

# Grizzly Bear Fecal Examination



**Purpose:** The Animal Care Team is responsible for the physical and mental health of our animals. They complete health checks including fecal exams for our animals.

## Definitions

**Fecal** (adjective): relating to feces

**Feces** (noun): waste matter from animals, poop

**Parasite** (noun): an animal that lives in or on another animal and benefits at the expense of the hosting animal. Parasites often take things like nutrients or food away from their host and harm their host. An example would be the deer tick.

## Directions

1. Pick one of the Milwaukee County Zoo's bears' feces to examine.
2. Pretend to put on your protective equipment (gloves, eye glasses protection).
3. Use the probe and tweezers to examine the fake grizzly bear feces.
4. Use the hand lenses to examine what you find.
5. Use the guide packet to identify parasites and diagnose your grizzly bear.

**What parasites did you find?**

**How are those parasites affecting your bear?**

**What symptoms does the bear have?**