



THE FIVE SENSES - ENRICHMENT

PURPOSE: UNDERSTAND THE USE OF THE FIVE SENSES IN ANIMALS, AND TO SHOW THE BENEFITS THAT ENVIRONMENTAL AND BEHAVIORAL ENRICHMENT PROVIDES FOR ALL ANIMALS, INCLUDING HUMANS.

ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR UNDERSTANDING AND USING YOUR FIVE SENSES:

Benchmark number: SC.1.L.14.1

Benchmark Description: Make observations of living things and their environment using the five senses.

- A. All plants and animals, including humans, are alike in some ways and different in others.
- B. All plants and animals, including humans, have internal parts and external structures that function to keep them alive and help them grow and reproduce.
- C. Humans can better understand the natural world through careful observation.

BACKGROUND:

Environmental enrichment in zoos provides stimulating habitats for animals, helping them display species-typical behavior. This allows the animals to exercise control over their environment, and enhances their mental well-being. Gulf Breeze Zoo encourages their animals to engage their five senses by practicing different techniques of environmental and behavioral enrichment.

PREVISIT FIELD TRIP PROJECT:

Senses Project 1

This project is designed to familiarize students with items that enrich their daily lives and consider what senses they use to explore their surroundings.

DURING FIELD TRIP PROJECT:

Senses Project 2

This project is designed to show students how the animals use their senses and how enrichment encourages, both natural and learned behaviors.

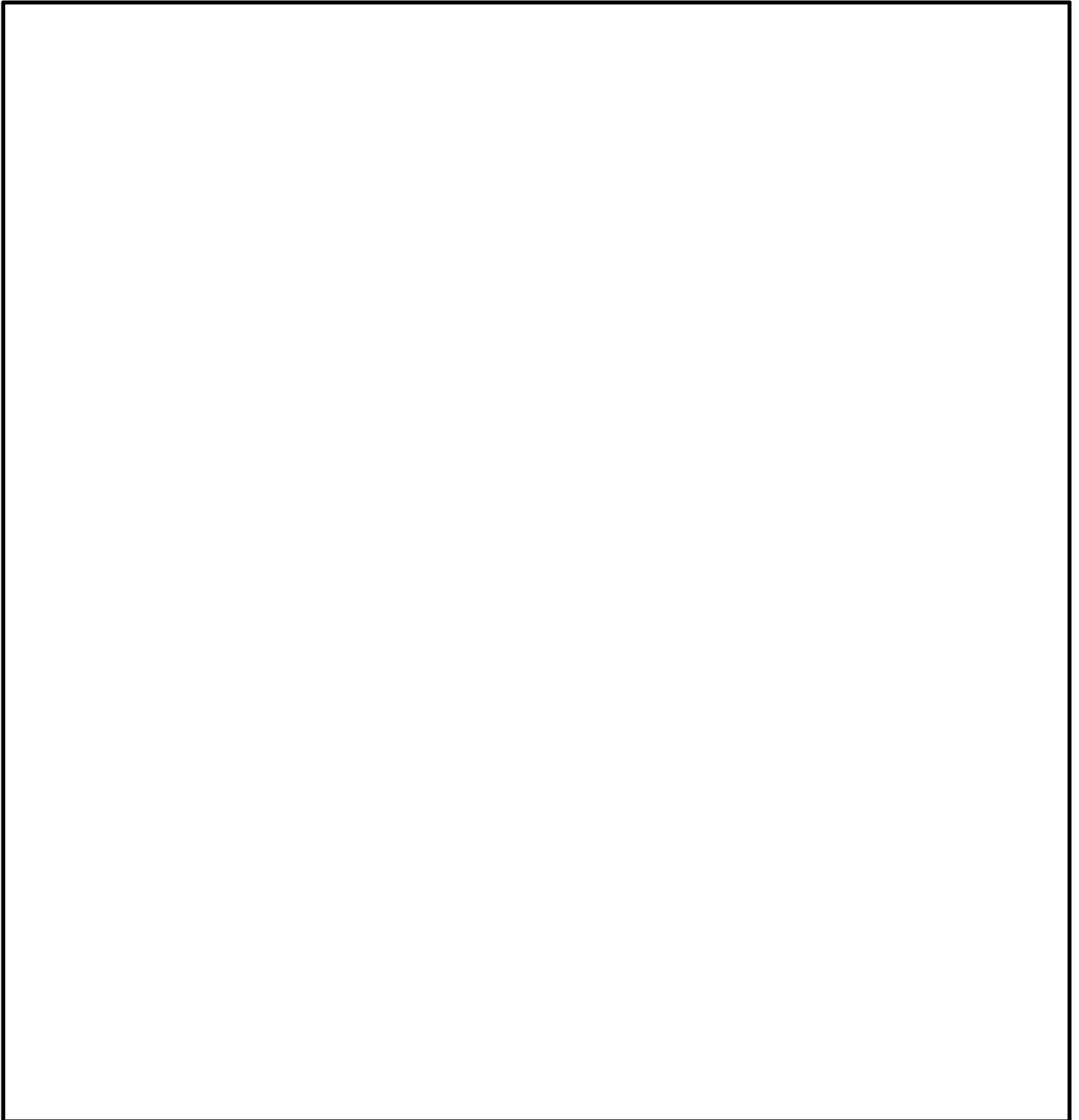
POST FIELD TRIP PROJECT:

Senses Project 3

This project is designed to give real world application, and to encourage awareness of the 5 senses.

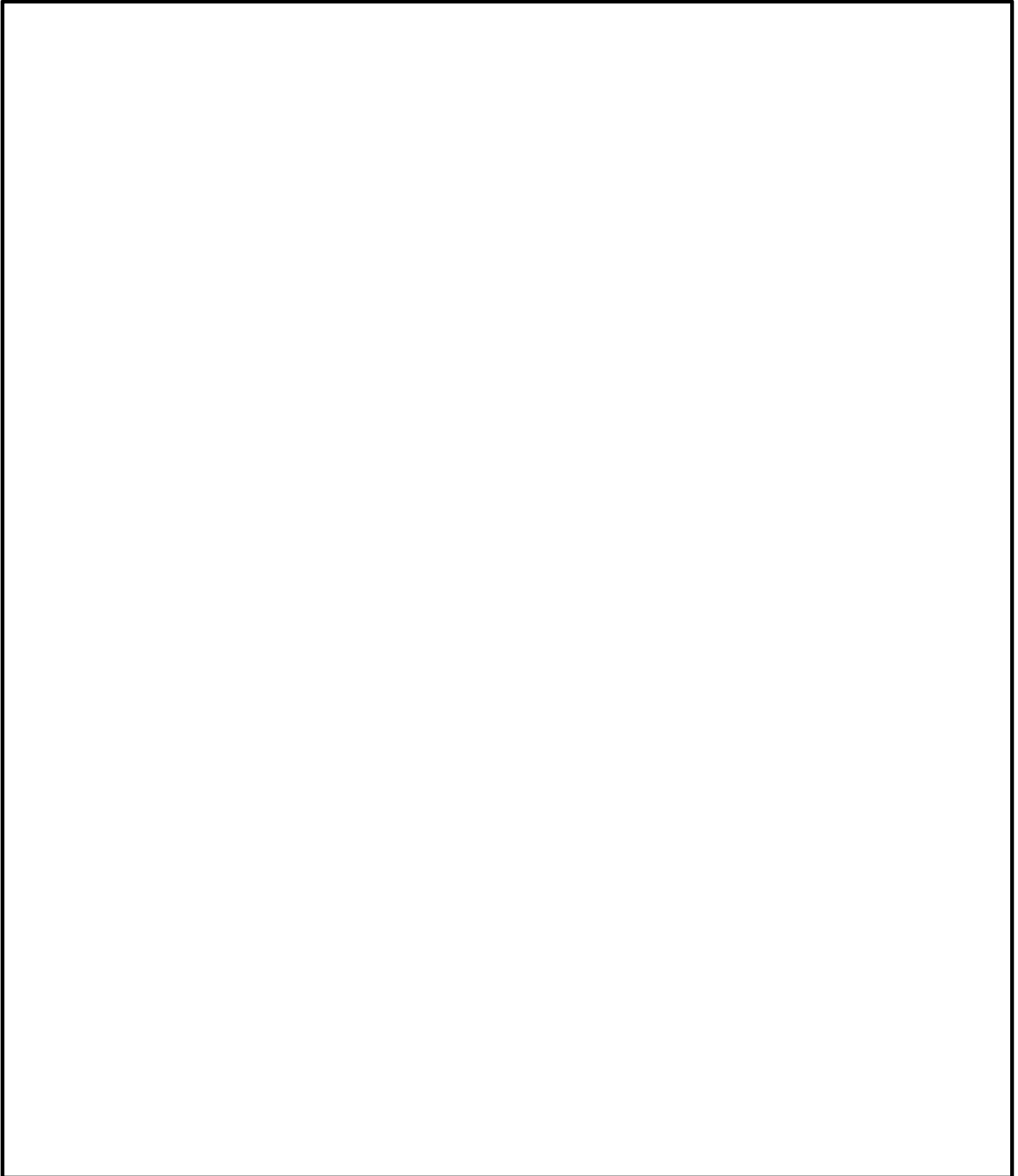
Senses Project: Pre-Visit

1. Draw a picture of you in the rectangle below. Imagine that this is your house, and it is empty. Now, add some items to the picture to show how your environment is enriched. Clues: What do you like to do at home? Who do you enjoy this activity with? Can you draw one item to appeal to each of your 5 senses?



Senses Project: Pre-Visit

2. Now, draw a picture of an animal that you hope to see at the Gulf Breeze Zoo. Include some of the items that may enrich its life. Try to include items to appeal to all of their senses.



Senses Post Curriculum:

Directions: Think of your pet at home, or an animal you saw around your school. What were they using their senses to do?