



SHORT SENSORY EXPLORATION AROUND THE ZOO

A trail around the Familiar Friends area of Colchester Zoo



COLCHESTER
ZOOLOGICAL
SOCIETY

HOW TO USE THIS PACK

This pack is designed for SEND visitors to use with their carers whilst visiting the Zoo.

This is a short trail designed to use the main senses to explore the Familiar friends Farm area. A longer trail is also available to explore the zoo as a whole.

On the next page is a map highlighting the route. Feel free to do the whole trail from start to finish or just pick a page or two to focus on. Please use this resource in whatever way works best for you. Please note this route could take about 40 minutes to complete from start to finish .

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







HELLO

My name is Jacob, the goat.



Would you like to join me and explore the Zoo?
As we go around There will be many smells,
sounds, and things to see. Some animals like to
hide, lets see what animals we can find.
There may be crowds of visitors and Colchester
Zoo staff.

Let us start at Kio Niwa which is  on my map.





KOI NIWA



Outside there are many plants.

What colours are the plants? _____

There is also a big statue of a koi fish.

What colours do I see? _____

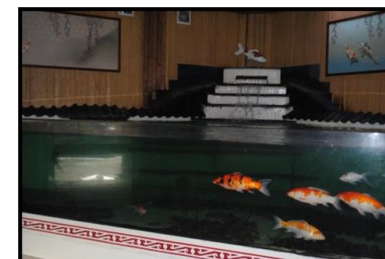
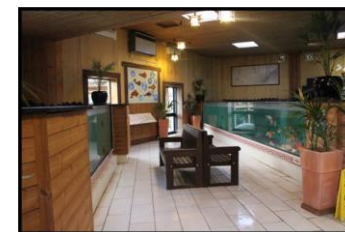
What can I hear? _____

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.

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 2 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 or fluffy animals I can touch 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 Zoo 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.





The next stop is the flower garden which is  3 on my map.

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

If I want to, I can play with these. Can I find the things in these pictures? What else can I see?



I can also visit to smelly pigs if I wish. These pigs are really big. Can I make my arms as wide as a pig?





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

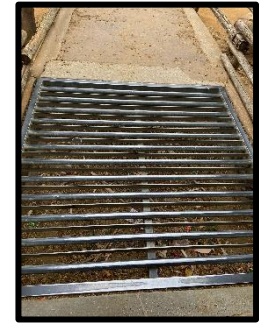
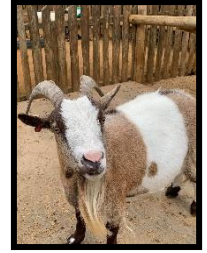




THE FARM ANIMALS



The next stop is the farm animals which are **4** on my map.



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

I can buy food to feed the goats and sheep. I 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 or jump. 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. I will have to walk across a cattle grid.

If I don't want to go in with the goats and sheep I can still see them from the platform.
I must wash my hands when I finish.



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!

