

# 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

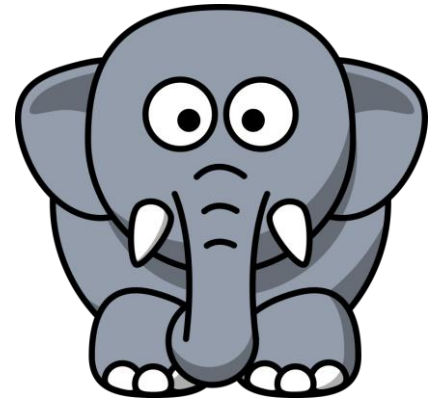


Wash hands after touching an animal



- |   |  |   |   |
|---|--|---|---|
|  | First Aid  |  | Lockers   |
|  | Defibrillator  |  | Picnic area<br><small>Please do not picnic in other areas</small> |
|  | Fire assembly point  |  | Water fountain  |
|  | Toilets - all accessible                                     |  | Baby feeding <small>(male/female)</small>                         |
|  | Adult changing <small>(Accessible via<br/>RADAR key)</small> |  | Baby changing <small>(male/female)</small>                        |
|  | Information  |  | Quiet zone  |

# Hello

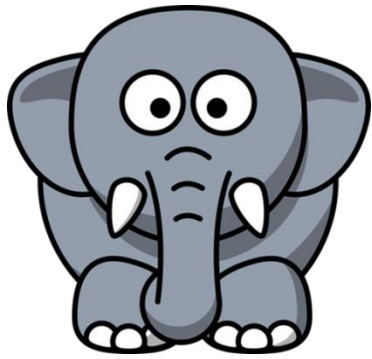


My name is Opal, the elephant.

Would you like to join me and explore the Zoo?  
As we go around There will be many smells,  
sounds, and things to see.

There may be crowds of visitors and Colchester  
Zoo staff.

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



# Worlds Apart



This is home to many animals.



I might see frogs, 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.

One of the animals that live here are the poison dart frogs.

What do they look like? Are they shiny? \_\_\_\_\_



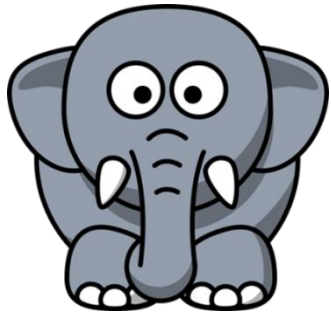
As I go round I will cross a glass bridge over a pond. I will be safe.

How many fish can I see? \_\_\_\_\_

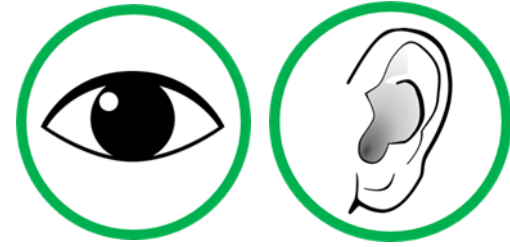
What can I hear as I go across the bridge? \_\_\_\_\_


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. The Orangutan forest is number  on my map. It may be dark at first but soon gets light again. I may see the sealions above me.



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 I go through the tunnel, do I feel warm or cold? \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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





# Outside Orangutan Forest



If I go up the ramp to see the orangutan's outdoor area, I will see an entrance to a special room.

Inside this room there are boxes that smell like foods that are grown in the rainforest.

I can have a go at guessing which foods these are if I would like.

Box 1 \_\_\_\_\_

Box 2 \_\_\_\_\_

Box 3 \_\_\_\_\_

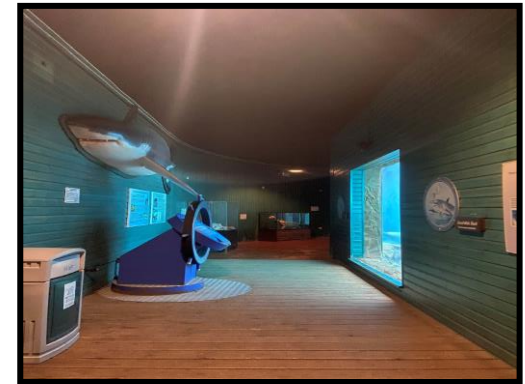
Box 4 \_\_\_\_\_

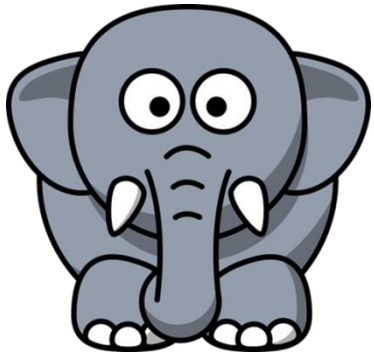


I can then go back inside and out through the second part of the tunnel. It may be dark in the tunnel and I might see some animal statues.

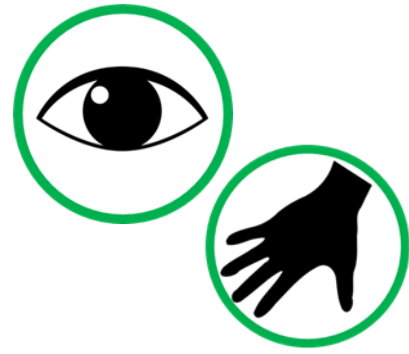
Which statues can I see?


\_\_\_\_\_





# Bears of the Rising Sun



Passed the smelly penguins, 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.



I can run my tongue over my teeth and feel their shape.



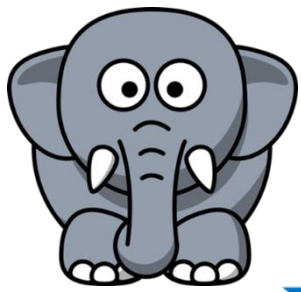
Are my teeth are different to a sun bear's teeth. Which teeth are the most different?

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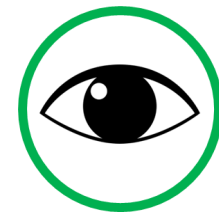
I can touch the models of the bear tracks and the model of the bear poo.

What do they feel like? \_\_\_\_\_





# 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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What can I hear?





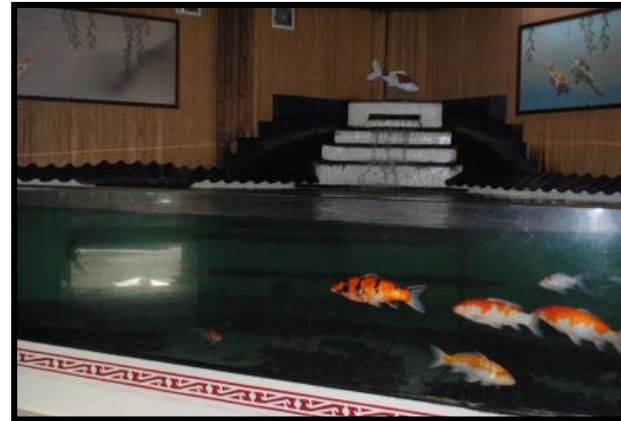
# Inside Koi Niwa



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.

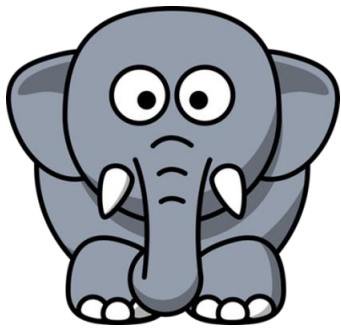
How many koi fish can I see in the big tank? \_\_\_\_\_



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

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

Can I see the bubble jets in the water? \_\_\_\_\_



# Sensation Station



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

This is home to many different kinds of bugs that live in glass tanks.

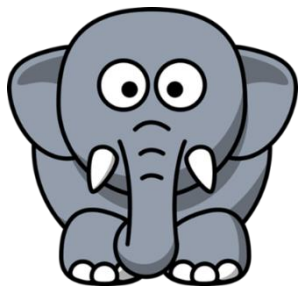
I can have a look at the bugs if I want to.

How many bugs can I find? \_\_\_\_\_

Can I see the stick insects? How many legs do stick insects have? \_\_\_\_\_

Can I see any slime trails left by the snails? \_\_\_\_\_





# Sensation Station



At certain times there may be a Zoo Keeper with some different bugs I can hold if I want to.

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, it is important that I wait 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.



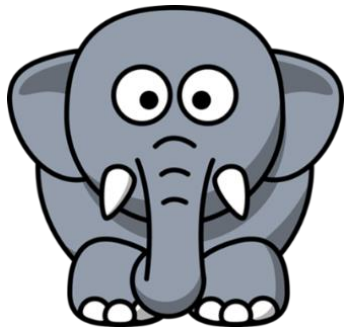
As I go to the flower garden there are puzzles and musical instruments on the side of the path, in front of the bushes.



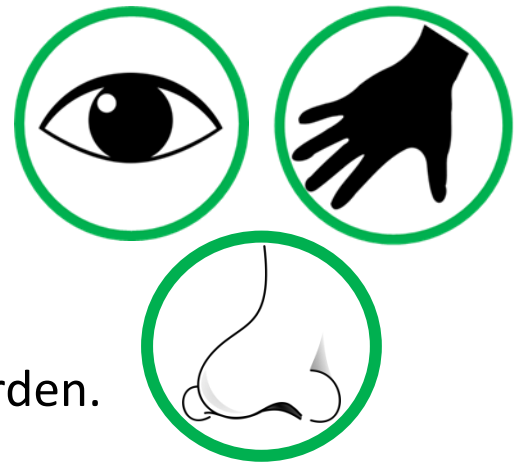
If I want to, I can play with these.







# 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, did I...

like the smell

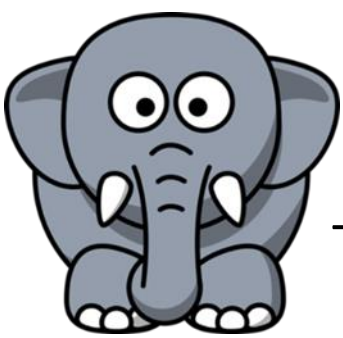


not mind the smell



not like the smell





# The Farm Animals



The next stop is the farm animals which are  7 on my map.

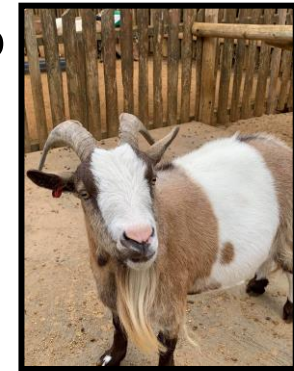
This is home to the wallabies, llamas, alpacas, sheep and goats!

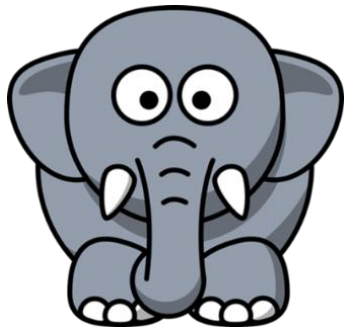
I can buy food to feed the goats and sheep and can go through the gates to meet them. They may come up very close to me. The Goats can be pushy, they might run into me. I must remain calm. I can leave if I want to.

If I bought food, what did it feel like when the animal ate the food from my hand? \_\_\_\_\_

Even if I do not buy food, I can still walk in with the goats and sheep. I can also gently touch the goats and sheep if they are close to me.

If I don't want to go in with the goats and sheep I can still see them from the platform.





# The Farm Animals



I can also walk in with the wallabies. The ground may be bumpy and the wallabies might come very close to me.

The wallabies like to rest during the day because they spend most of the night awake.



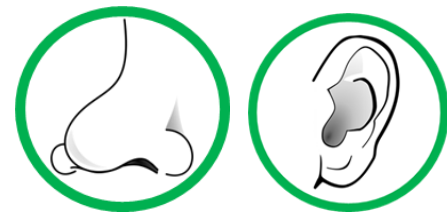
How many wallabies can I see resting? \_\_\_\_\_


What can I smell? \_\_\_\_\_





# Kingdom of the Wild



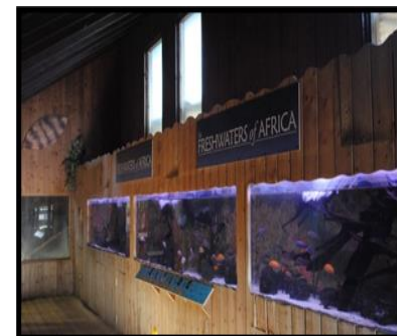
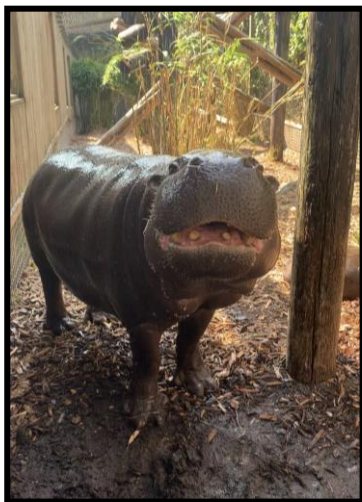
At the end of vulture Valley, I can go inside Kingdom of the wild, where there are other animals, this is number  8 on my map.

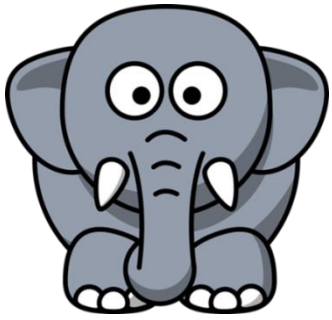
This is where the Rhinos, Giraffe and Zebra live. There are also fish tanks. A tall one upstairs and a long one downstairs.

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

What other animal can I smell as I watch the fish? \_\_\_\_\_

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





# Kingdom of the Wild



If I go up the large ramp I will find some more animals.

There are fast weaver birds and slow moving tortoises.

What are the birds doing? \_\_\_\_\_

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

Can I move as slow as a tortoise?

\_\_\_\_\_




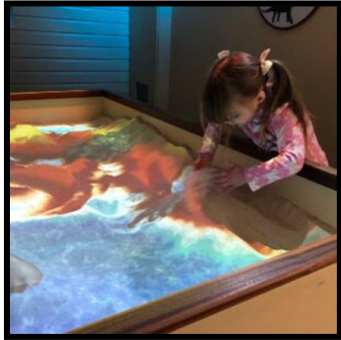




# Discovery Den



Inside Elephant Kingdom you will find the Discovery Den.  
This is number  9 on my map.



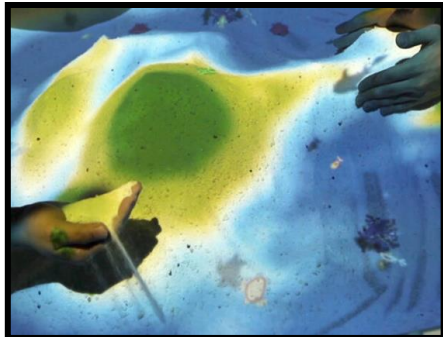
It might be dark in here with some colorful lights.

There is a sand box I can play with if I want to. I can move the sand around with my hands.

What does the sand feel like \_\_\_\_\_

I can also do some drawing too if I want too.

At certain times there may be a Zoo Keeper with some different bugs I can hold if I want to.





# Discovery Den



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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.

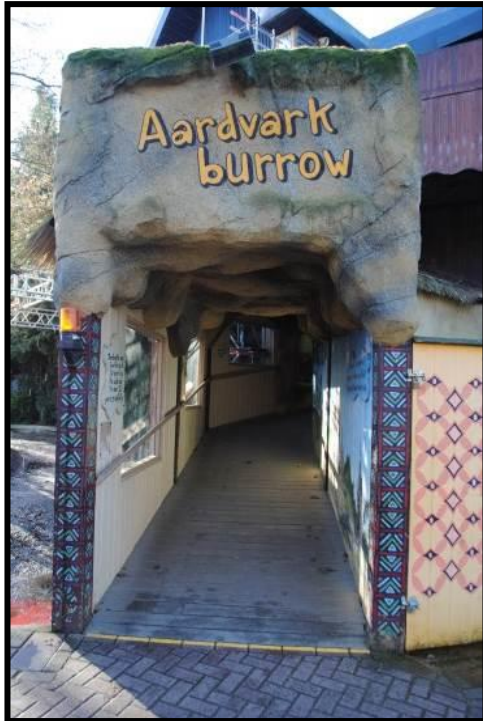
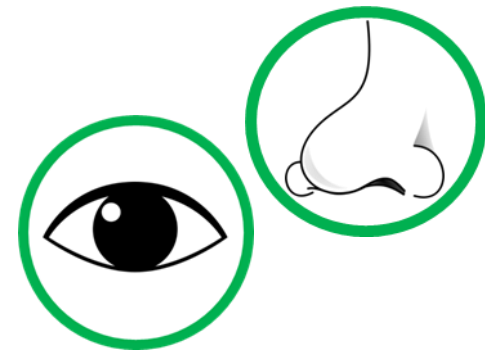
There are other animals in here. Can I see them?





# Aardvark Burrow

Outside Kingdom of the wild 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?

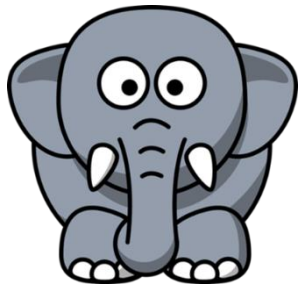
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Aardvarks smell different to me. I can smell what the aardvark's smell like by putting my nose to the holes.

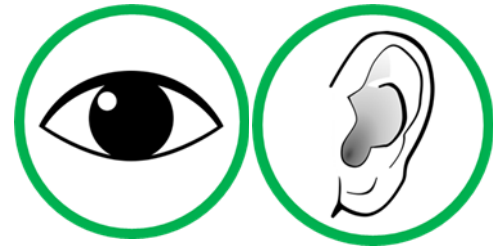


Did I like the smell?





# The Nature Area



On the other side of the lake, behind the Tigers, is the nature area. Down in the Nature Area are streams, ponds and lots of plants. This is number  10 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.

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

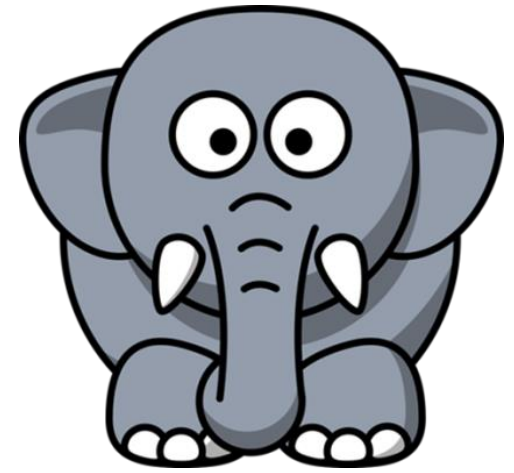
How many trees can I count? \_\_\_\_\_

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





# The End



That brings us to the end of the trail.

Did I enjoy the trail?



There is lot more of Colchester Zoo to explore and 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!