THEY WENT TO THE ZOO.....

This is basically a game of sardines, where the children hide in twos and threes, all to be revealed at the end. Each picture offers a puzzle - to find the children who are hiding in that particular verse. In the end they are all discovered in the huge oak tree in the middle of the zoo.

1

Ryan, Samantha and Holly and Timmy
Jamie and James and William and Ginny
Harry and Hannah and Daniel and Matt
Sue with a sunflower pinned on her hat
Emily, Anne and Christopher Fisher
Asif, Cassandra, Kate Gibb and Misha
Rachel and Shane and Kate Ardley-Tew.....

2.

.....Got in a bus
And went to the zoo!

3

"There are twenty-three children," says Miss, "And I'm sure
That when we arrived here I had twenty four!
Never mind, we had better get on with our visit."
(That cannot be Emily hiding, or is it?)

4.

The zoo man is cool, man. He asks if they've heard
About Insects and Mammals and Reptiles and Birds.
He talks about tigers, but how can he hear
With that funny old bat hanging out of his ear?
(Trust William and Ginny to just disappear!)

Lecture room with stuffed animals, pictures, slide screen. The zoo man himself might be a puzzle picture, with animals disguised in his clothes and anatomy.

5.

"The giraffe," says Miss, "is the tallest of beasts.
On the African plains it wanders and feasts
On treetops and ...Careful!" Now just fancy that!
The giraffe helps itself to Sue's sunflower hat!
(And what can have happened to Daniel and Matt?)

6

There's camels and zebras, a koala bear;
The Cheetah is cheating, she stays in her lair.
Anne hangs her coat on the reindeer's antler
Cassandra makes faces and frightens the panther
(But where are Shane and Sue and Samantha?)

7.

“Lunchtime!” says Miss, “Have your drink and your bun.
Sit under a tree so you don’t catch the sun.”
The seagull is friendly - Hey! That’s a cheek!
It takes Miss’s sandwiches off in its beak!
(And Rachel and Ryan have played hide and seek)

8.

Baboons chase their babies, the gnu chews the cud
The hippo heaves heavily out of the mud
The rhinos are restless - and terribly rare.
“Look Miss, Kate Gibb’s got a bird in her hair!”
(Anne and Cassandra are somewhere - but where?)

9.

Everyone’s wanting an ice-cream (some two!)
That’s part of the fun of a day at the zoo.
But watch where you eat them... Not there! what a folly!
The monkey has taken Kate Ardley-Tew’s lolly!
(What’s happened to Hannah and Harry and Holly?)

10.

“The small snakes eat insects and gerbils and frogs
The big ones like monkeys and children and dogs
They don’t have to chew them, they swallow them whole
Like Timothy eating a chocolate roll.”

(While Jamie and James are exploring a hole.)

11.
Nose like a hosepipe, leg like a tree
It must be an elephant - time for its tea!
The keeper brings hay in and turns round to go,
Oh help, now the elephant's stood on his toe!
(And Asif and Timmy'll be back in a mo.)

12.
Miss mutters sadly, "it's just as I feared.
My twenty four children have all disappeared.
I've now lost Kate A-T, and Kate Gibb and Misha
And all I have left is my Christopher Fisher."

13
Says Chris,
"Please Miss,
Look at this!"

Chris leads her over to the huge oak tree - parts of which have been visible in most pictures, and the children jump down out of it, surprising her.

14

Ryan, Samantha and Holly and Timmy

Jamie and James and William and Ginny

Harry and Hannah and Daniel and Matt

Sue (but she's missing her sunflower hat)

Emily, Anne and Christopher Fisher

Asif, Cassandra, Kate Gibb and Misha

Kate Ardley-Tew and Rachel and Shane.....

.....Got in a bus

And drove home again!

THE END

Green Wheelies

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550 words