

## **John Ball Zoo Who Am I Scavenger Hunt**

This scavenger hunt has been designed as an in-zoo activity for students while touring John Ball Zoo. We have two versions available based on your students abilities or in zoo help from parents and/or teachers. The first version, found on pages 2-4, simply has dash lines for the answers to clues. The second version, found on pages 5-7, has the first letter in each word of the answer filled in as a way to help the student. Please choose which version is most appropriate for your students prior to printing. The answer key, found on page 8, has the answers to the clues as well as the location in the zoo where each animal can be found.

We hope you and your students enjoy this scavenger hunt. Have fun and thank you for visiting John Ball Zoo!



## WHO AM I SCAVENGER HUNT

**Instructions:** Fill in the answers on the dashed line. Each dash represents one letter in the answer.

1. I am a bird of prey. I use my keen eyesight and sharp talons to locate and capture my prey, which is primarily fish. I was once endangered, but have made a comeback throughout North America. I am our nation's national emblem. Who am I?

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2. I am a large rodent covered in specialized hairs called quills. I have approximately 30,000 quills that I use to protect myself against predators. I am well adapted for life in trees, using claws for climbing and the quills on my tail to help me stay balanced on tree limbs. I eat leaves, tree bark and pine needles. Who am I?

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3. I am a very playful mammal with water repellent fur that helps keep me warm and dry in and out of the water. My webbed feet help make me a great swimmer, and I use my strong tail like a rudder to help me steer through lakes and streams as I find my favorite food, fish. I live in dens along the banks of rivers, lakeshores, or marshes. Who am I?

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4. I am the largest omnivore in North America. My diet includes fish, plants, nuts and berries. My big paws have long claws that I use for gripping, prying, digging or mashing. In winter months when its cold and food is harder to find, I will sometimes find a nice den where I can take a nap. Who am I?

— — — — — — — — — —

5. I am a large carnivore with thick white fur and black spots. I have very big paws that allow me to walk easily on snow and ice. My long tail helps me balance as I leap 30 feet or more in Himalayan Mountains where I am found. Who am I?

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**6.** I can fly! I have long skinny legs and a large beak. The shape of my beak helps me to filter feed in the water. I eat small shrimp which provide the pigment to turn my feathers into a beautiful pink color. Here at the zoo, my keepers feed me food that has the same pigment so my feathers remain bright and colorful. Who am I?

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**7.** I live in a group called a pride. I am strong, stealthy and will hunt together with other members of my pride. I use my powerful jaws to bite, strangle and tear our food. The males of my kind all have a large mane of hair around their heads. Who am I?

— — — —

**8.** Some people think I am a monkey but I am a Great Ape. Apes do not have tails and stand more upright than other primates. I am one smart mammal! I even make my own tools that can be used to collect water, to ‘fish’ for termites or as weapons. I live in large family groups where we like to take care of each other by grooming to help keep each other clean. Who am I?

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**9.** I am the smallest of the African cats. I live in the dry grasslands of Southern Africa where I spend my nights hunting for small mammals and birds. My large eyes allow me to see excellent at night and my black paws protect my feet from the hot sand. Here at the zoo I live in the Tropics building. Who am I?

— — — — —

**10.** Although I am a monkey, I don’t hang from my tail. My long tail helps me balance as I leap through the trees. I’m easily recognized by my puff of white hair on the top of my head. I am found in a small rainforest region of Columbia, South America where I prefer to eat fruit and do a great job of spreading the seeds. Who am I?

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**11.** I am the smallest of all crocodilians. The tough scales on my back are called scutes and act as armor to protect me. I am nocturnal and hunt for fish, shrimp and small animals at night while spending the day basking in the sun to stay warm. Who am I?

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**12.** I am the only one of my venomous kind found in Michigan. My dark coloring allows me to blend in with the woods and wetlands around me. I am very secretive preferring to stay hidden as I slither across the ground. In winter, when it gets too cold, I hibernate with others just like me. Who am I?

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**13.** I am the largest living lizard. I have venom that I use to kill my prey. I don't eat very often and usually spend my time trying to keep warm by basking in the sun or stay cool by hiding in the shade. Unlike my name may imply I do not breathe fire. Who am I?

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**14.** I am a carnivorous bird that can fly underwater. I live in Patagonia, along the southeastern coast of South America. I do have some relatives at the South Pole in Antarctica. People often say I look like I am wearing a tuxedo. I do spend a lot of time grooming to make sure I look good and also to keep my feathers waterproof. Who am I?

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**15.** I am a fish with a snake-like body that fits easily into reef cracks and crevices. I am a nocturnal predator, but instead of hunting for food I sit and wait for food to come to me. I capture fish and octopi with my strong teeth for dinner. I don't have gill covers like most fish so I open and close my mouth to push water over my gills. Who am I?

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# **John Ball Zoo Who Am I Scavenger Hunt-Answer Key**

| <b><u>Name of Animal</u></b> | <b><u>Location In John Ball Zoo</u></b> |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Bald eagle                | (located east of Monkey Island Cafe)    |
| 2. Porcupine                 | (Kid zoo area)                          |
| 3. River otter               | (North America/Americas)                |
| 4. Brown bear                | (North America/Americas)                |
| 5. Snow leopard              | (next to Pumas)                         |
| 6. Flamingo                  | (Americas)                              |
| 7. Lion                      | (Lake Manyara)                          |
| 8. Chimpanzee                | (Mokomboso Valley)                      |
| 9. Black footed cat          | (Tropics building)                      |
| 10. Cotton top tamarin       | (Tropics building)                      |
| 11. Dwarf caiman             | (Tropics building)                      |
| 12. Massasauga rattlesnake   | (Tropics building)                      |
| 13. Komodo dragon            | (Tropics building)                      |
| 14. Magellanic penguin       | (Aquarium)                              |
| 15. California moray eel     | (Aquarium)                              |

