



CRITTER CAMS

Writer's Tip

- A how-to article teaches and informs the reader about a specific topic.
- Be sure that your topic and purpose for writing are clear and at the beginning of the article.

Ever wonder what alligators do all day? Do you enjoy watching polar bears play?

You can become an animal expert by viewing Web cams run by zoos. These special cameras are placed in areas where the animals live. The Web cams broadcast the action on the Internet. People can then watch the animals on their computers. If you have a computer, access to the Internet, a notebook, and a pencil or pen, you can learn a lot about animals.

First, choose an animal and Web cam to visit. Then watch the camera at different times during the day to see what the animal is doing. In a notebook, record the time of day and if the animal is eating, sleeping, or playing.

After a week, review your notes. Have you discovered any behavior patterns? In the following weeks, visit other Web cams and repeat the process.



Communicate Your Purpose

- ▶ Reread the passage. Find the author's purpose and underline the details that support it. Then write them in the chart below.

Topic: Web cams	
Purpose:	Supporting Details:

Your Turn

- ▶ Think about an activity that you would like to write a how-to article about. Use the graphic organizer below to plan it. Think about your purpose for writing and how you will communicate it.

Topic:	
Purpose:	Supporting Details:

- ▶ Use your graphic organizer to write an opening paragraph that communicates the purpose of your article.