

BOOK 1

Zara Builds a Zoo

Dream Explorers Club Series

Printable Preview Activity Pack

A fun companion designed for young readers, families, homeschool educators, and classrooms.

Includes

- 3-Page Chapter Preview
- Reading Discussion Questions
- Vocabulary Word List
- Reading Comprehension Worksheet
- Printable Certificate of Completion
- Reading Journal Page

Ages 6–10

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Dream Explorers Club

Where Curiosity Leads to Adventure!

Welcome to the Adventure!

Hello, Dream Explorer!

Get ready to join **Zara** on an exciting journey filled with kindness, curiosity, courage, and amazing animal discoveries. As you read, complete the activities in this printable pack to strengthen your reading skills, learn new vocabulary, and think like a real scientist and explorer.

Remember:

- Be Curious
- Be Kind
- Protect Nature
- Never Stop Learning
- ♥■ Believe in Yourself

Your Adventure Includes

- Read the Chapter Preview
- Answer Discussion Questions
- Learn New Vocabulary
- Complete the Reading Worksheet
- Earn Your Certificate
- Reflect in Your Reading Journal

Let's Begin!

Chapter One: The Letter in the Fur

Zara Fields knelt on her bedroom floor, gently brushing Pico the Parrot's frayed green feathers.



Her little brothers' laughter boomed down the hallway like rolling thunder, but in Zara's room—a small fortress of books and animal posters—everything felt calm and quiet.

Her shelf was packed with old encyclopedias and library sale books, their pages stuffed with colorful sticky notes.

Chapter One Preview — Page 2

“How to Mend a Duck’s Wing.”

“Leopard Habitats.”

“Saving Stray Dogs.”

Zara, a quiet fifth grader, gobbled up every animal fact she could find. She knew which birds migrated at night, how to tell a fox track from a dog’s, and why some animals were disappearing from the wild.

But when her teacher asked, “Who can tell me what an endangered species is?”, Zara’s hand stayed glued to her desk.

All the answers she knew felt like butterflies flapping around inside her chest, too shy to fly out.

Sometimes she wondered if her courage was hiding in the margins of her books, waiting for the right moment to be noticed.

This Saturday, something curious happened.

Zara smoothed Pico’s wing like she had a hundred times before—then froze.

Crinkle.

She frowned and brushed the seam again.

Crinkle.

“What was that?” she whispered.

Chapter One Preview — Page 3

Carefully, she ran her fingers along Pico's soft, worn side. Something thin and stiff was tucked deep in the fabric. Her heart thumped louder than her brothers' hallway stomps.

With a tiny tug, Zara pulled out a golden-edged envelope.

Her name shimmered across the front in swirling green ink:

Zara Fields – Explorer of Dreams

Her breath caught. No one in her family wrote like that.

For a moment she just stared, the room suddenly feeling too small, like it was holding its breath with her.

"Is this a joke?" she asked Pico softly. His stitched eye stared back, calm and unblinking.

Zara slid a shaky finger under the flap and unfolded the letter.

Reading Discussion Questions

Talk about the story with a parent, teacher, or friend. There are no wrong answers—share your ideas!

1. What do you learn about Zara in the beginning of the story?
2. Why do you think Zara loves animals so much?
3. How would you feel if you discovered a mysterious letter inside your favorite stuffed animal?
4. What character trait does Zara show when she decides to follow the letter?
5. What do you think will happen next? Why?

Draw or write your favorite part of the chapter below:

Vocabulary Word List

Vocabulary Word	Meaning	My Sentence
Curious	Wanting to learn or know more.	_____
Encyclopedia	A book with facts about many topics.	_____
Endangered	At risk of disappearing forever.	_____
Courage	Being brave even when you are scared.	_____
Whisper	To speak very softly.	_____
Adventure	An exciting journey or experience.	_____

Reading Comprehension Worksheet

Name: _____ Date: _____

Part A – Multiple Choice

1. What does Zara enjoy learning about most?
☐ Space ☐ Animals ☐ Dinosaurs ☐ Sports
2. Where did Zara discover the mysterious letter?
☐ In a library book ☐ Inside Pico the Parrot ☐ At school ☐ In the backyard
3. Who signed the mysterious letter?
☐ Old Mossback ☐ Professor Wisp ☐ Nugget ☐ Her teacher

Part B – Short Answer

1. Why do you think Zara decided to follow the mysterious letter?

2. What does Zara's love of animals tell you about her character?

3. What would you do if you found a magical invitation?

Part C – Creative Thinking

Draw or write about your own dream adventure. Where would you go and what would you discover?

Dream Explorers Club

Certificate of Completion

This certificate is proudly presented to

for successfully completing the

Zara Builds a Zoo Printable Preview Activity Pack

Your curiosity, kindness, and love of learning make you a true Dream Explorer!

Teacher/Parent Signature	Date
_____	_____

Where Curiosity Leads to Adventure!

Continue the Adventure!

Discover the Dream Explorers Club Series

Every Dream Explorers Club adventure inspires children to dream big, solve problems, and discover how they can make a positive difference in the world.

Book	Adventure Theme
Zara Builds a Zoo	Animals, habitats, and caring for wildlife
Jaden Reaches for the Stars	Space exploration and STEM
Maya and the Golden Key	Leadership and community
The Secret of the Glowing Sea	Ocean conservation and marine science
Lila's Recipe for Magic	Culture, cooking, and family traditions

Perfect for Ages 6–10

Each book includes exciting stories, STEM connections, discussion questions, vocabulary activities, printable worksheets, and classroom-friendly resources.

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Dream Big • Explore More • Learn Together!