

## Tula Exotarium, Russia. Our Zoo participates in the EAZA Pole to Pole Campaign.

### Interactive information stand

In February 2014 an interactive information stand was installed at the public exhibition of Tula Exotarium. When reading the information on this stand all visitors can learn about the EAZA Pole to Pole Campaign and about the aims of this campaign, receive information about the animals of this campaign, about the ecological problems, and also about the possible ways of solving of these problems.

If the visitors wish to show their support of the campaign and its activity they can attach to the stand a sticker with the name of the campaign. During two months about 300 stickers were attached to the stand.



## Competitions “Polar cross-country race”

In May 2014 Tula Exotarium organized competitions for schoolchildren “Polar cross-country race”. Eight teams took part in this event. Using the information about the Pole to Pole Campaign, about the ecological problems and the polar animals, schoolchildren prepared for the competitions: they invented a name for each team, as well as a slogan and an emblem, and they demonstrated them to the jury.

After that an intellectual competition followed: the teams of schoolchildren answered the questions about polar animals, about the ecological problems that threaten the animals and about the reasons of these problems. And then the teams took part in the relay-race, the laps of the relay-race reflected the topic of the campaign. For example, on the lap “Penguin route” the schoolchildren had to cover the distance by heel-and-toe walk, and on the lap “Dangerous floating of ice” the children had to jump from one “block of ice” to another “block of ice”.



“Save polar animals!”



Lap 1. The teams present their slogans and emblems to the jury.

Lap 2. Intellectual competition.



Lap.3. Polar relay-race.





Announcing of the winners



The participants of the competitions

## Lessons for children

During the school year 2013-2014 children from a kindergarten were learning about the polar fauna and the problem of global warming. Four lessons were conducted in the kindergarten and one lesson – in Exotarium. Little children (2-3 years of age) learned what animals live in the polar regions, and the children also learned to recognize the polar animals. The children learned what conditions are necessary for life of the polar animals. Besides, older children (4-7 years of age) studied the problem of global warming. Together with them we invented some advice for their parents which can help save polar animals. The children conducted an experiment which demonstrated influence of global warming on the life of humans. This was melting of the glacier and flooding of the city of Saint Petersburg. The final lesson at Exotarium fixed the received knowledge.



## Table game "Pole to Pole"

In June for the World Day of Nature Conservation we developed a table game "Pole to Pole". It consists of a playing field for each participant, a block, counters-icicles, cards with Polar animals and strips with questions. The aim of this game is to tell in the playing form about the problems of the poles, global warming and consequences of this global process. The game is designed for children over 10 years of age and their parents.

The participants must go from one pole to the other pole and save as many animals as possible. On their way the participants answer questions about the South and North poles, about the animals which live there and about ecological problems. Another part of the game is to determine correctly on which pole live the saved animals. The winner of this game is the person who collects the larger number of polar animals.



## Exhibit of the family pictures “Animals of the Polar Regions”

Children from the kindergarten N5 (Tula) studied the animals which live behind the Arctic Circle. Together with their parents the kids painted the animals which require protection and which they liked best. The exhibition “Animals of the Polar Regions” consisted of 36 family pictures and two group pictures. All the participants received diplomas and gifts.



## Fountain “Pole to Pole”

On the summer playground for children we opened a fountain designed in the style of “Pole to Pole” campaign. The aim of this fountain is to remind our visitors that on our planet there are two poles which are similar, but at the same time these poles are quite different, and to attract attention of the visitors to the fact that the poles have a great influence on the climate of the whole planet.

