

Field Trip

The San Diego Zoo is famous for its open air displays and variety of animals.



All animal exhibits can be found along the route, starting near the launch of the expedition and ending just before Dig Site Gamma.

- Right at the start I spot a very slow creature (stationary, even). Apparently he's meant to be on wheels? Or the wheels are meant to be on him? Would that make him faster? The name of his creator anagrams to arboreal genetic material, so I take the fourth letter of that material and put it in the position indicated by the only repeated digit on its plaque.
- I pass a bird and a fish, but have a feeling I'll be seeing them a lot today. Shortly afterward, I see a critter eating an acorn. Hi, little friend. I take the first letter of her common name and put it in the position matching the length of the second word of her common name.
- Next up, a bird! I thought they weren't real. He's as pretty as the name implies, but I didn't know he was Caribbean! I take the center letter of his common name, and put it in the position matching the full length of his common name.
- I come across an animal that I've seen many times and looks very much alive, but apparently she's not actually from around here. I take the most common letter in where she's supposedly from, and put it in the position matching the length of the scientific name for that far-away place.
- I pass the organizers of some sort of archaeological expedition. Are they part of the zoo? I stop and gawk. I ask them for a useful letter. Then I pass another bird and a fish. It might be a little bit before I see any more animals.
- After crossing under another bridge, to my right is a very large racer. Is he winning? It's hard to tell. He seems to be associated with a nearby grassy glade. I take the fourth letter of the name of that place, and put it in the position matching the number of toes visible on the racer.
- I spot a local critter and spark a philosophical debate — if she had the ability to perform the second part of her on the first part of her, exactly what quantity of the first part of her is she able to do the second part to? My mind spins — there's no way I'll be able to get a letter from her. Fortunately, a post a few feet further along has a letter on it. Phew. I put that in the position matching the length of the first part of her.
- Right across the way from the vexing creature is another creature that's frankly tough to identify. A fish, maybe? I don't think they usually come in that color pattern. She excoriates me to protect something. Is she a flat earther? I think she must be missing a letter. I put that in the position matching the number of words in her exhortation.
- There's an animal hulking out, but I don't think the exhibit's label is correct. It doesn't seem to be having any issues with minestrone, and it looks an awful lot like a mouse to me. I take the middle letter of what animal the tag says it is, and put that in the position matching the length of the last word that I saw next to the previous "fish".
- Another bird!!! And in a different color than the previous bird I saw. I mix the colors, take the most common letter in that new color, and put it in the position where it first appears in that new color. There's also a letter that appears more than any others in this bird's common name. I count the number of appearances, treat that as a letter, and put it in the only remaining prime number position.
- I see a clawed visitor from far far away. Across the way from her I see a vase that somebody really wanted me to know was meant for me. I take the two lowest letters alphabetically in the one-word description of the visitor — the higher of those, I put in the position matching the number of times I'm told to take the vase. The lower letter alphabetically I put in the position that is double the other letter's position.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13