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- Use PowerPoint to create a presentation that pulled everything together.

Zoo instructors with props and videos on western lowland gorillas visited the ve schools. Students observed and conducted investigations with the educators to build an understanding of animal behavior and adaptation. Students were to observe and describe how living and nonliving

dispense food. Simulating the active pursuit of food in the wild and making changes to the habitat improves animal welfare and reduces stress.

Classroom engineering and math projects included designing crates using craft sticks and glue that would hold a Beanie Baby (Figure 2) and creating a puzzle feeder using cardboard tubes, paper, scissors, string, glue, and M&M's. Both the crate and the puzzle feeder included specific directions that classmates could duplicate using measurements of length, width, and height and the dimensions of any openings. We assessed the crate based on the following criteria:

- Could the animal be released from the crate without destroying it (i.e., the crate had to have a lid that could be removed)?
- Was the crate structurally sound three days later?
- Did the crate hold the weight of the stuffed animal when lifted?

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(behavior checklist) or one where students can launch a study of their own design.

Led by the zoo educators, students observed animal behavior, compared behaviors between species or individuals within a group, and discussed topics such as space use, social groupings, and gorilla natural history and conservation. These topics connected to the key themes of *The One and Only Ivan*. Students then completed scientific illustrations of the exhibits, incorporating art into their science observations that doubled as a way to assess learning.

Because we viewed visual and performing arts as integral components to our project, we also involved our students in a theater production of *The One and Only Ivan* through the KidSeries Student Matinee Program at the Lifeline Theater in Chicago. Prior to the show, teachers received a study guide with activities that related the play to different subjects. For *The One and Only Ivan*, younger students were encouraged to create on paper ideal animal habitats for their favorite zoo animals. A simple math activity page included a maze. Following the matinee, the cast held an interactive storytelling session with games that explored the book behind the play.



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