



Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden
FULL ZOO SCAVENGER HUNT

AMAZONIA

1. Which monkey in Amazonia has a prehensile tail?
 2. Find two members of the genus *Nephrolepis* and list their common names.
 3. There are _____ species of bats in the Amazon. That's a lot of bat guano! What rainforest creature helps dispose of it, and what do they do with it?
 4. What life form "hugs trees to death"?
 5. What Amazonian animal shares a common ancestor with horses?
 6. How much of the world's oxygen is produced in the Amazon?
 7. What Amazonian animal is threatened by gold mining?
 8. What is the most unusual characteristic of the Pirarucu?
 9. My name means "he who catches with one leap" and I am the top predator in the Amazon.
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NORTH AMERICA

1. What rodent spends a great deal of time building chimneys and larders?
2. The _____ was driven nearly to extinction on purpose, but is now making a comeback, thanks to _____ efforts.

3. The zoo no longer has an elephant, so where can you find an elephant's ear?
 4. What kind of animal is Wally? And what is he made from?
 5. Don't threaten me, or I'll vomit up my last meal right in your face! What am I?
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AFRICAN RIFT

1. Rank the following animals according to the number of vertebrae they have in their necks, from least to most: giraffe, mouse, human.
 2. Do the giraffes like to be touched? Why or why not?
 3. How long are their tongues?
 4. What time are the public giraffe feedings, and how much do they cost?
 5. What animal is capable of walking on islands of floating vegetation?
 6. Which animal in this area mates for life?
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DISCOVERY CENTER

1. Lemurs are endangered because their home, Madagascar, is "an island in peril." Find another endangered animal from Madagascar.
2. What group of primates in the Discovery Center has a name that reveals something about their diet?
3. In this building, what animal's habitat is being threatened due to palm oil production?
4. I am a "living fossil," the only member of my family (Ailuridae) still in existence. What am I? (Hint: I eat 12 feet of bamboo every day! I really keep those zookeepers hopping!)
5. Why are hellbender populations currently in decline?
6. What animal can't roar like most big cats, but can purr instead?

LEMUR FOREST

1. Find two lions at the Zoo (On the way to Lemur Forest). What color are they?

2. What is the largest primate in the world?

The smallest?

3. How did the most gravely endangered primates in the world reach the island of Madagascar from Africa?

Primates belong to an order of mammals who have large brains, are very reliant on vision, and still retain many adaptations (such as opposable thumbs) for life in the trees, although many of them no longer live in an arboreal environment. Primates include monkeys, chimpanzees, lemurs, gibbons, humans, gorillas, orangutans, marmosets, tamarins, lorises, aye ayes, galagos and tarsiers.

KLEY MEMORIAL BUILDING

1. I don't breathe fire, but my drool is deadly, and I may decide to eat you! What am I?

2. True or false? All snakes reproduce by laying eggs.

3. What reptile is known as the "Jesus Lizard" and how did it get its name?

4. Why do chameleons really change color? It's usually not for camouflage purposes.

5. Flying dragons really do exist! What are they called?

6. Crocodiles are more closely related to (circle one):

lizards

birds

snakes

turtles

7. What behavior, once thought to be unique to humans, do alligators and crocodiles display when trying to catch prey?

8. What is our nocturnal "poisonous primate" here at the Zoo?

9. As a member of the species *unicornis*, Meichi should have a _____, but doesn't! What happened?

CHILDREN'S ENCHANTED FOREST

1. I am a giant spider. Find my "hang out,"
Then you can answer these questions:

How many species of spiders are there?

True or false: all spiders build webs.

2. What formerly endangered species has returned to Indiana as a result of conservation and reintroduction efforts?

3. The sound of rushing water makes a beaver want to _____.

4. If you were a _____, your best friend might greet you with a belch in the face!

ASIA

1. What Himalayan animal communicates through scent, sound, and sparring?

2. What solitary Zoo animal shares a common dietary preference with Christopher Robin's friend?

3. Which shed and regrow every year, horns or antlers?

4. What substance is really stored in a Bactrian camel's hump?

5. What is the largest most hardy of all the crane species?

6. What animal produces the most complex music among land vertebrates, next to humans?

Macaw

howler monkey

gibbon

kookaburra

AUSTRALIA

1. You might be able to hear my crazy laughter from across the zoo. Who am I?
 2. How long would you be stuck with childcare if you were an Emu mom?
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AFRICAN PANORAMA

1. I like it when there's a fire on the savanna; it means good hunting! What am I?
2. What is the world's largest living dinosaur, and how fast can it run?
3. Alas! My good looks have endangered me! But don't you like my unusual hairdo? What am I?
4. An average of 96 elephants are killed in Africa each day for their ivory tusks; as a result, the critically endangered African elephant may be extinct in only a few years. What natural renewable product (also called vegetable ivory) does the zoo advocate as a replacement for elephant ivory? (Hint: While searching for this answer, you might also want to purchase a Zoo t-shirt or stuffed animal.)

Go to 96elephants.org for more information on the plight of elephants, sign a petition against the use of elephant ivory, and find out how you can help!

FINAL QUIZ

1. List three animals you have encountered in the Zoo which prove that dinosaurs are not extinct.
2. What is the most numerous primate you have seen at the Zoo?
3. What do horns, human fingernails, and snake scales have in common?
4. What is the main cause of extinction, and the major reason animals are so critically endangered today?

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden

FULL ZOO SCAVENGER HUNT ANSWER KEY

Amazonia

1. Black Howler Monkey
2. Lemon button Fern (*Nephrolepis cordifolia*) and Giant Sword Fern (*Nephrolepis bisevvata*)
3. 950 species; Giant cockroaches eat bat guano
4. Strangler fig
5. Tapir
6. 20%
7. Cuvier's Dwarf Caiman
8. It is a fish that breathes air
9. Jaguar

North America

1. Prairie dogs
2. Mexican gray wolf; captive breeding
3. The Family Garden contains a plant known as Elephant's Ear, as well as other plants with animal names.
4. Bear, he is made of a tree that fell on Mesker Park Zoo grounds
5. Turkey Vulture

African Rift

1. The giraffe, the mouse and the human all have the same number of vertebrae (7) in their necks.
2. No; the oils on our skin irritate their thin, specialized skin, which has the ability to "air condition" them in the African heat.
3. 18-22 inches
4. 11am & 2pm; 2 tokens (\$2)
5. Sitatunga
6. White stork

Discovery Center

1. Tenrec (Discovery Center)
2. Francois Langurs (leaf monkeys, Discovery Center)
3. Chestnut-breasted Malkoa (on sign)
4. Red Panda (sign outside Discovery Center re: family and inside re: bamboo)
5. Hellbender populations are currently in decline due to habitat destruction, careless fishing, and collection for the pet trade.
6. Clouded Leopard (sign outside Discovery Center)

Lemur Forest:

1. Lion's Plaza (tram stop/picnic area). The two lion STATUES are gray. (The zoo does not currently have live lions.)
2. Largest: gorilla, smallest: lesser mouse lemur (signage at Lemur Forest)
3. Lemurs floated to Madagascar from Africa about on rafts of vegetation (Lemur Forest)

Kley Building

1. Komodo Dragon (sign in Komodo Cove)
2. False, about 1/5 of snakes give birth to live young (see reptile info wall in Kley building)
3. Common basilisk because it has the ability to run on top of the water (reptile wall)
4. In response to light, temperature and heat (reptile info wall in Kley building)
5. Draco Lizards (reptile wall)
6. Birds (reptile wall)
7. Tool use (reptile wall)
8. Pygmy Loris (Creatures of the Night room)
9. Mechi, our Indian Rhinoceros, is missing her horn; it was removed because it became infected, but should grow back. (Lower Level Kley or outside on the Rhino Reserve)

Children's Enchanted Forest (CEF)

1. 30,000 species of spiders; false, not all spiders build webs, although all can spin silk (see giant rope spider web in CEF)
2. River Otters (CEF)
3. Build a dam (see sign at otter exhibit, CEF)
4. White Mantled Colobus Monkey (CEF)

Asia

1. Sichuan Takin (Asia) (Fun fact: the head of the Beast from Beauty and the Beast was modeled from a takin!)
2. Our Malayan Sun Bear, like Winnie the Pooh, loves honey (Asia)
3. Antlers (see sign at the Barasingha across from Sun Bear)
4. Fat (Franklin is our Bactrian camel) (Asia)
5. The Sarus crane
6. Gibbon (Asia)

Australia

1. Kookaburra
2. You wouldn't, since Emu dads exclusively take care of the young (Australia)

African Panorama

1. Abyssinian Ground Hornbill (see sign across from Donna the Hippo playground)
2. The Ostrich can run 40 mph (see Ostrich sign along Tanzania Trail below African Panorama)
3. Grey Crowned Crane (signs African Panorama overlook)
4. Tagua Nut (see gift shop)

Final Quiz

1. Birds are now classified as a special kind of reptile known as avian dinosaurs, so dinosaurs did not go extinct, but grew wings. (See Ostrich sign) So any bird seen at the Zoo would answer this question.
2. Humans
3. All three are made of keratin (Kley Building, Antler/Horn sign at Barasingha in Asia)
4. Habitat loss