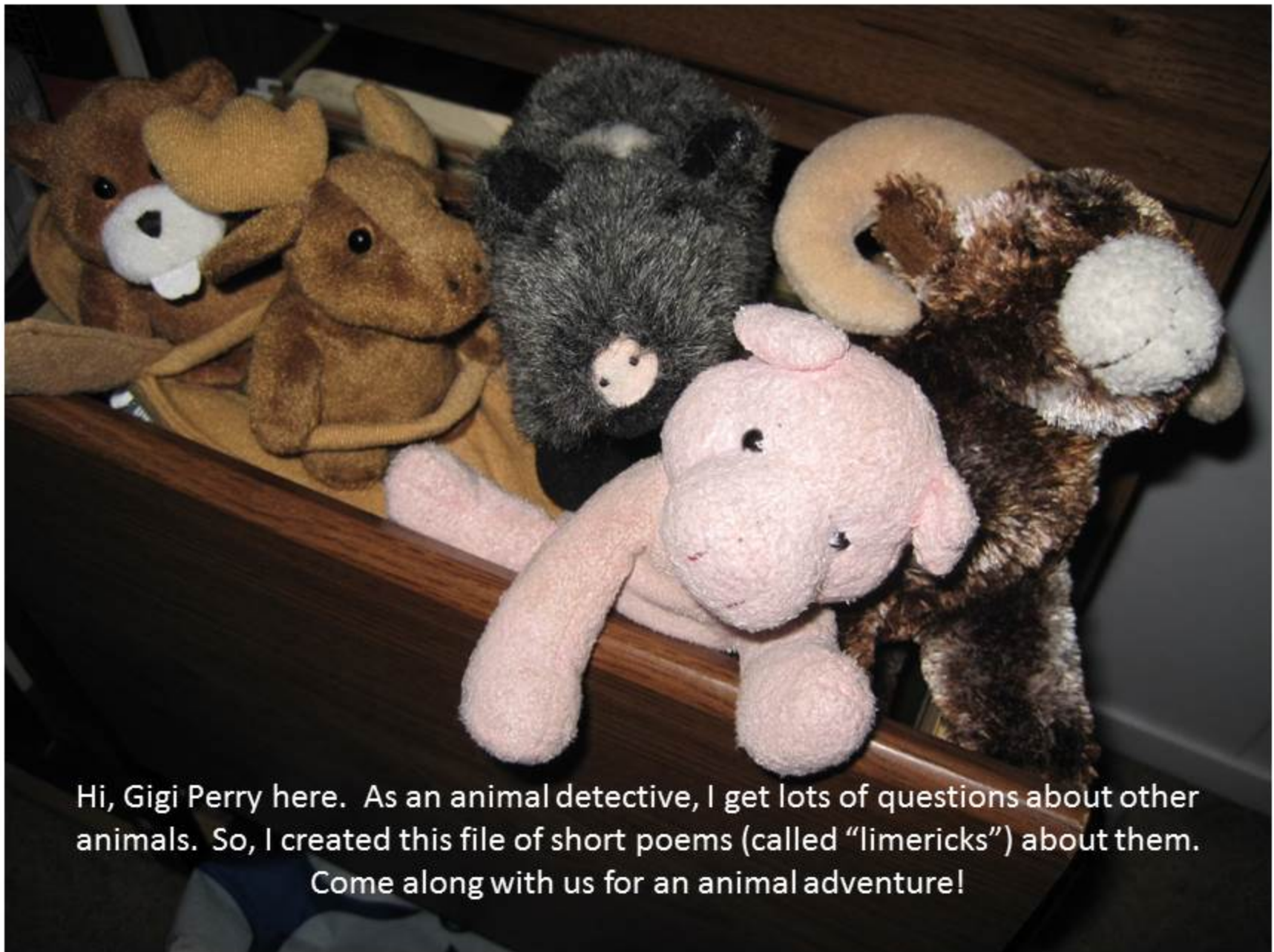


More Animal Friends

**DETECTIVE GIGI**

# **ZOO FILE 2**

**BY GIGI PERRY & SYD (PAPA) SMITH**



Hi, Gigi Perry here. As an animal detective, I get lots of questions about other animals. So, I created this file of short poems (called "limericks") about them. Come along with us for an animal adventure!

#### THE AARDVARK

The aardvark cannot be missed  
At the top of an animal list  
He's always there  
Always in despair  
Because he never gets kissed

#### THE ANTEATER

The anteater's tongue is too long  
His mouth isn't made for a song  
But he can catch ants  
When he gets a chance  
So he thinks that nothing is wrong

#### THE BADGER

The badger is known to be tough  
At times he can be rather rough  
He's very good  
At digging for food  
But not at that etiquette stuff.

#### THE BEAVER

The beaver chews through trees  
While kneeling on his knees  
He's known as a worker  
Never a shirker  
He's busier than bees.

#### THE CAT

The cat really likes to catch mice  
Which she thinks are awfully nice  
If she could cook, too,  
She's make a mouse stew  
Then she'd fill up her plate, maybe twice

#### THE ALLIGATOR

Alligators are covered with scales  
They also have very long tails  
They swim through the water  
Just like an otter  
They swim - 'cause they don't have sails

#### THE ARMADILLO

The armadillo is not very tall  
When she's scared she rolls up in a ball  
The ball is so tight  
That, try though he might,  
The coyote can't get her at all

#### THE BEAR

The bear has a coat of thick fur  
To keep warm in winter for sure.  
Some bears are brown  
Some black can be found  
But white's what the polar prefer.

#### THE CAMEL

The camel has a big hump  
On his back-it's not just a bump  
It makes him so tall  
That if you should fall  
From his back, you'd land with a thump

#### THE CHEETAH

No animal's as fast as the cheetah  
Some are fleet, but he's fleeter  
But he'd always lose  
Without his jet shoes  
That's why they call him a cheater

#### THE CHIMPANZEE

The chimpanzee's much like a human  
They love to do mutual groomin'  
They also will fight  
For reasons quite slight  
With lots of fussin' and fumin'

#### THE COYOTE

The coyote's a kind of wild mutt  
Who looks pretty harmless, but  
When he howls at the moon,  
You wish, pretty soon,  
He would try to keep his mouth shut.

#### THE CROW

Crow feathers are silky and sable  
She cleans them whenever she's able  
She looks so divine  
In her outfit so fine  
You'll want her to sit at your table

#### THE DUCK

In the water, a duck likes to paddle  
On land, you'll see her waddle  
But she's much too small  
For riding at all  
So you'll never see one with a saddle.

#### THE ELEPHANT

The elephant has a long snout  
That he always carries about  
His trunk is quite good  
For picking up food  
It's something he won't go without.

#### THE COW

The cow is a wonderful beast  
Whose milk can create a whole feast  
With butter and cheese  
As much as you please  
And the cow doesn't mind in the least

#### THE CROCODILE

The crocodile's much like a gator  
But its size is oftentimes greater.  
A lady explorer  
Thought he would adore her.  
He did, and promptly ate her.

#### THE DOG

The dog likes to chase his own tail  
And bark at the man with the mail  
He runs willy-nilly  
He's really quite silly  
But as a friend he'll never fail

#### THE EAGLE

The eagle soars high in the sky  
She has a very sharp eye  
Whenever she's fishing  
The fish are all wishing  
The eagle would just say goodbye

#### THE ELK

The elk is an elegant beast  
Like a deer, but greatly increased.  
When another elk warns  
He can use his sharp horns  
Or end up a mountain lion feast

#### THE FOX

The fox is quite clever, we're told  
And wily and slyly and bold  
They catch little critters  
To feed to their litters  
Of kits, who aren't very old.

#### THE GOOSE

The goose is supposed to be silly  
And runs around willy-nilly  
But if she has a baby  
And I don't mean maybe  
She'll charge like a goat that's a billy

#### THE GORILLA

The gorilla is quite a large fellow  
Most times he's docile and mellow  
But if you annoy him  
You won't enjoy him  
He'll jump up and thunder and bellow

#### THE HORSE

The horse can run fast, it is true  
Much faster than me or you  
He races right past  
And gets there so fast  
You probably thought that he flew

#### THE KANGAROO

The kangaroo has a big pouch  
But it couldn't carry a couch  
Sometimes when her joey  
Goes to-y and fro-y  
It makes Mama Kanga say "ouch"!

#### THE GIRAFFE

The giraffe's as tall as a tree  
I'm not as tall as her knee  
She has a long neck  
So it's quite a trek  
From her head to her shoulder, you see

#### THE GOPHER

The gopher digs under the lawn  
To see what he can munch on  
He loves grass roots  
And tender green shoots  
And soon your lawn will be gone.

#### THE HAMSTER

The hamster can make a cute pet  
Maybe the cutest one yet  
If you should hold one  
You may want to scold one  
If you find that he's gotten you wet

#### THE HYENA

The hyena is known for its laughter  
Nothing could sound any dafter  
But they're not so crazy  
Or luckless or lazy  
Since they usually catch what they're after

#### THE KOALA

The koala lives up in a tree  
And is cuter than cute can be  
But if you would search  
To find where they perch  
You can go to Australia to see

#### THE LION

The lion's supposed to be king  
Of beasts, but there's just one thing  
When it's time for dinner  
He's not the bread winner  
The lioness does all the hunting

#### THE MANATEE

The manatee hardly looks real  
A bit like a walrus or seal  
The tales of a mermaid  
It's said were made  
After seeing one -- what's the appeal?

#### THE MONKEY

The monkey lives up in the trees  
And moves around with greatest ease  
They love to eat fruit  
And holler and hoot  
And generally do what they please.

#### THE MOUSE

How sad is the sweet little mouse  
Who can't find a welcoming house  
To live out her life  
Without trouble and strife  
Or cats with all their meows.

#### THE OPOSSUM

When threatened the possum plays dead  
And hangs by his tail, so it's said.  
But if you see one  
You'll see they're no fun.  
Just pet something cuter instead.

#### THE LLAMA

The llama roams the Andes  
A place where there aren't many trees  
They climb all around  
And are usually found  
Standing wherever they please

#### THE MEERKAT

The meerkat's a cute little squirt  
That likes to dig holes in the dirt  
They hop and cavort  
And make great sport  
But a sentry is always alert

#### THE MOOSE

The moose looks slightly risible  
His expression is somewhat quizzical  
He looks pretty tame  
But don't call him a name  
You don't want him to get physical

#### THE OCTOPUS

The octopus' arms number eight  
For piano that really is great  
With four baby grands  
She could play with eight hands  
And never be early or late

#### THE OSTRICH

The ostrich, it's said, can stand  
Up straight with its head in the sand.  
But why put your nose  
Down next to your toes  
When you should be watching the land?

#### THE OTTER

The otter swims in the water  
But the world's getting hotter and hotter  
She should move where there's ice  
Which would be oh, so nice  
I really think that's what she oughta

#### THE PARAKEET

The parakeet loves to make chatter  
Day or night, it just doesn't matter  
If he were eating  
As much as he's tweeting  
He's certainly be a lot fatter

#### THE PENGUIN

The penguin is formally dressed  
She works at looking her best  
She wears a tuxedo  
Never a Speedo  
And always is neat and well-pressed

#### THE PLATYPUS

The platypus isn't so pretty  
As if designed by committee  
He has a duck's lips  
And poison toe tips  
And a beaver's tail -- what a pity!

#### THE RABBIT

The rabbit has very long ears  
That help him whenever he hears  
So he won't get hurt  
He's always alert  
To run away when danger nears

#### THE PANDA

The panda eats only bamboo  
And does lots to entertain you  
But their habitat  
Is being cut flat.  
Soon they'll only be found in the zoo.

#### THE PARROT

The parrot can make many sounds  
His repertoire knows no bounds.  
But his greatest gimmick  
Is when he can mimic  
Your speech -- he really astounds.

#### THE PIG

The pig thinks that it is just fine  
If you want to call him a swine  
You can call him tubby  
Or maybe just chubby  
But call him for dinner on time

#### THE PORPOISE

The porpoise has some techniques  
For catching the fish that she seeks  
She chases them 'round  
And runs them to ground  
With lots of splashes and squeaks

#### THE RHINO

The rhino has a long nose  
That grows and grows and grows  
If you're walking in line  
With a rhino behind  
You'd better stay on your toes

#### THE SCORPION

The scorpion's tail has a stinger  
It's sting is really a zinger  
If you're walking at night  
And a scorpion you sight  
Get away, don't tarry or linger

#### THE SHEEP

The sheep is beloved for his fleece  
Although he's no smarter than geese  
But when you are shearing  
The coat he is wearing  
Remember to always say "please"

#### THE SQUID

The squid isn't like me and you  
He has eight arms, not just two  
You wouldn't think  
Of squirting out ink  
Which is just what a squid will do

#### THE TIGER

The tiger is very ferocious  
His manners are really atrocious  
He hunts night and day  
To find him some prey  
With luck he will never approach us

#### THE WALRUS

The walrus has very long tusks  
Much longer than any of us  
If it's your intention  
To grow such dentition  
Then toothpaste is really a must.

#### THE SHARK

The shark is the wolf of the sea  
He's hungry as hungry can be  
He eats what he wishes  
Birds, seals and fishes  
He might even eat you or me

#### THE SKUNK

For the skunk, it's all black or white  
Either you're wrong or you're right  
There's no in-between  
For this squirting machine  
If you see him, just get out of sight

#### THE SQUIRREL

The squirrel looks around when she feeds  
And gathers up just nuts and seeds  
She hides some for winter  
So, when making dinner,  
She has all the stuff that she needs

#### THE TORTOISE

The tortoise is slower than us  
But he doesn't worry or fuss  
If he has to be  
Somewhere speedily  
Then maybe he'll just take the bus.

#### THE WHALE

The whale swims out in the sea  
Where she can be happy and free  
She sings to the others  
Her sisters and brothers  
She lives the way she wants to be



#### THE WILDEBEEST

The wildebeest lives in a herd  
That's followed by many a bird  
The birds can hear  
When lions are near  
And quickly start spreading the word.

#### THE YAK

The yak lives high up in Tibet  
As high as a yak can get  
Of fur he wears layers  
'Cause the high Himalayas  
Are almost the coldest place yet

#### THE WOODCHUCK

The woodchuck will eat anything  
That grows in your garden in spring  
The asphodel yellow  
Or daffodil mellow  
Whatever the gardener will bring

#### THE ZEBRA

Zebras all wear striped pajamas  
That were given to them by their mamas  
Whenever they hear  
That a lion is near  
They probably wish they were llamas