

JUNE

# DISCOVER. CONNECT. TAKE ACTION.

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Discover the natural world with  
these fun at-home activities!



# RETICULATED GIRAFFE

**Jakobi: Male**

DOB: Sept 3, 2005

Approx. 15.5 feet tall

**Zola: Female**

DOB: April 26, 2016

Approx. 12 feet tall

**Skye: Female**

DOB: November 24, 2014

Approx. 13.5 feet tall

**Bakari: Male**

DOB: Sept 7, 2023

Approx. 5.5 feet tall  
at birth



Reticulated giraffes are found primarily in southern and eastern Africa, with smaller populations in west and central Africa. Their preferred habitats are the savannah, grasslands, and open woods. Here they search for trees – especially their favorite, acacias – to feed upon.

## Discover. Connect. Take Action.

**Giraffe Conservation Foundation (GCF)**

is an international science-based conservation organization that provides innovative approaches to save giraffe in the wild. Their objective is to raise awareness and support towards securing a future for giraffe and the conservation of their habitat in Africa

### World Giraffe Day!

We will celebrate the tallest animal on the longest day or night (depending on which hemisphere you live!) of the year!

Stand tall for giraffes on June 21st. Visit the Zoo from 10am to 2pm for special giraffe themed games and activities!





# GIRAFFE SPOT MATCH

Giraffe have unique spot patterns. Just like our finger prints - no two are the same! Can you match the spots with the correct giraffe? Below we've zoomed in on the shoulder of Blank Park Zoo's giraffe. Can you match the shoulder picture with the correct giraffe?



Skye



Bakari



Zola



Jakobi



A



B



C



D

ANSWER KEY: Skye - A; Bakari - B; Zola - C; Jakobi - D

# Mad Lib

The giraffe at Blank Park Zoo each have unique personalities. Create your own funny story about why giraffe have long necks by completing the mad lib below. After completing your story, read a the real reason why giraffe have long necks from Giraffe Conservation Foundation.

## Word list

Create your list here and then plug in to the text below.

Adjective	Verb	Noun (thing)	Bone
Noun (thing)	Plant part	Sport equipment	Number
Number	Plant	Action 1	
Adjective		Action 2	
		Fight move	

## Why do giraffe have such a long neck?

Giraffe are interesting animals.

They are the \_\_\_\_\_ animals on land. (fill in the blank with an adjective)

Their feet are the size of \_\_\_\_\_. (fill in the blank with a noun - thing)

Their hearts can weigh about \_\_\_\_\_ pounds. (fill in the blank with a number)

However the most interesting part about a giraffe might be it's \_\_\_\_\_ neck. Giraffe necks have several important roles and specific functions. (fill in the blank with an adjective)

### Feeding:

Giraffe are browsers which mean that they \_\_\_\_\_ the foliage off of the branches of trees and bushes. (fill in the blank with a verb)

\_\_\_\_\_ are some of the giraffes' favorite snack. (fill in the blank with a plant part)

\_\_\_\_\_ can reach 13-19 feet tall, leaving their \_\_\_\_\_ quite out of reach for most animals. (fill in blank 1 with a plant and blank 2 with a plant part)

Giraffe however, can reach these tasty \_\_\_\_\_. (fill in the blank with a plant part)

### Necking:

Male giraffe have large \_\_\_\_\_ covering their heads. (fill in the blank with a noun - thing)

These \_\_\_\_\_ are calcium deposits that have built up over time that act as a \_\_\_\_\_ protecting their heads. (fill in blank 1 with a noun - thing and blank 2 with sports equipment)

In the wild male giraffe will \_\_\_\_\_ each other in the pursuit of females. (fill in the blank with action 1)

This \_\_\_\_\_ -ing is called "necking." (fill in the blank with an action 1)

During these \_\_\_\_\_ -s, bulls will repeatedly \_\_\_\_\_ their long necks to deliver powerful \_\_\_\_\_ to their rival's body. (fill in blank 1 with action 1, blank 2 with action 2 and blank 3 with a fight move)

### Structure:

Surprisingly, giraffe have the same number of \_\_\_\_\_ as humans and other mammals. (fill in the blank with a bone)

A giraffe's cervical vertebrae can be almost \_\_\_\_\_ inches long. (fill in the blank with a number)

# Why do giraffe have such a long neck?

*From the Giraffe Conservation Foundation*

Giraffe are interesting animals. They are the tallest animals on land. Their feet are the size of dinner plates. Their hearts can weigh about twenty-five pounds. However the most interesting part about a giraffe might be it's long neck. Giraffe necks have several important roles and specific functions.

## **Feeding:**

Giraffe are browsers which mean that they eat the foliage off of the branches of trees and bushes. Acacia trees are some of giraffes' favorite snacks. Acacia trees can reach 13-19 feet tall, leaving their leaves quite out of reach for most animals. Giraffe however, can reach these tasty leaves.

## **Necking:**

Male giraffe have large bumps covering his head. These bumps are calcium deposits that have built up over time that act as a helmet protecting their heads. In the wild, male giraffe will fight each other in the pursuit of females. This fighting is called "necking." During these fights, bulls will repeatedly swing their long necks to deliver powerful head-butts to their rival's body.

## **Structure:**

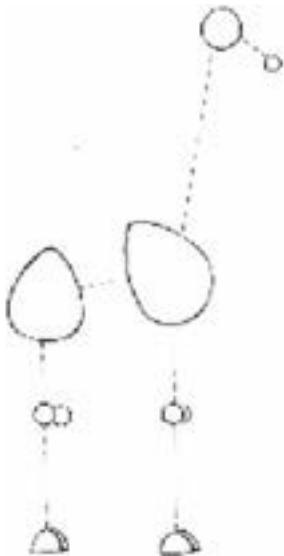
Surprisingly, giraffe have the same number of vertebrae as humans and other mammals. A giraffe's cervical vertebrae can be almost 10 inches long.

## **Lookout:**

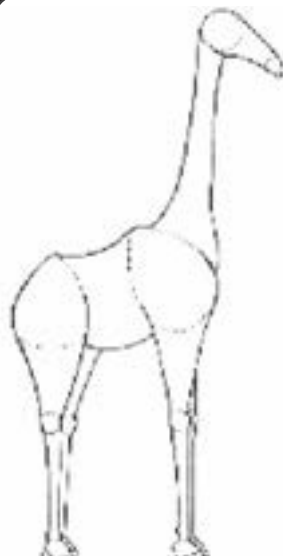
Just like a watchtower in a city or fort, having their eyes so high in the sky helps giraffe keep watch of predators that may be coming by in the wide expanse of the African savanna.



# LEARN HOW TO DRAW A GIRAFFE!

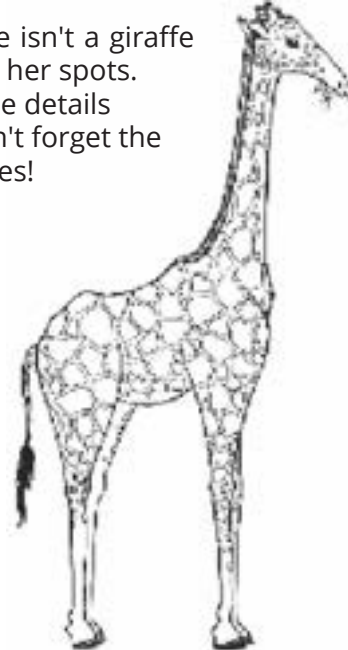


First, draw these basic shapes and the dotted lines between them. Remember to do them softly in pencil so you can rub them out later.



Now, draw around the shapes to get the outline of your giraffe. Take your time, there is no rush!

A giraffe isn't a giraffe without her spots. Fill in the details and don't forget the ossicones!

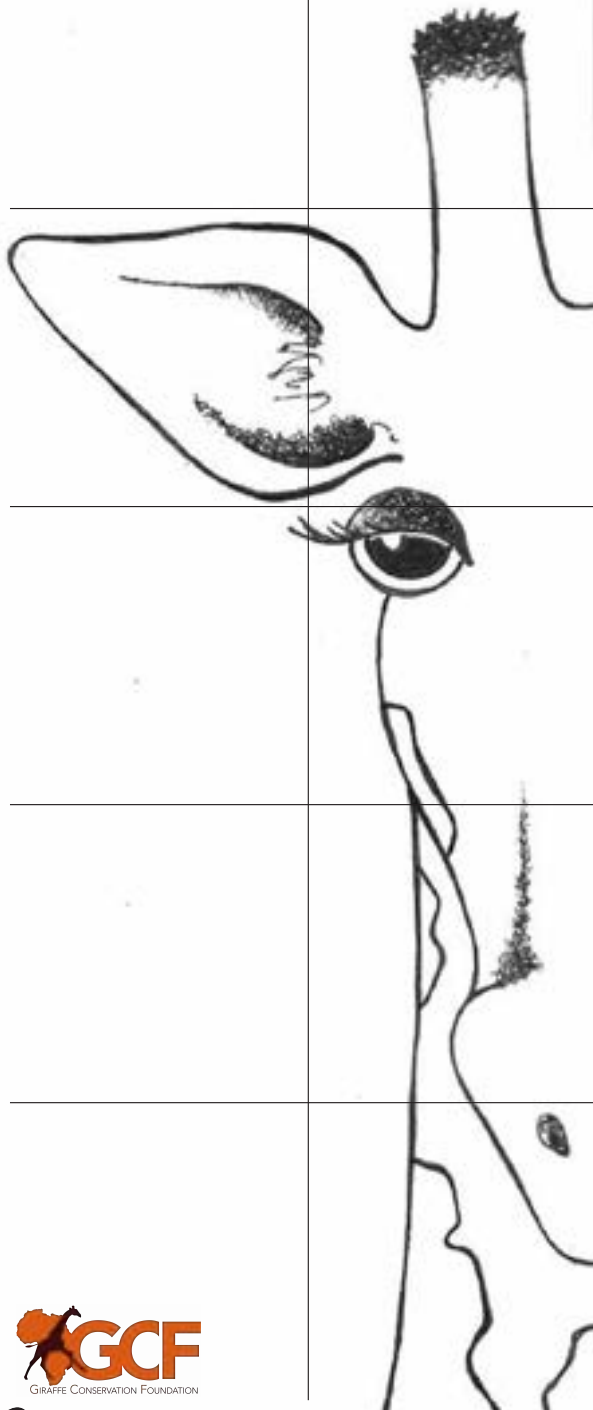


Well done, you've drawn a giraffe! Doesn't she look happy? Now colour her in.



# FOLLOW MY LEADER

Draw the other side of the giraffe's face by copying what you see on the left, and then colour it in.



# BLANK PARK

# ZOO

