

SORCHA @ AFRICA ALIVE! APPRENTICE STORY



TOPIC: Working as an apprentice at Africa Alive!



Overview

Sorcha works at Africa Alive! as an Apprentice Zookeeper. Through her apprenticeship, she is studying towards a Level 2 in Animal Care and Welfare. This lesson plan has been designed for teachers to help students discover more about the broad range of apprenticeships available. Through her film, Sorcha explains why she applied for the apprenticeship and her future career plans.

Preparation

Download the 'Sorcha' **resource bundle** from the [Amazing Apprenticeships website](https://www.amazingapprenticeships.com), which includes:

- Sorcha's Story Lesson Plan
- A supporting **PowerPoint** slide deck featuring the Africa Alive logo, imagery and key questions for the lesson
- The student **worksheet**
- You'll either need devices with wifi to play Kahoot or coloured paper/card for the warmer

Gatsby Benchmarks

- 1 A stable careers programme
- 4 Linking curriculum learning to careers
- 5 Encounters with employers/employees

Aims

- ✓ To develop an understanding of apprenticeships as a pathway for post-16s.
- ✓ To increase awareness of the range of apprenticeship job roles and levels available.

Objectives

Students will be better able to:

- Describe what being an apprentice at Africa Alive! is like.
- Explain the different routes into an apprenticeship and the different types of support available.
- Explore the benefits of being an apprentice.

Warmer (5 minutes) Option 1

Show slide 2 and ask the students to use their mobile devices to join the Kahoot quiz. They can play on the website or on the Kahoot app.

To use the Kahoot quiz go to [this link](#) and if you have an account then log in, otherwise, you can continue as a guest. It will ask you to choose between a Classic game or a Shared Devices game. It will then generate a game pin which, depending on your game choice, will need to be shared with your students.



Warmer (5 minutes) Option 2

This is the same quiz as in Kahoot but without any devices. Show slide 3 (this is editable) and ask the students to work in pairs/small groups to answer the questions by racing to hold up coloured card/paper to choose the best answer.

Questions and answers:

How many Zoos are there in the UK?

48

Which of these groups of animals come from Africa?

Rhino, lion, leopard

True or False: Zookeepers look after animals in zoos, safari parks and aquariums (True)

Which of these isn't a job working with animals?

Palaeontologist

While and after listening activity (15 mins)

Introduce Sorcha to the students using the overview information. Then divide the students into groups and give each group a question (Questions worksheet). Ask them to watch the film and then peer check afterwards to make sure they all have the same answer for their question. Once they have checked put the students into new groups so they can work together to complete the missing information on the student worksheet (Information gap worksheet). The questions have been paraphrased to check their understanding.

Answers

1. She's always loved animals and wanted to expand her knowledge.
2. She had a 1-1 interview and then a practical assessment where she made an antelope's bed!
3. She shadowed the senior keepers and assisted with medical treatment.
4. It's very practical and she also has remote college lessons.
5. She wants to stay in animal care and do research in conservation.

After watching (10 mins)

Remind the students that in the film Sorcha found her apprenticeship opportunity through Facebook. Ask them to work in pairs or small groups to create a mind-map of other ways to find apprenticeships. The list could include: visiting [Amazing Employers](#) on the Amazing Apprenticeships website or go to Find an Apprenticeship [website](#), looking on careers pages on employers' sites, speaking to careers leaders, speaking to family/family friends, etc.

Homework Task:

Ask the students to go to the Amazing Apprenticeships website to read Cian's story in the [A-Z of Men at Work](#) (he is letter Z!) Ask them to write the answers to these questions:

1. Is Cian's apprenticeship level and type the same as Sorcha's?

Yes, they are both doing a Level 2 in Animal Care.

2. What is the difference between Cian's most exciting project and his favourite on-the-job experience?

The project was creative (creating a cleaning storyboard) and the experience was practical (safely handling Barbary Sheep for hoof trimming).

3. What has been the most satisfying part of Cian's apprenticeship?

Feeling comfortable in his own section of the zoo - he feels accomplished and independent.

4. Read Cian's quote at the bottom of the page. What would your motivational quote be? Students' own answers.

Extension Activity Suggestion:

Go to the [Africa Alive! website](#) to learn more about their volunteering opportunities.

