

# Sensory Exploration Around The Zoo

A trail around different areas of Colchester Zoo



# How To Use This Pack

This pack is designed for SEND visitors to use with their carers whilst visiting the Zoo.

This is a long trail designed to use the main senses to explore the Zoo

A shorter trail is also available to explore the Familiar Friends farm area.

On the next page is a map highlighting the area the trail takes place.

On each page there are symbols, which represent the senses. These will indicate which sense or senses will be focused on. Below is a key for these symbols.



Visitors can use their eyes



Visitors can use their hands



Visitors can use their nose



Visitors can use their ears



Wash hands after touching an animal

# MAP KEYS

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  First Aid   |  Play Area           |
|  Information |  Toilets             |
|  Gift Shop   |  Fire Assembly Point |
|  Picnic Area |  Face Painting       |

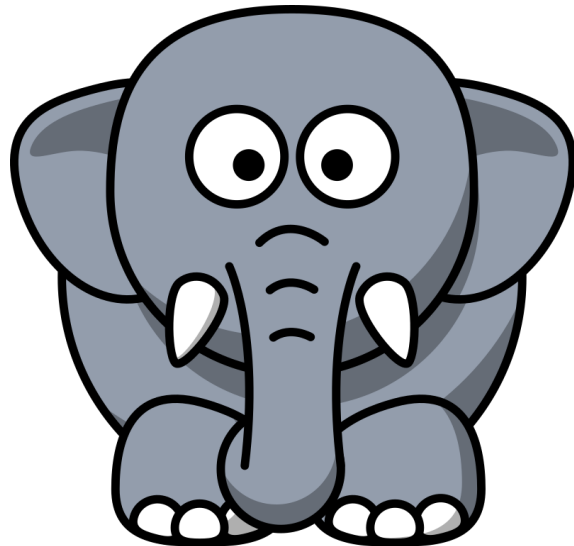


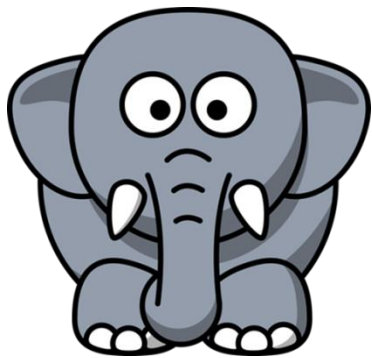
# Hello

My name is Opal, the elephant.

Would you like to join me and explore the Zoo?

Let us start at Worlds Apart which is  on your map.





# Worlds Apart



This is home to many animals.

I might see snakes, iguanas, fish and I might even see a sloth!

In some places the path can be dark, but I can still see inside the animals' home.

The first animals' home is the snake and it is called an anaconda.

What does it look like? Is it shiny? \_\_\_\_\_


As I go round I will cross a bridge over a pond. How many fish can I see? \_\_\_\_\_

On the way out I pass the home of the sloths. They move so slow. Do I move quicker than a sloth? \_\_\_\_\_



# Orangutan Forest



To get to Orangutan Forest I need to go through the under water sea lion tunnel. This is number  2 on my map.

At the end of the tunnel is a microscope. I can use this to see small things up close.

What shapes can I see under the microscope? I can draw them if I like on the back of this page.

Once inside, do I feel warm or cold? \_\_\_\_\_

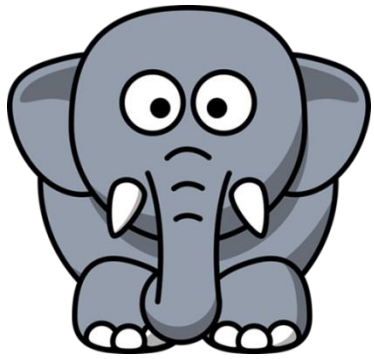
What animals also live here with the orangutans? \_\_\_\_\_

What colours can I see? \_\_\_\_\_

What sounds can I hear? \_\_\_\_\_




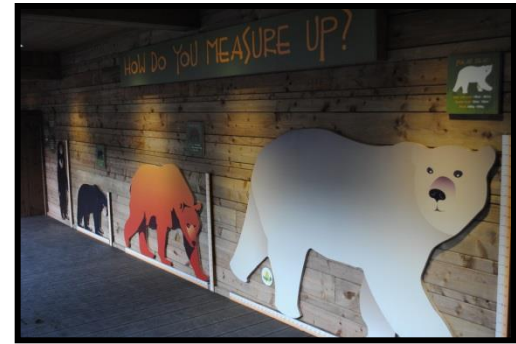
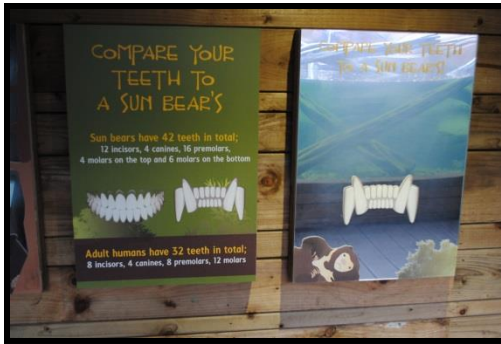




# Bears of the Rising Sun



At the bottom of the hill is a large undercover area, where I can see the bears' outside home. This is number  on my map. On the wall are lots of signs where I can learn more and have fun.



My tongue is \_\_\_\_\_ long.

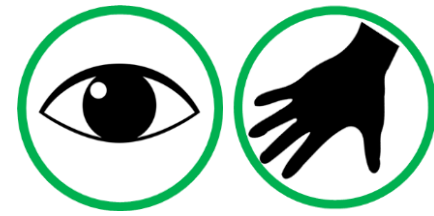
I am the same height as a \_\_\_\_\_ bear.

My teeth are different to a sun bear's teeth. Which teeth are the most different?

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# Koi Niwa!



This is number  on my map.

Outside there are many plants.



What colours are the plants?

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There is also a big statue of a koi fish.

What colours do I see?

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I can touch some of the plants.

How do they feel? \_\_\_\_\_







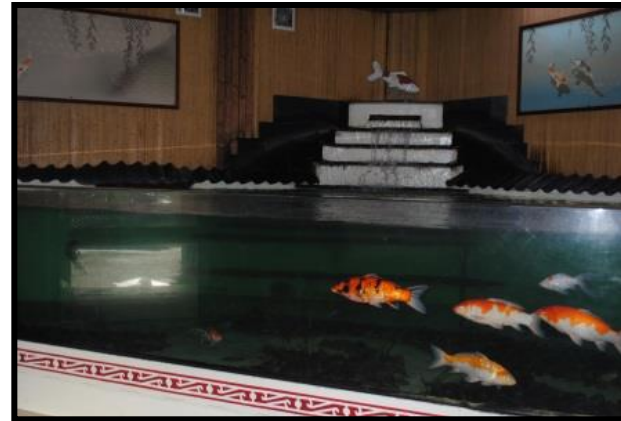
# Inside Koi Niwa



If it is not too busy inside, it is nice to sit down and watch the koi fish.


This is where the koi fish live. There is one big tank and another smaller tank.

How many koi fish can I see in the big tank? \_\_\_\_\_



It is not very loud in here, but there are still some sounds.

What can I hear? \_\_\_\_\_

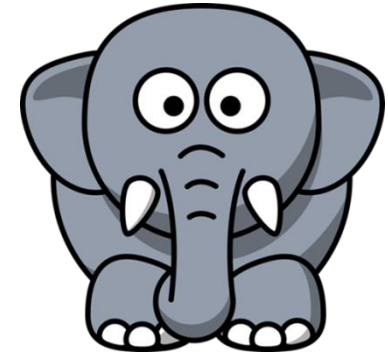
Let us go to Sensation Station, which is number  5 on my map.

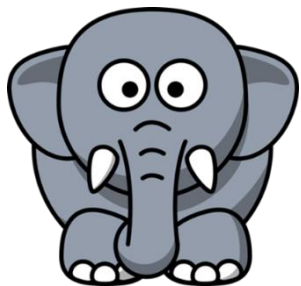
This is home to many animals. On quiet days, at set times, there is an animal out with a zoo keeper.

If I am gentle, I can touch the animal.

It might be furry or scaly or even spiky!

If there is not an animal out to touch, I can check the times and come back later.





# Sensation Station



Is there a zoo keeper with an animal? \_\_\_\_\_

If I want to, I can ask the zoo keeper if I may touch the animal.

If other people are with the zoo keeper, I can wait for my turn.

When touching an animal, I must listen to what the keeper says and be gentle.

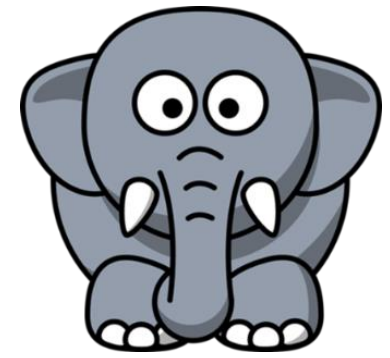
What is the animal? \_\_\_\_\_ How does the animal feel? \_\_\_\_\_

When I have finished touching the animal, I must wash my hands.

There are other animals in here. Can I see them?



The next stop is the flower garden which is  on my map.

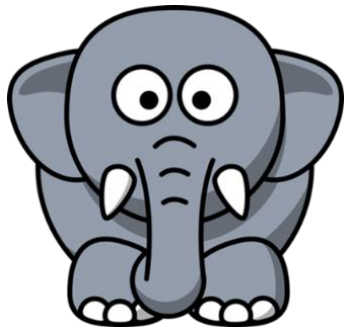


As I go to the flower garden there are puzzles and musical instruments on the side of the path, in front of the bushes.

If I want to, I can play with these.







# The Flower Garden



There are many different types of flowers and plants in the garden.  
Bees and butterflies get their food from these plants.

Some of the plants have labels. What are the names of 3 of the plants?

\_\_\_\_\_

Are the flowers in bloom? If so what colours can I see?

\_\_\_\_\_

If I want to, I can smell some of the flowers.

If I smell the flowers, I...

liked it

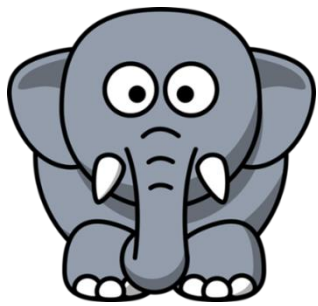


did not mind it




did not like it





# The Giraffe Feeding Time



I can feed a giraffe, it is number  7 on my map. I need to wait at the wooden fence and wait for a zoo keeper to give me some food.

It can be busy, with lots of people and noise.



After I have fed a giraffe, I will leave the wooden fence and wash my hands.

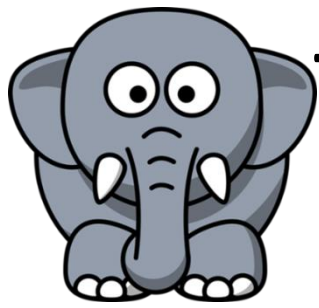


Did I enjoy feeding the giraffe?



How did it feel? \_\_\_\_\_





# The Elephant Feeding Time



I can feed an elephant, it is number  7 on my map. I will join the queue along the wooden fence and wait my turn.

It can be busy, with lots of people and noise.



After I have fed the elephant, I will leave the queue and wash my hands.

Did I enjoy feeding the elephant?




How did it feel? \_\_\_\_\_



# Spirit of Africa



We can go inside where there are other animals, this is number  on my map. There are tiny ants and slow moving tortoises.

What are the ants doing? \_\_\_\_\_

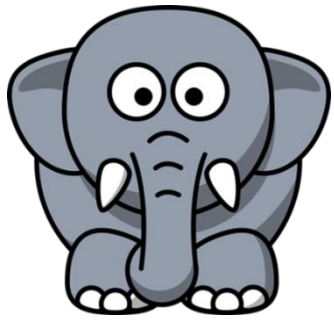
I think I can get from one end of the tortoise home to the other much quicker than a tortoise can!

There are also fish tanks. A tall one upstairs and a long one downstairs.

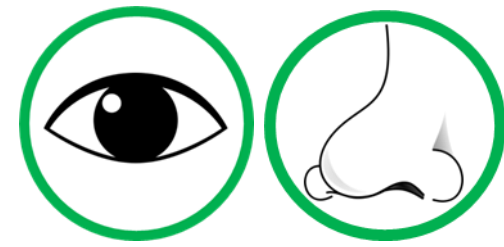
The long tank has benches in front of it. I can sit down here and watch the fish.

What colours are the fish? \_\_\_\_\_

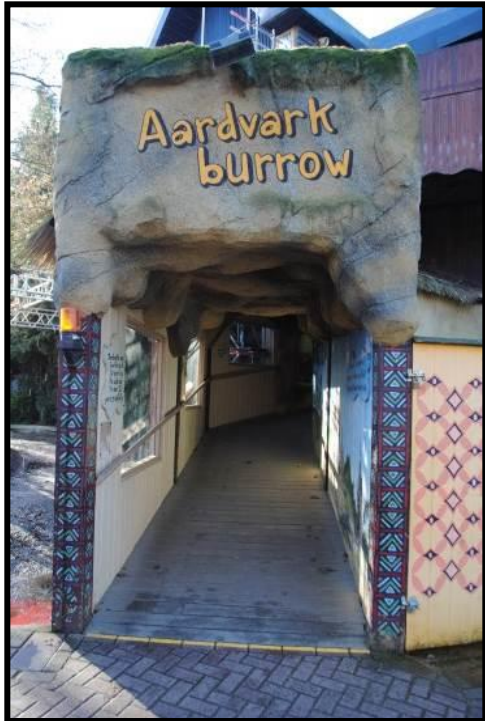




# Spirit of Africa



Outside Spirit of Africa next to the lake is Aardvark Burrow.



I can go up the ramp to find the aardvarks sleeping.

They are awake all night so sleep during the day.

How many aardvarks are sleeping?

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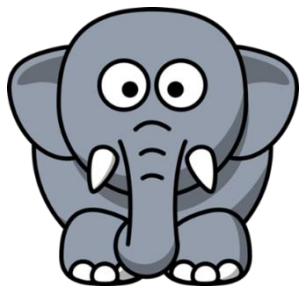
Aardvarks smell different to me. I can smell what the aardvark's smell like by putting my nose to the holes.



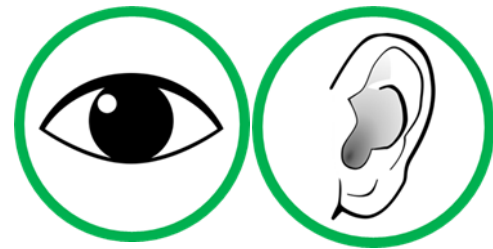
Did I like the smell?







# The Nature Area



Down in the Nature Area are streams, ponds and lots of plants. This is number **9** on my map.

I can follow the ramp and maybe I will see ducks, moorhens, coots and lots of insects in the spring and summer time.

The wooden path takes me through the nature area and is a loop that comes out the other side of the tiger enclosure next to the chip shop.

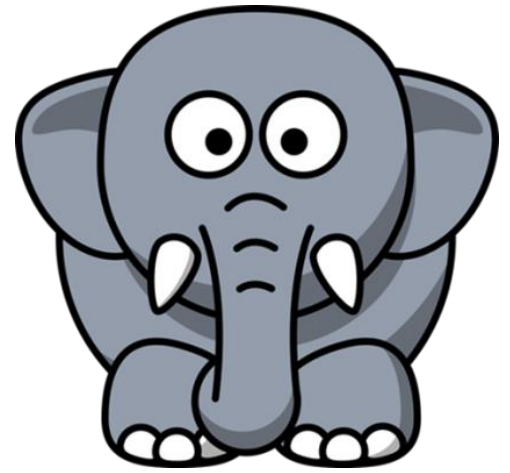
It can be very peaceful down here and can be a good place to rest if the rest of the zoo is busy.

How many trees can I count? \_\_\_\_\_



What can I hear? \_\_\_\_\_

# The End



That brings us to the end of the trail.

Did I enjoy the trail?



There are many more animals to see, hear and smell!

What animal do I think will be the smelliest? \_\_\_\_\_

What animal do I think will be the loudest? \_\_\_\_\_

What animal do I think will be the quietest? \_\_\_\_\_

Have a great day exploring the Zoo.

Goodbye!