



ZOO ANIMAL CAGES

(20 minutes)

OBJECTIVE

Students learn to cooperate while creating edible zoo animal cages.

MATERIALS

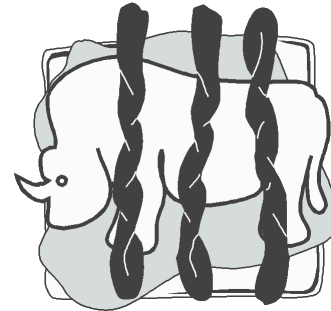
1 half of a graham cracker per child;
1 container (more depending on class size) of white frosting; 1 animal cracker per child; 3 licorice/Twizzler® pieces per child; plastic knives for spreading frosting

GET READY

- ✓ Split your students up into groups of four.
- ✓ Make sure there are enough graham crackers, white frosting, animal crackers, and licorice/Twizzler® pieces per child.
- ✓ Have each child wash their hands extremely well, as they will all be handling food.

INSTRUCTIONS

- ✓ Tell your students that they will be making treats they can eat, though they must work together in their groups to make it happen.
- ✓ Assign each student in each group to be in charge of one item for creating zoo animal cages. One child will receive all of the graham crackers, one will have the frosting, one will have the animal crackers, and the other will be in charge of the licorice/Twizzlers®.
- ✓ Model for your students how to create the zoo animal cages. First, lay a half of a graham cracker flat. Next, spread the frosting on a graham cracker. Then, place an animal cracker on top of the frosting. Finally, place three pieces of licorice or three Twizzlers® vertically along the graham cracker as the animal cage's bars.



- ✓ Give the groups a minute to discuss how they will build the zoo animal cages. They should determine that the student with the graham crackers needs to give everyone in their group a graham cracker. Then, they should determine that the person with frosting should next distribute a large clump of frosting on each graham cracker and that each group member should spread the frosting on their cracker with their plastic knife. They should determine that the person holding the animal crackers should then distribute them to his/her group members. Lastly, they should determine that the person with the licorice/Twizzlers® should give three pieces to each group member to complete the cages.
- ✓ Have your students build their zoo animal cage treats. Confirm that each group is working cooperatively.
- ✓ When the class has completed their zoo cages, have your students walk around the room to see the other groups' zoo animal cages.
- ✓ Finally, allow your students to eat their zoo animal cages.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- ★ *What was the best part about making the zoo animal cages?*
- ★ *What was the most difficult part about making the zoo animal cages?*
- ★ *Was it hard working in a group to create your cages? Why or why not?*