



# TOPICAL TIDBITS

July/August 2014

Volume 3 Issue 4

## A Philatelic Zoo

The word *zoo* is short for zoological park/garden. The term *zoological* refers to zoology which is the study of animals. The word "zoo" was first used for the *London Zoological Gardens*, which opened for scientific study in 1828 and then to the public in 1847. There are now over 1,000 zoos around the world.

The oldest modern zoo in the world is the Schönbrunn Zoo in Vienna, Austria. A small zoo had existed in its place since 1540, but the current zoo was founded in 1752, by order of the Holy Roman Emperor Francis I. It started as a royal menagerie organized in the shape of thirteen cake pieces cut around the royal breakfast pavilion. Today it is still a popular place for locals and tourists to visit.



Have fun with the "It's Your Zoo" activity on pages 4-6. When it's completed, send a picture by September 30, 2014, to:

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**Topical Tidbits-**  
**Philatelic Zoo**  
**P.O. Box 1451**  
**Waukesha, WI 53187**

Each entry will receive a philatelic prize.

# Zoo Fun



Can you help these children get to the petting zoo?

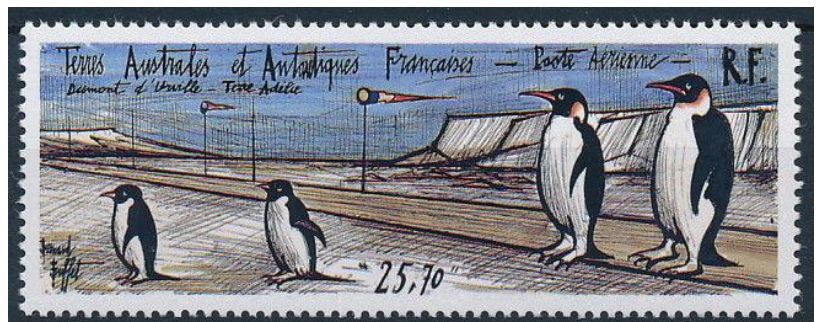
# Zoo Jokes

A truck driver had to deliver 500 penguins to the zoo. As he was driving through the desert, his truck breaks down. He waved another truck down and offered the driver \$500 to take the penguins to the zoo for him.

The next day the original truck driver arrived in town and saw the new truck driver crossing the road with the 500 penguins walking in single file behind him.

The original truck driver jumped out of his truck and asked, "What's going on? I gave you \$500 to take these penguins to the zoo!"

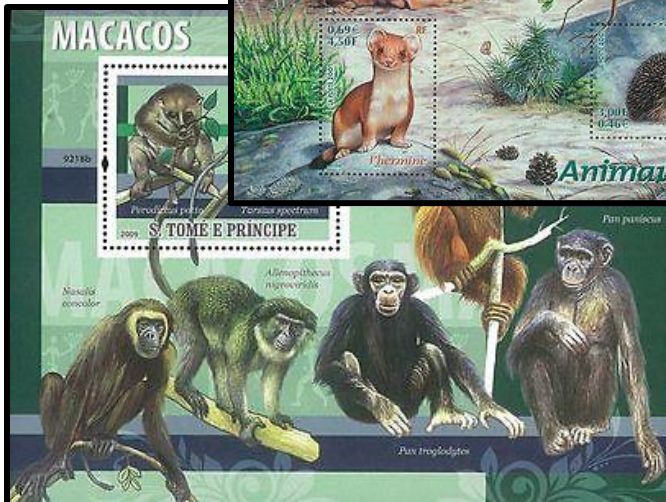
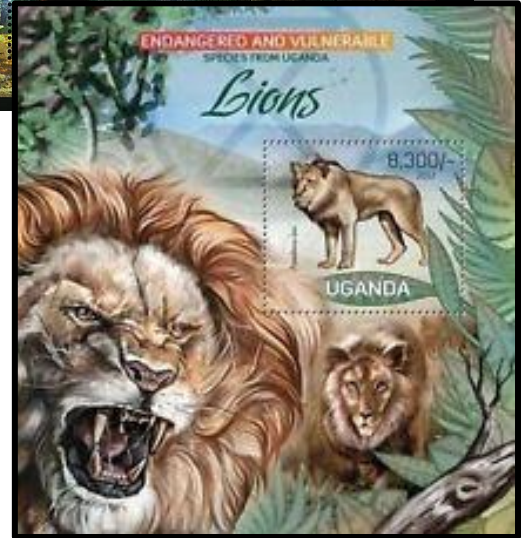
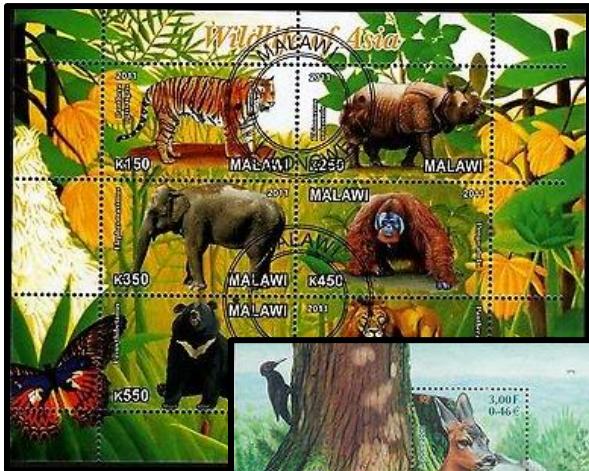
The new truck driver responded, "I did take them to the zoo. And I had enough money left over so now we're going to see a movie."



# Animals A-Z

Can you think of an animal for each letter of the alphabet?

A. _____	J. _____	S. _____
B. _____	K. _____	T. _____
C. _____	L. _____	U. _____
D. _____	M. _____	V. _____
E. _____	N. _____	W. _____
F. _____	O. _____	X. _____
G. _____	P. _____	Y. _____
H. _____	Q. _____	Z. _____
I. _____	R. _____	



Souvenir sheets, like these, are small sheets of stamps issued for a specific commemorative purpose and usually have an inscription or artwork in the border. They may contain from one to as many as 25 stamps.

# It's Your Zoo\*

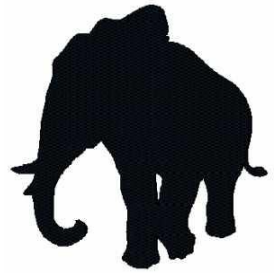
This zoo activity is designed to challenge your critical thinking skills. You will have fun planning and designing your own zoo based on the directions below. When you are finished, you can check the score sheet on page 6 to see how well you did.

**Materials:** a very large sheet of paper (like poster board), animals stamps (on page 5), a pencil, scissors, toothpicks, and clay

**Directions:** It's very important to make your zoo pleasing to visitors. **Read through ALL the directions before you start drawing.** After cutting out the animal stamps, tape a toothpick to the back of each one and push it into a small piece of clay. You can place the animals in their habitats when you have finished designing your zoo.

**Draw the following on the poster board:**

- Plenty of trees for shade
- A picnic area for visitors to snack or eat lunch
- Fountains, ponds, or streams for the use of visitors and animals
- A scenic footpath that allows visitors to see every animal in the zoo



**Please follow these guidelines for drawing the animals' habitats:**

- Zebras, gnus, and ostriches must have a large sunny area to graze and run around in.
- Giraffes must not be too close to trees; they may eat leaves and spoil their appetites for dinner.
- Hippos, elephants, alligators, and flamingos require access to water.
- Rodents cannot be located near the elephants; the mice might start a stampede.
- Keep monkeys away from hyenas, or the hyenas will laugh themselves to death.
- Separate the lions, tigers, and bears because they will fight if too close.
- Rhinos need to be located away from the walls or else they will ram holes into them.
- Be sure to place anteaters near the picnic area to keep the ant population low.
- All monkeys, bears, and gorillas need to be far from the picnic area.
- Camels need sunny ranges to walk about in.
- Keep flamingos and ostriches far from alligators.
- The reptile building cannot be near the bird cage; a snake might escape and eat the bird eggs.
- Make the footpath close to the zebra cage so that the visitors may pet the animals.
- Give hyenas lots of shade to rest under.



\*Based on an activity from *Teacher Created Resources*.

Signs for "It's Your Zoo"

Alligators



Anteater



Bear



Birds



Camels



Elephants



Flamingos



Giraffe



Gnus



Gorillas



Hippos



Hyenas



Lions



Monkeys



Ostriches



Reptiles



Rhinos



Rodents



Tigers



Zebras

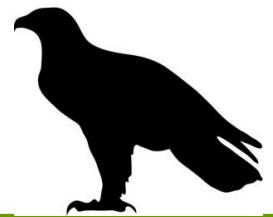


# It's Your Zoo Checklist

This checklist will help you make sure you have everything in the correct place. As you look over your zoo design, put a check mark by each one you did correctly. Then count up your points to get your final score.

- Zebras, gnus, and ostriches have a large sunny area (\_\_\_\_\_/3 points)
- Giraffes are not near trees (1 point)
- Hippos, elephants, alligators, and flamingos have water (\_\_\_\_\_/4 points)
- Rodents are not near elephants (\_\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Monkeys are not next to hyenas (\_\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Lions, tigers, and bears are all separated (\_\_\_\_/3 points)
- Rhinos are not next to walls they can tear through (\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Anteaters are near the picnic area (\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Monkeys, bears, and gorillas are far from picnic area (\_\_\_\_/3 points)
- Camels have a sunny range (\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Flamingos and ostriches are far from alligators (\_\_\_\_/2 points)
- Reptile building is far from the bird cage (\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- The footpath goes near the zebras (\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Hyenas have shade (\_\_\_\_/1 point)
- Plenty of trees for shade— at least 5 (\_\_\_\_/5 points)
- A picnic area for visitors to snack or eat lunch (\_\_\_\_/2 points)
- Fountains, ponds, or streams— at least 2 (\_\_\_\_/2 points)
- A scenic footpath that goes through the entire zoo (\_\_\_\_/2 points)

**TOTAL:** \_\_\_\_\_/35



1- 12 correct answers:

## **Apprentice**

Keep studying and working hard and one day you will be in charge of your own zoo.

13-25 correct answers:

## **Entry Level Zoo Keeper**

You are on your way to becoming a master zookeeper. Keep up the good work!

26 or more correct answers:

## **Master Zoo Keeper**

You are ready to run your own zoo. Great job!

# Zoo Animals

