Rhyming Time in River’s Edge: Scavenger Hunt

Grades 1 - 2
Guess what? You get to go on a scavenger hunt at the Saint Louis Zoo! Not only do you get to use your reading, looking and listening skills, but you also get to see some of our amazing animals! Let the fun and learning begin!

Before you go:

1. **How do you know how to get around the Saint Louis Zoo?**
   
   You can use a map! Here is a map of River's Edge. Follow the directions to learn about the map.
   
   A. Circle the star on the map. This is where you'll start.
   
   B. Put an “X” over the end of River's Edge. This is where you'll exit.
   
   C. There are four animal areas on the map. Can you find them all? One is filled in for you.

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   **Missouri**

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2. Going to River’s Edge and what do I see?

I see an ______________________ in front of me. His name is Ben. His length is about 5' 10". He lives near the mountains and likes to eat fruit. His fur is black, like the color of soot. Ben uses claws as his tool and likes to splash in his pool. Up in the trees, he likes to sleep. He'll screech, not roar, but makes more than a peep!

**Fact check-in:** One type of food Ben likes to eat is ________________.

3. If you said there is another animal coming up, you would be right!

Nearby a __________________ just in sight! They are the largest rodents on the Earth. They look like guinea pigs at their birth. These animals are bigger than rats, frogs and ants. Their favorite foods are types of plants. What covers their bodies is rough brown fur. They make noises like a bark and a purr.

**Fact check-in:** The largest rodent on Earth is the__________________.

4. I have rough grey skin.

Birds share the habitat that I’m in. I have two big horns that are sharp like thorns. I like to grab at the leaves and eat from the trees. Who am I?______________________

**Fact check-in:** How many horns does this animal have?______________
5. Let’s change it up! I am a Hippopotamus. Yes, that is me.

Now you get to write what you see! In my Zoo home, you’ll see soon I bet, I like to go in

the________________________to get all wet. _________________swim around and clean my skin.

They even nibble leftover food from my teeth and chin.

6. I have lots of spots. I like to eat meat.

In the wild, I live in the African heat. I run really fast when I’m in a hurry. I live near the mongoose, so small

and furry. Who am I?________________________

7. Can you find the cheetah chalkboard?

Write down your favorite cheetah fact from the chalkboard.

______________________________________________________________________________________________

______________________________________________________________________________________________

8. Cheetah Conservation:

Cheetahs and people don’t always get along. Sometimes farmers hurt cheetahs when cheetahs go too close to their goats and cows. Can you think of a way for farmers to keep cheetahs out of their farms without hurting them? Write your idea here:

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9. I tower over people with my big, enormous height.

I use my big ears to hear just right! The trunk I have is very long. The trunk I have is very strong.

Find the animal in River’s Edge that describes me. Circle the adjectives that match my looks.

| tall  | red  | grey | small | furry | blue  | big   |

Who am I? ___________________________________________

10. Write your own rhyme.

Write your own rhyme about one of the animals you saw in River’s Edge. Have friends and family read your rhyme and guess the animal! Look at the rhyming words above and below for ideas!

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*Super Tip* Remember, rhymes sound the same at the end. Here are examples of rhyming words:

• cat and flat
• ear and near
• pool and tool
• hog and frog
• sun and fun
• tall and small

Here are a few more rhymes to send you on your way. Remember to visit the Zoo another day! Water flowing in River’s Edge shows us what many animals need. It’s rivers, yes indeed! Animals swim in rivers and drink from them, too. Clean rivers are good for me and you! How can you help, what can you do?

*Put your litter in the trash can.
*Recycle!
*Turn off the water when you brush your teeth.

Go here to learn more about River’s Edge: stlzoo.org/rivers-edge