

Finn Finity and the Great Christmas Maths Mystery

Chapter 5

Finn hurried through the halls of the museum, his footsteps echoing off the marble floors as he made his way to *Animal World*, a gallery filled with animal displays from around the world, from the Arctic to Australia. Amongst the displays was the *Animal Weigh-in*, a giant scale where visitors could weigh themselves and see how they measured up against the weight of different animals. Cautiously Finn stepped on to the scale, curious to see which animal **he** measured up to.



But nothing happened. Briefly confused, it quickly dawned on him. “I’m probably not heavy enough for the scale to react,” he exclaimed, studying the name of the lightest animal featured. “That means I must weigh less than a Goliath Frog!”

But before he could step off, something caught his eye. Wedged beside the scale was a small piece of paper, barely noticeable. He leaned down and gently tugged it free. It was a handwritten note, with different animal names. Alongside the names were some clues. This was clearly another puzzle!

Finn scanned the list of animals. “Why would someone leave this here?” he wondered aloud, turning the note over to see if there were any more hints. Nothing.

Finn rubbed his chin thoughtfully. Glancing from the paper to the animal displays around him, he had an idea - what if he tried sorting the animals by weight, just like the animals featured on the Weigh-in!

Puzzle No.5

Work through the clues and help Finn Finitly to sort the animals from heaviest to lightest:

- The honey badger is lighter than the black wolf but heavier than the red fox.
- Dolly the Sheep is heavier than the honey badger but lighter than the grey seal.
- The black wolf is heavier than both the red fox and the honey badger, but lighter than Dolly the Sheep.
- The grey seal is lighter than the brown bear.
- The red fox is heavier than the rockhopper penguin.
- The rockhopper penguin is the lightest of all.

Black Wolf	Rockhopper Penguin		Honey Badger
Brown Bear	Red Fox	Dolly the Sheep	Grey Seal

Finn stared at the notebook in his hands, where he had written out the solution to the puzzle. One by one, he had jotted down the names of the seven animals in a neat list, from heaviest to lightest. "What now?" he thought.

Just then, the soft chime of his phone startled him. Finn pulled it from his pocket and read the message:

*"The middle creature holds the key,
To what the next eliminations should be."*

The sender's number was unknown. Finn's eyes widened, and his fingers flew across the screen as he typed back:

"Who is this?"

A moment passed. Then his phone chimed again:

"A friend."

Finn frowned, glancing around the gallery to check if there was anyone hiding nearby. But there was no one in sight. He re-read the initial message, trying to piece together its meaning. "The middle creature..." he murmured, comparing the list of animals with his list of suspects.

And suddenly he understood that he could eliminate the two suspects who shared part of their name with the name of the middle creature on the list of sorted animals.

Finn felt a shiver of excitement. Whoever this mysterious "friend" was, they were helping him, nudging him along.

