

CELEBRATING 60 YEARS  
**COLCHESTER ZOO**  
EST. 1963

## OUR EXTRAORDINARY DAY BY RHIANNON WARD (AGE 26)

It started with breakfast in our own private room,  
A host that met us with a wealth of knowledge.  
On to a morning of meeting the animals,  
Starting with the cheeky Sea Lions showing us their tricks.

We made our way to feed the peckish Meerkats,  
That ran all over our laps and feet.  
Over to the intelligent and playful Otters,  
Who eagerly awaited their feed to be thrown.

We got to stroke some Giant Tortoises,  
Learning about their life and background.  
The Giraffes were next for their lunch,  
Looking at us with cute faces and seeking food with their long tongues.

Aardvarks were quite smelly when we entered their chamber of sleep,  
Where we got to give them a stroke.  
We headed to give Igor the Tiger his lunch,  
He looked majestic as he paced around.

Back to the base for feeding ourselves,  
Learning about animals we passed on the way.  
Elephants were next for a bucket of food,  
Where we learnt a lot from the keepers and had our photos taken.

We entered the home of the Lemurs next,  
Who loved to jump on our shoulders and laps, searching for any food we might have.  
On route through we saw some Baboons and stopped for a little while to watch the  
new babies play,  
Jumping all over each other and being mischievous.

Finally we headed over to the Penguins,  
Who eagerly awaited their fish,  
As we learnt about their life,  
And individual personalities.

Back to base one last time for a snack and a drink,  
And to give a big thanks to our host for giving us the most extraordinary  
day at the Zoo.  
Many times we have visited, seen a few new arrivals in our times.  
But nothing will beat the experience we were given by staff that day.

Now Colchester Zoo is 60 years old,  
It continues to grow and offer good times for friends, families, and partners alike.  
There is an amazing insight into the wonderful animals who live there,  
And for that the visitors are grateful.

We cannot wait to celebrate the Zoo turning 60,  
And make lots of new memories.

