

SKYPE A SCIENTIST

AGES

Children 8+ years

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Children learn from animal scientists during a Skype interview! From the Skype a Scientist website, choose from almost any kind of scientist, including zoologists, ecologists, marine biologists, evolutionary biologists, veterinarians, and paleontologists. Before the interview, consider reading a book related to your topic. Then lead a quick discussion to generate questions that the children might want to ask. If you have time, include a craft or experiment after the interview. For example, if you have a scientist discuss working with bats, do a simple bat craft and/or echolocation experiment. Or pass out coloring sheets to complete in the library or take home. You can tailor the content to any age group. The recommended donation for an interview is \$1. Suggested runtime: 90–120 minutes

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

Schedule the interview and discuss the topic with the scientist in advance. For the interview itself, you will need a computer hooked up to the internet and AV equipment. Do a trial run and make sure everything is running well before the program. Set up chairs and make sure the group understands how the program works before you dial in your scientist.

RESOURCES

Skype a Scientist: <https://www.skypeascientist.com/>

Children's Nonfiction

Picture Books

Trapped! A Whale's Rescue (2015) by Robert Burleigh and Wendell Minor

What Do You Do If You Work at the Zoo? (2020) by Steve Jenkins and Robin Page

Early Readers

Animals (Jobs if You Like...) (2012) by Charlotte Guillain

I Want to Be a Veterinarian (2018) by Laura Driscoll and Cataline Echeverri

If You Love Dolphins, You Could Be (2019) by May Nakamura (early reader)

TIP:

For older children and teens interested in marine biology, try these fun YouTube videos from Sea Kate Run (<https://bit.ly/3dGztCc>) and Sea & Me (<https://bit.ly/2y13opw>).

TIP:

Remember to prepare some age-appropriate questions in case you have a quiet group.

Middle Grade

Alex the Parrot (2012) by Stephanie Spinner and Meilo So

Big Blue Forever: The Story of Canada's Largest Blue Whale Skeleton (2017) by Anita Miettunen

Caring for Marine Animals (2016) by Richard Wunderlick

Heroes of the Environment (2009) by Harrier Rohmer and Julie McLaughlan

I Like Animals...What Jobs Are There? (2019) by Steve Martin and Roberto Blefari

Marine Biologist (2019) by William David Thomas

So, You Want to Work with Animals?: Discover Fantastic Ways to Work with Animals, from Veterinary Science to Aquatic Biology (2017) by J. M. Bedell

Winter's Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again (2011) by Juliana Hatkoff, Isabella Hatkoff, and Craig Hatkoff

Zoo Scientists to the Rescue (2017) by Patricia Newman

Children's Fiction

Picture Books

Ida, Always (2016) by Caron Levis and Charles Santoso

Saving Samantha (2004) by Robbyn Smith van Frankenhuyzen and Gijsbert van Frankenhuyzen

Early Readers

Bad Kitty: Kitten Trouble (Bad Kitty #15) (2019) by Nick Bruel

A Piglet Called Truffle (Jasmin Green Rescues #1) (2020) by Helen Peters and Ellie Snowdon

Skunked! (Calpurnia Tate, Girl Vet #1) (2016) by Jacqueline Kelly, Teagan White, and Jennifer L. Meyer

Little but Fierce (2020) by Joan Emerson

Middle Grade

The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate (2009) by Jacqueline Kelly

Fight for Life (2007) by Laurie Halse Anderson (or any Vet Volunteers book)

A Home for Goddesses and Dogs (2020) by Leslie Connor

Ivy (2017) by Katherine Coville

Lila and Hadley (2020) by Kody Keplinger

The Purr-fect Scoop (2018) (Sprinkle Sundays #3) by Simon Coco

Snapdragon (2020) by Kat Leyh

Strays Like Us (2018) by Cecilia Galante

The Voyages of Doctor Dolittle (2019 [1922]) by Hugh Lofting

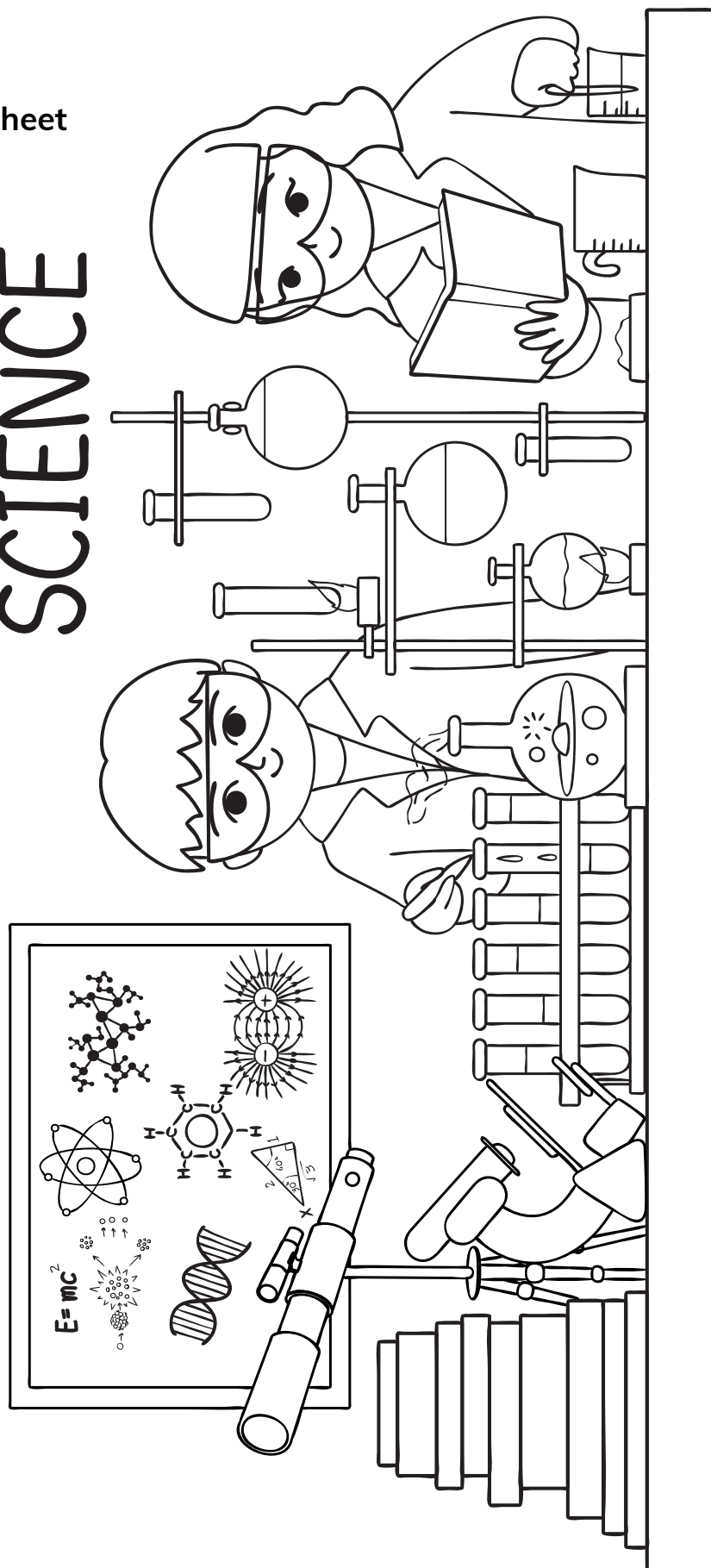
TIP:

For books about individual scientists, see Chapter 03: Who Helped Me?; for YA and adult books about working with animals, see Chapter 03: Teen Volunteer Fair.

PRINTABLE

Science Coloring Sheet

SCIENCE



PRINTABLE

Sleeping Bat Coloring Sheet

