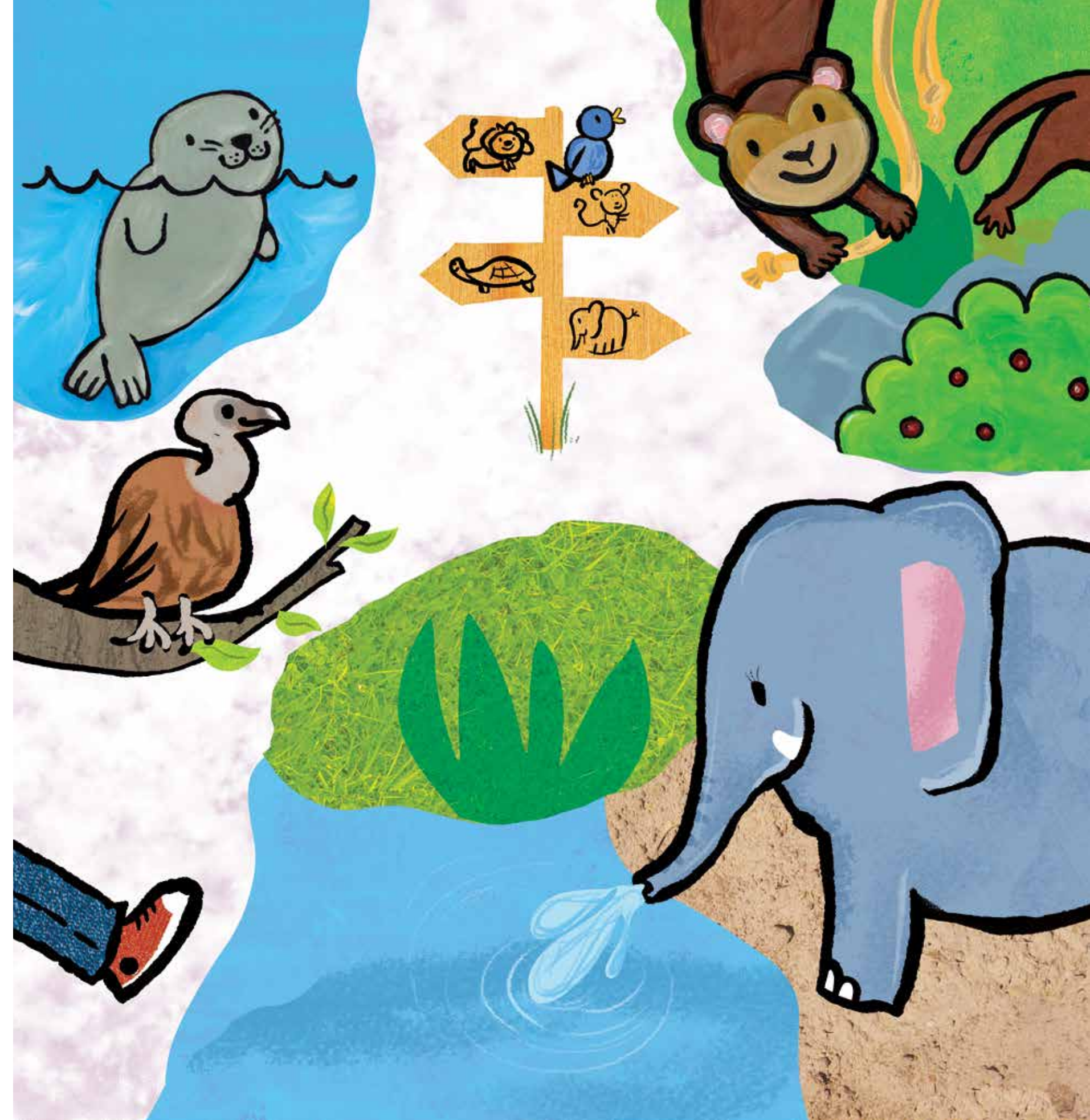




*Before animals go to a zoo, they often spend some time in an animal shelter. Caretakers make sure the animals are safe and well fed before they head to their new home.*

All sorts of animals live at the zoo, from frogs and turtles to leopards and chimpanzees. Zookeepers take very good care of them. They're given the right food and a place to live that's clean and has plenty of space for them to roam. The zoo imitates nature as best as it can so that each animal feels safe and happy.



*"I take care of the giraffes  
and the lions and tigers too."*

*"I take care of  
the elephants."*

*"I take care of the monkeys  
and the porcupines."*



*"I take care of the tortoises  
and the frogs."*

There are lots of different animals living at the zoo: big and small, heavy and light. They all need to stay healthy and fit, and they need to feel happy too. The zookeeper and their animals know each other well, just like you and your pet do. (This may be more difficult in the case of a tarantula or a poison dart frog . . .) Zookeepers also have to be good problem-solvers, because anything can happen. You never know what animals are going to do!

**I'm a zookeeper and . . .**

**. . . I'm strong, so I can  
restrain or stop an animal.  
I don't mind doing dirty jobs,  
like picking up poop.**

**. . . I'm not afraid of animals,  
not even the ones that can be  
dangerous. The zoo makes  
sure I can work safely.**



**. . . I'm patient and calm.  
Animals have a mind  
of their own, so I try to  
always keep my cool.**

**. . . I know a lot about  
the species I care for:  
how the animal behaves,  
what it needs, where it  
lives in nature . . .**

