5 Senses Journal – Como Zoo

Thinking about your five senses this journal to document your stroll through Como Zoo.

Smell

Your first stop on your journey through the zoo is the Primates building. As you walk through, you will notice that this building has one of the strongest scents of any other. Many primates use body odor to communicate. As your walking, which primate has the strongest scent? Why do you think that is?

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Taste

All the animals at Como Zoo get daily enrichment—or, a change in their environment that stimulates them physically or mentally. Enrichment sometimes comes in the form of food items and promotes different foraging or feeding behaviors. Can you find any food enrichment items as you walk through Como Zoo? Which foods do you recognize?

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Touch

After Primates and the outdoor hoofstock areas, you will go through the big cat exhibits. As humans, we use our hands to touch. What are some ways that big cats “feel” or sense their environment? Observe one of the big cats for five minutes and describe their behavior and how they explore their surroundings.

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Sight

There are many examples of camouflage in the animal kingdom. Camouflage and patterns on animals’ skin or fur helps predators hide from their prey, and helps prey hide from their predators! You will find many examples of animals with camouflage as you are walking through Como Zoo.

Sketch an example of camouflage that you saw today
Listen Closely

The Tropical Encounters exhibit is home to over ten different species of birds found in Central and South America. Take a minute to listen to the bird sounds in the room. How many different calls can you hear? You will also see some photo examples of some of the birds on this page.