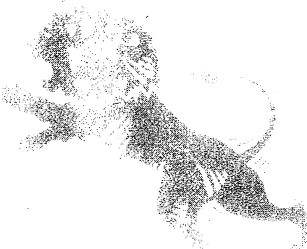


# Elemental

by Terry Helser, State University of New York at Oneonta



Imagine taking a field trip to a **CHEMICAL** zoo where you must find the symbols for the elements' names and rearrange them to see the animal. For example, most zoos have \_\_\_\_\_ (calcium, germanium, sulfur) with \_\_\_\_\_ (argon, boron, sulfur) to protect the animals. They have "CaGeS with BARs," correct? Find the animals shown by your chemical tour guide!



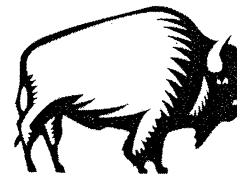
Our first stop is in the carnivores' pavilion. To your right is a large \_\_\_\_\_ (lithium, iron, neon), the African \_\_\_\_\_ (oxygen, nitrogen, lithium), followed by its American cousins, the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 borons, oxygen, carbon, astatine) and \_\_\_\_\_ (protactinium, thorium, erbium, nitrogen).

Small mammals are next, with our only \_\_\_\_\_ (neon, nickel, calcium), the \_\_\_\_\_ (yttrium, tellurium, oxygen, cobalt). Be careful entering the darkened area ahead. This is our nocturnal display. On the left in the sealed, glass enclosure are several species of \_\_\_\_\_ (2 potassiums, uranium, 2 sulfurs, nitrogen) —nice kitty!—And on the right, the much maligned aerial mammals, \_\_\_\_\_ (astatine, boron, sulfur).

On to the aviary. In here you'll see several songbirds, like the \_\_\_\_\_ (argon, yttrium, calcium, nitrogen) and \_\_\_\_\_ (tungsten, rhenium, nitrogen). Gathered around the pond are some \_\_\_\_\_ (tellurium, sulfur, radon), the champion migrators. And on your way out, check out the raptor cage with our \_\_\_\_\_ (aluminum, cobalt, fluorine, nitrogen).

Most people don't want to spend a lot of time in what I call "Slitherville," but I'll quickly point out one of the biggest \_\_\_\_\_ (sodium, potassium, sulfur, einsteinium) in the world, a \_\_\_\_\_ (phosphorus, oxygen, thorium, yttrium, nitrogen), and a small lizard, the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 potassiums, iodine, nitrogen, sulfur).

Next, we'll see some herbivores. Outside is the famous bull \_\_\_\_\_ (molybdenum, selenium, oxygen) that loved the \_\_\_\_\_ (helium, fluorine, iodine, erbium), a female \_\_\_\_\_ (neon, vanadium, iodine, oxygen, boron). From western N. America comes a \_\_\_\_\_ (uranium, aluminum, 2 fluorines, boron, oxygen). They are really \_\_\_\_\_ (xenon, oxygen, nitrogen) more correctly called \_\_\_\_\_ (sulfur, nitrogen, bismuth, oxygen).



Don't miss the aquatic mammals' show! In the big tank we have both the exotic \_\_\_\_\_ (beryllium, lutetium, gallium) and common \_\_\_\_\_ (barium, potassium, indium, fluorine, carbon) \_\_\_\_\_ (tungsten, aluminum, einsteinium, hydrogen).



To the aquarium! In the ocean tank swims a boneless predator, the great \_\_\_\_\_ (tellurium, hydrogen, iodine, tungsten, argon, potassium, sulfur, hydrogen). Note the \_\_\_\_\_ (molybdenum, radium, sulfur, rhenium) stuck to her chin. Look for her relatives, the \_\_\_\_\_ (radium, sulfur, yttrium) and \_\_\_\_\_ (sulfur, potassium, einsteinium, astatine) on the bottom.

**That's all! Hope you learned something about the elements in a zoo. Come again!**