

**Suggested Pre-Field Trip Activities
for Dead or Alive (Living & Nonliving) at
Wood Lake Nature Center**

Vocabulary

- **Living**
- **Non-living**
- **Decompose**

*Review vocabulary.

*Have students in small groups sort pictures of living and non-living things.

*Make a list of all of the ways you can tell if something may be living/alive (breathing, grow, eat, drink, give off waste, reproduce).

*Have students draw a picture of useful nonliving things (i.e. computer, water bottle, etc).

*Read a story about decomposition.

*Conduct an experiment with a compostable object (cup, napkin, apple, etc.) and bury it in soil, observe what happens to it each week, focusing on decomposition.

*Bring in several objects both natural and man-made and have students sort out where they should go at the end of their use/ life (recycle container, garbage, compost bin).

**Suggested Post-Field Trip Activities
for Dead or Alive (Living & Nonliving) at
Wood Lake Nature Center**

*Review vocabulary list.

*Have students draw a picture of their favorite living thing they saw on their field trip and describe what things the plant or animal need to survive.

*Have students describe what they need to be a healthy, living person.

*Have students look in their desk and around the room and observe if they have any non-living things that used to be alive that they use in class to help them learn (i.e. paper, pencils, desks, books, wooden rulers).

*Conduct an experiment with a compostable object (cup, napkin, apple, etc.) and bury it in soil, observe what happens to it each week, focusing on decomposition.