardboard box, create a 3D model of a jackal's habitat.
- Include key features like terrain (e.g., sand for a desert, grass for a savanna), plants, and maybe even a den.
- You can use drawing/coloring supplies, construction paper, modeling clay, and natural materials (like twigs or leaves, if available and safe).
- Make a small jackal figure (draw and cut out, or sculpt from clay) to place in your habitat.
- Be ready to explain why you designed your habitat the way you did, pointing out features important for a jackal.

### **2. A Jackal's Tale - Story or Comic Strip:**

- Write a short story or create a comic strip about a day in the life of a jackal.
- Incorporate facts you learned about its behavior, diet, adaptations, and habitat.
- What adventures might your jackal have? What challenges might it face? How does it use its "superpowers"?
- Illustrate your story or comic strip!

### **3. Jackal Species Spotlight - Presentation:**

- Choose two different jackal species.
- Create a short presentation (you can make posters, a slideshow if you like digital tools, or just prepare to talk and show your notes/drawings).
- Compare and contrast their habitats, diets, and unique adaptations.
- Explain why they might live in different environments and how they are suited to them.

## **Part 4: Show and Tell! (Approx. 15-20 minutes)**

Present your creative project! Explain your choices and share the most interesting things you learned about jackals and their habitats. What was your favorite part of this exploration?

## **Wrap-up & Reflection:**

Great job, Jackal expert! You've dived deep into the world of these incredible animals.

- What is one new thing you learned about jackals that surprised you?
- If you were a jackal, which habitat would you choose to live in and why?
- How do jackals play a role in their ecosystem? (Think about what they eat and what might eat them.)

Keep observing the world around you – there are amazing creatures everywhere, each with its own special story and home!