ALABAMA WILDS SCAVENGER HUNT

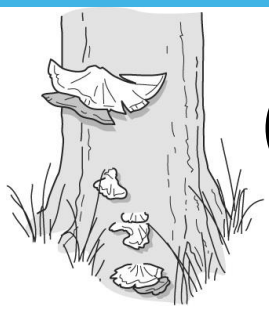
Location: Along Alabama Wilds trail

The forest is an ecological community where plants and animals coexist. Can you find the following items?

Please help us keep wild things wild by returning anything you find back to its habitat.

FUNGUS

Decomposes, or breaks down, fallen trees, leaf litter, and other organic material on the forest floor.

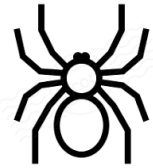


ROLY POLY

Also known as the pill bug, this tiny crustacean will roll into a ball for defense.

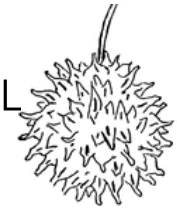
SPIDER

Predator that eats insects. If you can't find a spider, can you find a web?



SWEET GUM BALL

The seed pod of the Sweet Gum Tree.



ACORN

The nut of an oak tree, with a seed inside.

THIN LEAF

This leaf can hold on to water for long periods. What is the thinnest leaf you can find?

ROUGH TREE BARK

The non-living outer layer of trees protects the living tissue found within.

WIDE LEAF

This leaf takes in a lot of light. Can you find a leaf wider than our hand? How about your face?

WHAT ELSE DID YOU DISCOVER?

_____

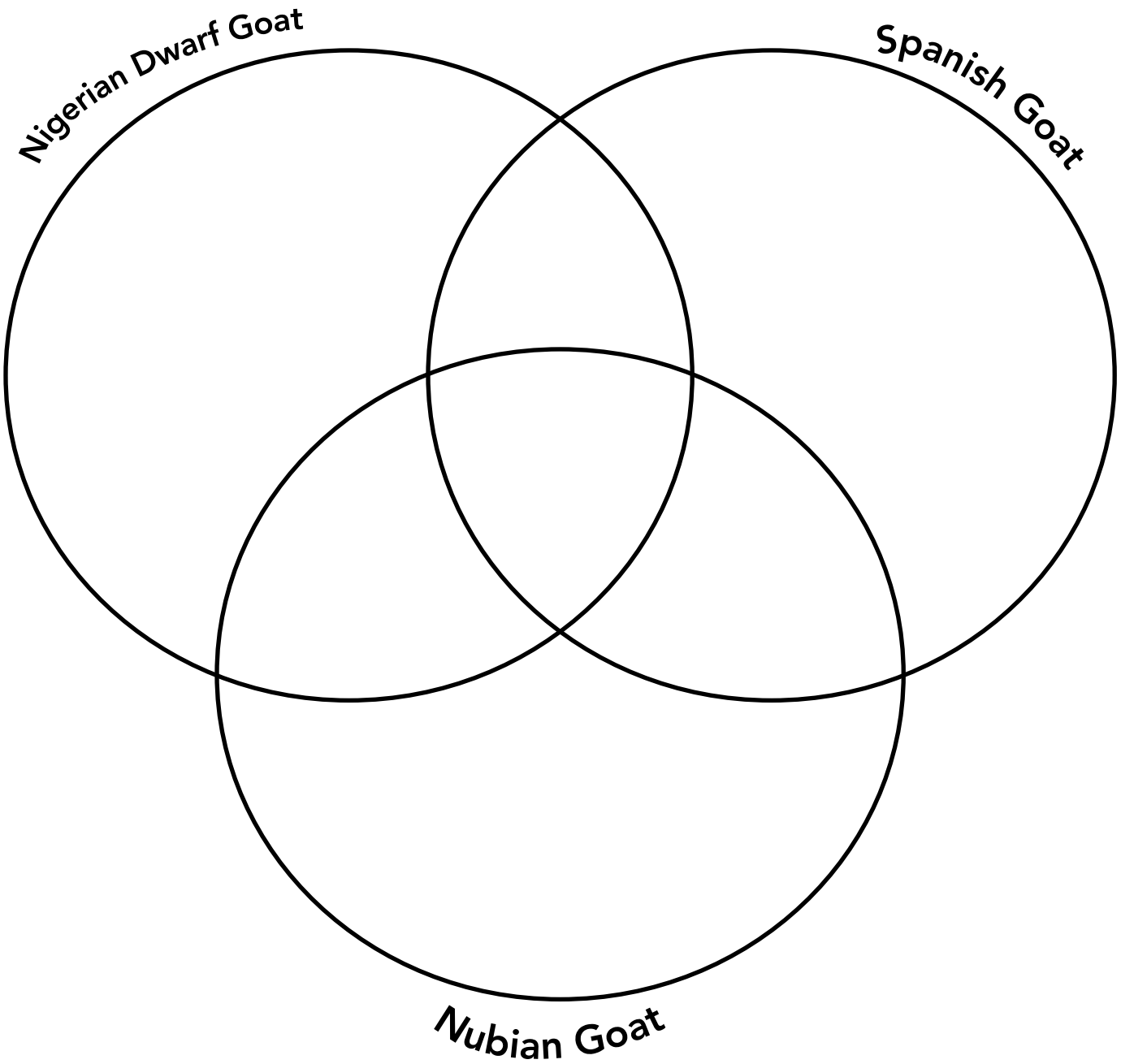
_____

_____

GOAT-ALLY AWESOME

Location: Barn in Children's Zoo

The Birmingham Zoo has three different kinds of goats here in the barn. Fill out the Venn diagram below to describe their similarities and differences.

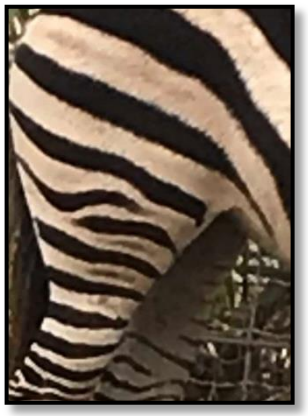


All of the goats here have horns of different shapes and sizes. Can you find Batman the goat? He has the biggest horns of all!

STRIKING STRIPES

Location: Zebra Habitat- Trails of Africa

Just like our fingerprints, the stripes and patterns on a zebra are unique to each animal. Some scientists believe that these patterns help them to blend in with the grasslands where they live. Using the key below, identify which zebra or zebras you see on the habitat.



Malia

Has wavy lines on back legs and greying hair on her face. She is the mother of Sam and Kabibe.

Sam

Has the thickest stripes, a wide stripe above his tail and a T-shape on his chest.

Kabibe

Has a spot in the shape of a guitar pick on the right side of her neck near her mane.

Now, design your own, unique zebra pattern!

ETHOGRAM

Location: Primates of The World, or any habitat with visible and active animals

Read the ethogram, a chart that shares the behavior of the animal, every 15 seconds. Then choose an animal to watch for the 1 minute and 30 seconds to record the data. Every 15 seconds circle the action the animal is doing at that moment.

Minutes: Seconds	Eating/ Drinking	Moving	Resting/ Standing	Social	Self-Groom	Not Visible
0:15						Not Visible
0:30						Not Visible
0:45						Not Visible
1:00						Not Visible
1:15						Not Visible
1:30						Not Visible

GONE EXTINCT

Location: Primates of the World building between the Squirrel Monkey and Howler Monkey Habitats

Many of the animals in this room went extinct due to human interference. Mark an "X" in the box for each animal affected by the following:

Boat Collisions					
Poaching					
Overfishing/ Overhunting					
Habitat Loss					
Pollution					
Invasive Species					
Climate Change					

What was the leading cause of extinction for these animals? Why do you think this is?

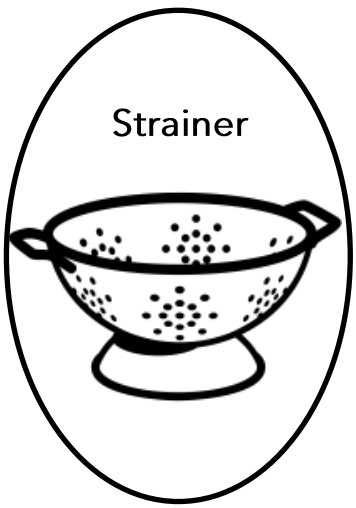
In this space, there are four species that were saved from the brink of extinction. Had you heard of these animals before?

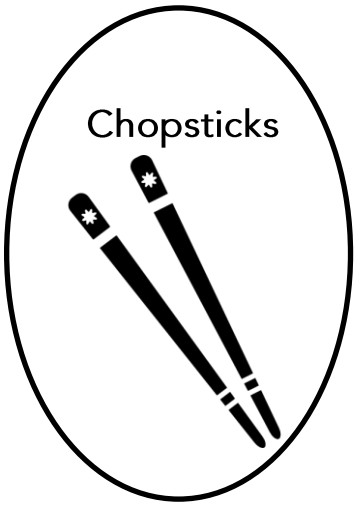
Which one do you find the most interesting and why?

SWAMPY SURVIVORS

Location: Southern Bayou

Surviving a swamp can be tough for a bird; they need to have the right set of tools in order to live! A bird's beak is its special tool that it uses to catch and eat its food. Look at the types of bills on the wood stork, roseate spoonbill, and the ruddy duck. Which utensil below do you think best matches the way they use their bill?





The wood stork uses its beak used to **spear** and **grab**. What utensil is this like? Why?

_____

The ruddy duck uses its short bill to **scoop** and **strain** food. What utensil is this like? Why? _____

The roseate spoonbill uses its long, rounded bill to **stir** up the water to find food. What utensil is this like? Why? _____

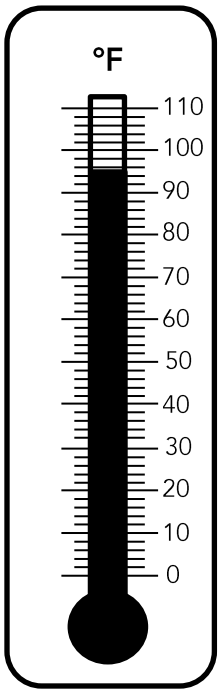
Now, design a beak for a bird that must catch and eat mice, rats, and small reptiles. For additional help, consider the barred owl and the red-shouldered hawk!

HABITAT DESIGN

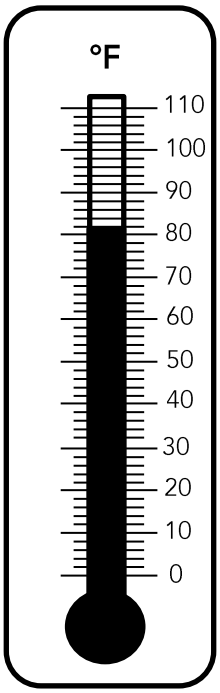
Location: Reptile Building

Animal care professionals make considerations during the design process to encourage natural behaviors. Get into the mindset of a zoo designer as you observe the Komodo dragon habitat.

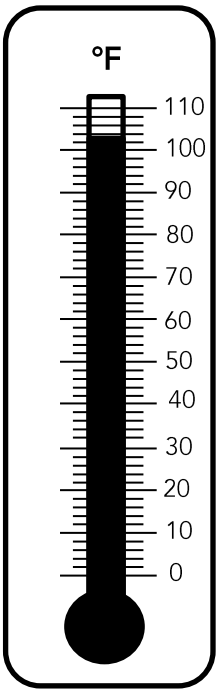
Because the Komodo dragon is cold-blooded, the zoo engineers created 3 heated zones to help it control its body temperature. Read the thermometers below to find out what each zone temperature is. Keeping the heated zones in mind, observe what additional features the habitat designer placed in the habitat.



Zone One



Zone Two



Zone Three

How could the Komodo dragon warm up? What area of the habitat looks warmer to you?

How could the Komodo dragon cool down? What area of the habitat looks cooler to you?

How could the Komodo dragon get away from noise?

What else would the habitat designers consider when making this habitat?