Animal Welfare Ad Lib Game

“Ad-lib” means to improvise and insert words as you go. Create your own story by ad-libbing about a family who explores a new place that houses animals and learns about animal behavior and enrichments. To complete the story, fill in the blanks as you go with adjectives, nouns, verbs, and animal welfare terms, either on your own or with a partner. Then, read the story aloud with the words you’ve selected. For help, see examples of the different types of words you’ll need to brainstorm below.

Examples:

Noun: is a person, place, or thing
Verb: an action word
Adverb: Tells how something is done, usually ends in “ly”
Location Nouns: Zoo, Farm, Sanctuary
Animal Nouns: Elephant, Horse, Dolphin, Owl
Enrichment Device Nouns: Brush, Frozen Pumpkin, Ball, Puzzle
Normal Behavior Verbs: Running, Jumping, Climbing, Foraging
Abnormal Behavior Verbs: pacing, head-bobbing, over-grooming, excessive licking, isolating
Ecosystem: Forest, tundra, desert, freshwater, marine, grassland, terrestrial
Whales, Monkeys, and Snakes...Oh My!

One __________ day, the ______________ family decided to go to the ______________. When they arrived, they saw a(n) ______________ eating ______________. They ______________ over to see the ______________ since it was their favorite animal! As they walked around, they noticed that the ______________ was provided with a(n) ______________ as an enrichment! The ______________ family read a sign next to the enclosure that said “Environmental enrichments are used to provide captive animals with some form of stimulation in order to encourage natural behaviors such as foraging, digging, playing, etc. These can be social, occupational, physical, sensory, or nutritional enrichments. The ______________ uses the ______________ to provide stimulation and to allow visitors of the ______________ to see some of the ______________ natural behaviors.”

The enclosure the animal lived in also had lots of ______________ to mimic its natural environment. When they finally saw the ______________, they noticed that it was acting strangely. The ______________ was ______________ all over the place! While normally, they would express normal behaviors like ______________, ______________, or ______________, the ______________ seemed out of the ordinary and ______________. The family was certain that the ______________ was ______________, so they asked an animal caretaker what they thought. The animal caretaker said that the ______________ might be sick, and they will need to be taken to the veterinarian to be treated. After their trip to the ______________ vet, they were as good as new!
The ________________ family can now watch the ________________ ________________ around their
Your Last Name Animal (plural) Verb enclosure! Once the ________________ felt better, the animal caretaker joined the ________________ family to teach
Animal Animal Your Last Name
them more about the ________________ ! They learned that the ________________ is native to the ________________,
Animal Animal Ecosystem
and most commonly eats ________________. After the ________________ family had a great day at the
Animal’s Food Your Last Name
______________ , they bought a stuffed ________________ at the gift shop to bring home with them!
Place where animals live Animal

To learn more about animal behavior, enrichments, and housing, visit the Animal Welfare Information Center’s following webpages:

• Animal Welfare Information Center Homepage
• Housing, Care and Welfare of Animals
• Behavioral Management