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JOAN BEAUCHAMP PROCTER

Zoologist
1897–1931



JOAN PROCTER, DRAGON DOCTOR

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DID YOU KNOW?

- ◆ Zoology is the scientific study of the behavior, anatomy, physiology, classification, and distribution of animals.
- ◆ Joan Procter designed the reptile house at the London Zoo, including a home for the rumored-to-be-vicious Komodo dragons.
- ◆ Joan got a pet crocodile as a birthday present when she was sixteen!
- ◆ When designing the new reptile house for the London Zoo, Joan added elaborate lighting and state-of-the-art heaters so that the cold-blooded animals could keep warm.

AFTER READING *JOAN PROCTER, DRAGON DOCTOR*

- ◆ The next time you go to a zoo or animal exhibit, take notice of the habitats the animals are in. How are they specific to each animal's natural environment? How do the caretakers of the animals get into the enclosure? Is there anything you would change?
- ◆ Become a zoologist! Do you have a pet? Or are there animals in your neighborhood? Start an observation notebook and write down things you notice about them over a period of time. Then do some research on the animal. What are their typical behaviors? Do they match your observations?

