

**Z.O.O. RINGS IN THE NEW YEAR WITH A.B.C. WILDLIFE PARTY GAMES --  
GOOD FOR ZOO EDUCATION PROGRAMMES ALSO !**



All of us Z.O.O. Staff, now numbering 14 persons of all ages, nationalities and character types, were stuck in town for New Year's. As our town offers no special holiday fun, what to do? We decided -- on the spur of the moment, as they say -- to have an office party. We phoned the Coimbatore Zoo staff and asked them along too.

We made something here, ordered non-veg from a restaurant, and put mothers of staff members to work. In no time the menu was fixed.

Without a sound system, dancing was out of the question; with an abundance of tea-totallers, drinking had no meaning; ... even with food and (soft and relatively soft) drink, what else to do ?

As in our How to be Creative model, we had problems and needed a solution. In this case we had two problems: 1. surplus handmade papers left over from ZOOS' PRINT and 2. a lack of entertainment for the party. Solution : GAMES with handmade paper and ZOO educational materials.

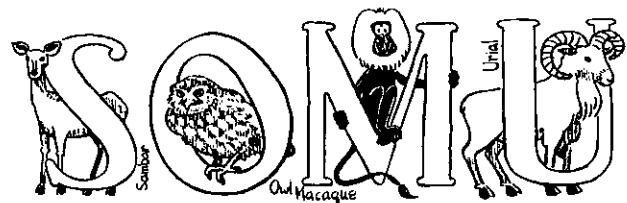
Sheila got out all our surplus handmade paper bits and pieces in several colours. She also xeroxed an ABC poster so that we had plenty of animal letters. We called up all staplers, scissors and gum stick. Materials were ready -- what about methods?

Everyone went home for awhile and came back. When they returned, each person was given a piece of paper and scissor and made to cut out one letter contributing to the big HAPPY NEW YEAR 1997 strung across the room. That was the price of admission (See below).



*Price of dinner ...*

The price of dinner was that everyone had to make and wear a hat, the more bizarre the better. Also they had to cut out letters in animals from the ABC of Indian wildlife and spell their name in animals on the hat.



**Write YOUR name in letters**



*Price of admission . . .*



*... the hats got more and more bizarre*

wondered if everyone would be able to appreciate this task, or even if everyone would do it. Not to worry. Our gang set to this with amazing enthusiasm and creativity. Some of the results were worth displaying in an art museum. Every hat got more and more bizarre.

After everyone was properly attired in their crazy hats, the games began. As much as possible the games had animal themes. As some of them might be good for young children, as well as your office staff, we are reproducing them here.

**GAME :** Materials : party hat with "name in animals" on it. Each guest had to spell their name in animals aloud in front of the group five times, each time getting faster and faster. So Latha was Loris Antelope Turtle Hoolock Antelope; Loris Antelope Turtle Hoolock Antelope, Loris Antelope Turtle Hoolock Antelope; Loris Antelope Turtle Hoolock Antelope; Loris Antelope Turtle Hoolock Antelope; Loris Antelope Turtle Hoolock Antelope. Brij was Bear Rhino Ibex Jackal; Bear Rhino Ibex Jackal; Bear Rhino Ibex Jackal; Bear Rhino Ibex Jackal; Bear Rhino Ibex Jackal. This is harder than you think -- get our ABC poster and try spelling YOUR name in letters and chanting it faster and faster!

This was Part one of the game. Part two was that everyone then had to spell their names in sounds of the animals ! If the first part was hard, this was extremely difficult. Some of the animals hardly make sounds, such as loris and turtle, and others we did not know like flamingo and ibex. Help was allowed so people who had spent time around different animals contributed a demonstration for the "victim" of the moment to emulate.

By the time this game was over everyone was roaring with laughter or cringing with embarrassment or both. Time for the next game.

**GAME :** The next game was a numbers game that didn't have anything to do with animals. We counted round the circle and when the number 7 or a multiple came up the person having it could not say it but had to clap instead. This is also harder than it sounds and the first failure was quick. THEN the animal part came in. The "loser" had to be punished by doing whatever the



... after everyone was properly attired, the games began ...



Game 1-- "My name is panda, rhino, antelope, vulture, ibex, nilgiri langur ... sis, snort, snuff, cackle, screech, screech, hoo."



Game 2 : Punishment for saying "seven" -- Ashraf hangs like a hoolock

