

Houston Zoo at Home

GORILLAS

Used Electronic Device Scavenger Hunt

All Ages

Raise your hand if you are viewing this on your cell phone. Laptop? Tablet? All of our homes are filled with a variety of electronic devices. A material called tantalum is found in almost every cell phone, as well as in other handheld electronics such as tablets. This metal comes from the ground in Central Africa, which happens to be where animals like chimpanzees and gorillas live. When the metal is taken from these habitats to be used in electronics, the homes of chimps, gorillas and an array of other animals become disrupted and these animals lose their habitats. But, by recycling used electronic devices at the Houston Zoo, you will be helping save gorillas in the wild. That means we need your help!

Materials Needed:

Your house and all the rooms in it

Steps:

1. Spend some time wandering through your house – opening drawers, looking under beds and anywhere else you might find electronic devices – to see what kind of old or used electronic devices you can find.
2. Collect these items and once we can resume our recycling program, bring them on your next visit to the Houston Zoo.

Share your project with us!

Tag your photo using #HoustonZoo or email us your story at communications@houstonzoo.org.

Home is Where the Nest Is

Ages 3 and up

Several of the gorillas at the Houston Zoo enjoy building nests. Mike, for example, prefers being outside and builds a napping spot under a tree for shade so he can lay back and relax. His keepers give him and many of our other primates a special material called wood wool in order to build and rebuild the perfect bed. Try your hand at building a nest like Mike!



Photo Credit: Brian Lilly

Materials Needed:

- Backyard or other safe spot around or inside your home
- Blankets or towels
- Pillows
- stuffed animals

Steps:

1. Pick your favorite spot to relax.
2. Grab the items you collected above and create your own nest. Settle in and spend some time relaxing just like the gorillas at the Houston Zoo do!

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