

LOGOZOLOGY

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Many children's magazines feature picture puzzles in which the young readers are asked to identify a number of hidden animals. In a cloud may lurk a cow, in the leaves of a tree may be concealed a fish, and on the side of a house may be soaring an eagle. The same is true with language. Inside words prowl all manner of beast, and inside animal words are hidden all kinds of logological variations.

The *Girl's Own Paper* (1881) contained a puzzle about hidden animals, animal names that are camouflaged because their letters, though in order and consecutive, are distributed through more than one word. Flush a hidden animal from each of the following sentences and two from the last. Check your quarry against that in *Answers and Solutions*.

Impossible! O, pardon me, by no means.
The lamb is one of my pets.
At last a girl moved.
He made errors on purpose.
I must give it up, I grieve to say.
Well, I only got terrified out of my wits.

Now feast your eyes on a parade of anagram crackers as out trot a SHORE HORSE, A STEED TEASED and SEATED, A SMUG TAN MUSTANG, ORCHESTRA CARTHORSE, and a POINT PINTO ON TIP. Are you ready to GREET an EGRET, COUNT A TOUCAN, and recoil at a SNAKE SNEAK?:

ENTER ASP, in slithers A SERPENT.
Take a GANDER; stay outside the fence:
RANGED in the GARDEN of DANGER,
A SERPENT at PRESENT REPENTS.

Next in the parade march LO, A GIRL GORILLA, ANY HE HYENA, a WEE EWE, ONE-SAIL SEA LION, TOGA GOAT, SALTY PUP PLATYPUS, WINE-LOVER WOLVERINE, TROUT TUTOR, TACO COOK COCKATOO, COP-OUTS OCTOPUS, BOLSTER LOBSTER, FLUB OAF BUFFALO. Then HEAR a HARE, a PAROLED LEOPARD, BANGLE BENGAL, GRADE B BADGER, ROXY ORYX, CABARET BEARCAT, TAN ANT, THRONE HORNET, LEAF FLEA, a RICH SOT OSTRICH, and THE NEPAL ELEPHANT.

And there's more! -- SOBBING GIBBONS, SNORTED RODENTS, UNSHOD HOUNDS, SNUG GNUS, SPOOLED POODLES, SLOW OWLS, CANARSIE CANARIES, MESCAL CAMELS, SPIDER PRIDES, and NOISELESS LIONESSES. At

LEAST, we'll STEAL STALE TALES of SLATE TEALS. For fun we'll close with TEN SKIT KITTENS in a CAT ACT.

Now cast your gaze on a file of palindromic animals entering the sawdust circle -- A MALL LLAMA, A NUT TUNA, DOCK COD, DOG GOD, BAR CRAB, TANGO GNAT, E.P.A. APE, REEDY DEER, MARS RAM, WORM ROW, NEHRU FUR HEN, RED NAG GANDER, TEPEE PET, and a KOALA, O.K? Then you'll SEE BEES, STAR RATS, SLEEK EELS, SEWER EWES, SNOB BIG GIBBONS, SNORE HERONS, and SAD NAPA PANDAS.

After a SPIDER REDIPS and DIK-DIKS SKID, KID, we'll SEPARATE TAR APES and then STACK CATS, by placing a TACO CAT upon a base of SENILE FELINES. Never ever would I RIP A TAPIR, nor would I exclaim, "ACROBATS STAB BATS, STAB ORCA" or "TEN ANIMALS I SLAM IN A NET!"

In the game of charades, we act out a big word by dividing it into smaller words. Similarly, a charade word is one in which the larger word can be divided into smaller parts that are themselves words. Here's a charade parade of some animals that are made of many parts:

beaver	BE AVER	loon	LO ON
buffaloes	BUFF ALOES	parrot	PAR ROT
donkey	DON KEY	pinto	PIN TO
flamingo	FLAMING O	robin	ROB IN
goat	GO AT	sparrow	SPAR ROW
heron	HER ON	stallion	STALL ION
herring	HER RING	toad	TO AD
kitten	KIT TEN	wombat	WOMB AT

A veritable menagerie of hidden animals run and swim and fly and crawl out of words subject to single-letter deletions. First, come beasts that emerge from single beheadments or curtailments. You're invited to ASSESS the ASSES, CLAMP a CLAM, CROWN a CROW, FEEL an EEL, RANT about an ANT, REGRET an EGRET, SHARE a HARE, and STEAL a TEAL and discover a CRAVEN RAVEN, DEFT EFT, PUFFING PUFFIN, SADDER ADDER, SHREWD SHREW, STERN TERN, and other hidden animals.

apex/ape	board/boar	drat/rat	scat/cat
beard/bear	boast/boas	groan/roan	been/bee
scow/cow	cram/ram	potter/otter	then/hen

Then march and romp animals that, with the vanishing of a single letter from the front or back, materialize from within other animals. The results are both bovine and ovine:

b/ass	boa/r	f/ox
b/eagle	f/owl	w/asp

Ladies and gentlemen! Round and round the hippodrome track walk and run and trot and creep and fly and swim a tentful of animals that

are hidden in ordinary, everyday words. All you have to do is delete some letters from a base word and a concealed animal will suddenly appear, with all the letters in its name preserved:

apple/ape	cranberry/crab, crane	mackinaw/macaw
armaments/ram, rat, ant	deter/deer	prig/pig
arsenals/ass, seal	everywhere/ewe	rectangle/eagle
behead/bee	gloat/goat	showboat/shoat, bat
bleat/bat	grandeur/gander	smolder/mole
blizzard/lizard	harried/hare	snacked/snake
botany/boa	heroin/heron	startling/starling
bottler/otter	hoping/hog	steeped/steed
brushing/bruin	hyphenate/hyena	swain/swan
callow/cow	igneous/gnu	throbbing/robin
caramel/camel	jaunty/jay	towel/owl
chariot/cat	larynx/lynx	trigger/tiger
claim/clam	lotion/lion	wetlands/eland

Even more remarkable are the names of animals, letters in perfect order, that are nestled within other animals when key letters are deleted:

antelope/ape	crow/cow	mongoose/moose	springbok/pig
coyote/coot	dove/doe	oryx/ox	weasel/eel
crocodile/cod	hedgehog/dog	scarab/crab	wolverines/wolves

Inside both a RABBIT and an ORANGUTAN squeaks a RAT. Inside a BEAVER live both a BEAR and a BEE; a MARMOSET enfolds both a MARMOT and a MARE; and a CHAMELEON can change into both a CAMEL and a HEN. Most meaningfully of all, cooped up in a CHICKEN you can find another HEN!

Let's move from deletions to letter substitutions. Here are two poems I've made up in the style of the 19th-century riddle poems:

I fly like a baseball, a wing'd heavy hitter.
 Change my first letter; I'm the pick of the litter.
 Do it again; I'm a rodent -- no flattery.
 Now change my last, and you'll charge me with battery.

I start as an insect. Now change my first letter.
 Now I'm a rodent. Please make me one better.
 Now change my middle. You've made me quite horny.
 Now change my first. Now I love food that's corny.

The bestial solutions: BAT/CAT/RAT/RAM, LOUSE/MOUSE/MOOSE/GOOSE.

A bat and a louse and a moose are not the only animals that can be transformed into other animals by the substitution of a first letter:

beaver/weaver
dog/hog

donkey/monkey
guppy/puppy

hare/mare
seal/teal

And a rat and a mouse are not the only animals that become other animals with the change of a middle or terminal letter:

bear/boar cod/cow foal/fowl lion/loon/coon/coot/colt

An anonymous poem written more than a century ago opens:

A pretty deer is dear to me,
A hare with downy hair;
I love a hart with all my heart,
But barely bear a bear.

This poem inspires us to come calling on the homophone. What do you call a naked grizzly? A BARE BEAR. What do you call an equine with a sore throat? A HOARSE HORSE. Ladies and gentleman, around the sawdust circle troops a troupe consisting of a DEAR DEER, a GRISLY GRIZZLY, a NEW GNU, a FOUL FOWL, a TOWED TOAD, an ANT AUNT, a GORILLA GUERRILLA (note all five major vowels in that pair), a LLAMA LAMA, a MOUSSE MOOSE, a DOUGH DOE, and a ROE ROW. Notice the HARE HAIR, the MUSSEL MUSCLE, the HART HEART, the LYNX LINKS, the LOX LOCKS, the ORIOLE AUREOLE, and the MITE MIGHT. At the tail end of the parade, watch a BOAR BORE, a BURRO BURROW, a MULE MEWL, a BEE BE, a WHALE WAIL, a FLEA FLEE, EWES USE, and DOES DOZE.

From homophone to heteronym: True heteronymic pairs that are not clearly related in word formation are among the rarest of occurrences. That's why our heteronymble parade of animals consists only of a BASS BASS, a NESTLING NESTLING, a PUSSY PUSSY, and a MOLE MOLE. DOES the presence of DOES add to the parade? Did you watch as a DOVE DOVE? Would you like to see a SOW SOW and a RAVEN RAVEN?

Finally, it's time to gag you with a spoonerism. Dr. William Archibald Spooner was a distinguished master and warden at Oxford University. But because of his frequent tips of the slung, he became famous for his tonorous rubble with tin sax. In fact, these switcheroos have become known as spoonerisms.

Ladies and gentlemen! Gadies and Llentlemen! Movers and shakers! Shovers and makers! In honor of Dr. William Archibald Spooner's tang tongueled whiz and witdom, I present a menagerie of spoonerized animals:

Dr. Spooner's Animal Act
Welcome, ladies; welcome gents.
Here comes an act that's so in tents:
An absolute sure-fire parade,
A positive pure-fire charade --

With animals weak and animals mild,
 Creatures meek and creatures wild,
 With animals all in a row.
 We hope that you'll enjoy the show:

Gallops forth a curried horse,
 Trotting through a hurried course.
 Ridden by a loving shepherd
 Trying to tame a shoving leopard.
 Don't think I'm a punny phony,
 But next in line's a funny pony.
 On its back a leaping wizard,
 Dancing with a weeping lizard.

Watch how that same speeding rider
 Holds in his hand a reading spider.
 Now you see a butterfly
 Bright and nimbly flutter by,
 Followed by a dragonfly,
 As it drains its flagon dry.
 Step right up; see this mere bug
 Drain the drink from his beer mug.

Lumbers forth a honey bear,
 With fur as soft as bunny hair.
 Gaze upon that churning bear,
 Standing on a burning chair.
 Gently patting a mute kitten,
 On each paw a small, cute mitten.
 Watch as that small, running cat
 Pounces on a cunning rat.

See a clever, heeding rabbit
 Who's acquired a reading habit,
 Sitting on his money bags,
 Reading many bunny mags,
 Which tickle hard his funny bone,
 As he talks on his bunny phone.
 He is such a funny beast,
 Gobbling down his bunny feast

Gasp in awe as winking seals
 Sit atop three sinking wheels.
 Don't vacillate. An ocelot
 Will oscillate a vase a lot.
 There's a clever dangling monkey
 And a stubborn, mangling donkey
 And -- a gift from our Dame Luck --
 There waddles in a large lame duck.

Now hops a dilly of a frog
 Followed by a frilly dog.
 Hear that hoppy frog advise:
 "Time's fun when you're having flies!"
 With animals, some weak, some mild,
 Creatures meek and creatures wild.
 That's Dr. Spooner's circus show.
 With animals all in a row.

What logozoological act would be complete without another version of Mary and her letter lamb, the most famous of all Word Ways animal performances? Here's my attempt at a special kind of homoliteral poem. Within each line, the last letter of each word is also the first letter of the word that follows:

Maria acquired diminutive ewe
 Of fleece emitting glow.
 Whatever realm Maria accessed,
 The ewe'd, delighting, go.

So ovine entered damsel's school,
 Trespassing 'gainst their rule;
 Children nickered, dawdled, danced --
 So ovine exits school.