

WILD JEOPARDY

AGES

Children 6+ years

Teens

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Run a game of Jeopardy using a free online template! You can adapt the questions for any age group or animal theme. The rules follow the traditional TV game show, and contestants get points for every correctly answered question. Remember prizes for the winning teams. Suggested runtime: 60 minutes

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

You will need:

- PowerPoint template
- Laptop and AV equipment
- Jeopardy theme song
- Buzzers or handheld signs
- Prizes

Download the free PowerPoint template and fill in the blanks with age-appropriate questions related to your animal theme. On game day, set the tone by playing the Jeopardy theme song as contestants arrive. Divide them into teams, and give each team a buzzer (or sign).



Image source: Shutterstock

UNIQUE SPACE AND PERSONNEL NEEDS

Only one staff member is needed operate the game, read the questions, and keep score. Add more staff for larger groups. This game can get loud, so it is best to run it in an enclosed meeting room.

TIP:

For a premade bookish beasts-themed Jeopardy game for teens, see <https://bit.ly/2TgBTjd> (password: summer)

ADAPTATION:

For younger children, you can use the animal silhouettes as the “question” and ask them to answer with the name of the animal.

TIP:

To even the playing field, you can also ask teams to write and hold up their answers at the same time and award points to every team with the correct answer.

TIP:

Introduce the game like Alex Trebek: “Thank you all very much ladies and gentlemen, on behalf of all of us, welcome to America’s favorite answer-and-question game, Jeopardy!” Just like in the TV show, give each contestant exactly 30 seconds to tell the most interesting story or fact about themselves.

RESOURCES

Web

Free Jeopardy PowerPoint template: <https://bit.ly/2zbS5Lz>

YouTube tutorial on how to use the template: <https://bit.ly/2TgC91F>

10 easy animal trivia questions: <https://bit.ly/3dWyvBN>

15 animal questions from Useful Trivia: <https://bit.ly/3bN3NcJ>

30 science trivia from Science Kids: <https://bit.ly/2TeniEM>

Animal trivia for teens from Pub Quiz Questions HQ: <https://bit.ly/36bA8Jb>

Animal Fact Books

Humanimal: Incredible Ways Animals Are Just Like Us (2019) by Christopher Lloyd and Mark Ruffle (middle grade)

Terrific Tongues! (2018) by Maria Gianferrari and Jia Liu (picture book)

The Surprising Lives of Animals: How They Can Laugh, Play, and Misbehave (2020) by Anna Claybourne and Stef Murphy (middle grade)

ANIMAL TRIVIA BOARD GAMES TO TRY:

- The Animal Trivia Challenge Game from MindWare: <https://amzn.to/2Xa06c4>
- Brainbox: A Box of Animals: <https://amzn.to/2z8Pimt>

TIP:

For more children's nonfiction about weird and/or amazing animals, see Chapter 06: Axolotl and Other Weirdos and Chapter 06: Terrific Tardigrades.