

Dear Mrs. Rhodes,

We have a problem. We live in Sayville and don't get to see a lot of wild animals. There is not a lot of opportunity to learn about conservation and wildlife preservation. If we took a field trip to the Bronx Zoo our problem would be solved. Ray and Tanya and I would like to take our class to the zoo. Please, we really want to go! In addition, we will make a guide that tells everyone about the animals and provides information about saving endangered wildlife.

If we went on a field trip, we will learn about the wildlife from around the world and how the Bronx Zoo provides a natural habitat for them to live and breed. This information would help us to understand the importance of science in our day to day life. We would use math to make a budget and figure out a way to earn money. These skills will be very useful again and again. We will learn how to make a schedule with target dates. This will provide us with a plan that covers the entire project from start to finish. The preparation of the study guide will require lots of research and organization of information.

The first thing to do is research, research, research! Next, we will choose a fund raiser (with your approval, of course). This will earn money for the field trip. The parents will hopefully chip in their time and money, if we don't get enough. We will prepare a plan schedule. This will provide the dates that team members will need to accomplish the steps toward our goal. One model we will use to help us is *The Unofficial Guide to Walt Disney World*. It shows us step by step how to plan a trip and what to see.

Now, you are asking why should I approve a trip to the Bronx Zoo? How does this help the whole class? Besides the fact that the project planning, fund raising, budgeting and reporting will provide an excellent learning opportunity, it will provide education. It will also provide awareness of wildlife and the importance of conservation. This project will be evaluated by its successful planning and its ability to involve our class in wildlife conservation. The trip will be evaluated by the student participation on the trip and a plan of conservation that identifies what we can all do to protect and respect wildlife so they will still be around when we have children.

Sincerely,

DJ