Project 2 Design + Reflection

Program Design

Problem

For this project, we will write a zoo tycoon game using classes and inheritance. Zoo tycoon is a game that allows players to run a zoo business. Different types of animals cost different prices, have different maintenance costs, and of course, return a different profit at the end of each day. For this game, the player will be the proud owner of a virtual zoo that has spaces to house tigers, penguins and turtles.

Zoo Tycoon Requirements

Input Validation: I will recycle my InputValidation class used in Project 1. It has an overloaded function called getInt(). I chose to make InputValidation its own class so that it could be used in future programs. getInt() receives input from the user, converts it into a stringstream, which then checks to see if there is anything beyond an integer that is left over. If there is, it makes the user try to input an integer again. getInt(int min, int max) serves the same function as getInt() but also runs another validation checking input to see if it lies between min and max. getInt(min, max) will be useful for specifying minimum and maximum values for the following inputs:

- Menu options for continuing the game
- Menu options for buying a new adult animal
- Specifying at the beginning of the game how many of each animal type to start with (1 or 2)

Menu: I will recycle my Menu class used in Project 1 to display menu options, get input from the user, and store that input as a user choice variable. I chose to make Menu its own class so that it could be used in future programs. It references my Input Validation class to ensure the user is entering a valid input from the menu. There are functions to add an option to the menu, print the menu options, ask the user for his/her choice, and return the user choice.

The menu will provide 2 options as specified in a start menu: “Keep playing” and “End game”.

There will also be a 4-option menu as specified to get the type of animal adult the user would like to buy at the end of every day.

Animal Class: The Animal class has the following member variables:

- Age
  - Adult if age >= 3 days
  - Baby if age < 3 days
- Cost
  - Tiger cost $10,000
  - Penguin cost $1,000
  - Turtle cost $100
- Number of Babies
  - Tigers have 1 baby
  - Penguins have 5 babies

    - Turtles have 10 babies
- Base Food Cost
    - You can get this base food cost from the user or set it as a constant. Example base food cost per animal per day: $10.
    - Tigers have a feeding cost of 5 times the base cost
    - Penguins have a feeding cost that is the same as the base cost
    - Turtles have a feeding cost that is 50% the base cost
- Payoff
    - A tiger's payoff per day is 20% of their cost per animal. (not counting bonus)
    - A penguin's payoff per day is 10% of their cost per animal
    - A turtle's payoff per day is 5% of their cost per animal

Note: please do not modify the variables names or add more member variables to this class.

Animal is a base class for the animals at the zoo, containing the following animal attributes: age, cost, number of babies, base food cost, and payoff. The attributes will be initialized to age=1, cost=0, numBabies=0, baseFoodCost=10, payoff=0. I don't anticipate needing these values, but just in case think it would be a good idea. I might add some functions including: getCost, getBaseFoodCost, getPayOff, ageUp, and isAdult.

Tiger, Penguin, and Turtle Classes: These three classes will be implemented almost identically. Each class is a specific class that inherits the properties of the Animal class and assigns its properties to its own specific attributes based upon the specs given. Most functions/data will be used from the Animal class.

Zoo Class: Zoo will be the main engine class for the Zoo Tycoon game. It will hold much of the important information including: money, the creation and destruction of animal cages, each animal's capacity, the current number of each animal, and random events.

There will also be many functions that run the game:

startZoo - startZoo asks the user how many of each animal (1 or 2) that the user would like to start the game with.
printStats - printStats prints the stats of the zoo for each day, including: money, number of tigers, penguins, and turtles.
liveDay - liveDay simulates a day in the zoo by calling many of the other functions that represent events of that day: printStats, age, payFoodCosts, randomEvent, getPaid, and buyAdult.
addAnimal - addAnimal takes in three parameters: animalType, age, and qty. These parameters help in the creation of the correct animal in the zoo.
rebuildCages - rebuildCages expands the dynamically allocated array in the case of the number of a certain animal type growing beyond what the array can hold. It expands the array by a factor of 2.
spend - spend subtracts the cost parameter from the Zoo's money.
birth - birth checks to see that there are adult animals (age >= 3), and if there are, creates a new animal of the type of the adult. The type of baby is decided randomly.
age - age ages all animal in the Zoo by 1 day.

die - die picks an animal type at random, checks to see that there is actually an animal to kill, and then proceeds to kill it :(
getPaid - getPaid pays the zoo based on each animal's payOff amount.
getBonus - getBonus generates a random bonus between 250 and 500 dollars for each tiger in the zoo. It adds this bonus to the zoo's money.
payFoodCosts - payFoodCosts subtracts the food costs for each animal from the Zoo's total money.
randomEvent - randomEvent selects a number between 0 and 3 and uses these values in the enum RandomEvents to act out a random event of: sickness, attendance boom, birth, and nothing.
buyAdult - buyAdult at the end of every day, prompts the user to buy an adult animal of whatever type the user decides.

I will also include a constructor and destructor with Zoo in order to create the animal cages dynamically and then delete them respectively.

Main – main will basically run a do-while loop which runs the Zoo day by day until the user ends the game or the zoo's money gets to 0.

Reflection

I approached this program methodically starting with importing the easy stuff: my already written Menu and InputValidation classes. I find that starting out with these small victories gives me confidence when the project looks so daunting at first.

Afterwards, I worked on the Animal class and the other various derivatives of it. Setting up the variables and functions for these classes was straightforward. Then came the Zoo class. I heard others discussing making their dynamic Animal arrays in the Animal class itself. I seriously struggled with how to dynamically allocate memory in such a way that would store my animals in their respective cages. It was quite a pain that we could not use vectors on this assignment, but I can understand the benefit in doing it the hard way. I had seen on Piazza about using a triple pointer, and made some decent progress with it. However, I didn't fully understand what was happening, and it made bugs difficult to fix. I decided to drop this approach for something simpler for my pea brain: double pointers. I used three double pointers to represent each type of animal's cage. This was much more like what I had accomplished in the Langton's Ant project, and thus easier for me to implement. I wonder if I'll ever *really* understand triple pointers. Perhaps if I had more time to delve into the topic. I was just as satisfied getting the Animal class running with double pointers.

As I worked on the Zoo class, it appealed to my logic more to create the animal cages in the Zoo class rather than the Animal class. I alternated back and forth between the two classes and creating the dynamic memory a few times. I finally settled in on what made the most sense, having the cages in the Zoo class.

Once my struggle ended with dynamic memory (15-hour struggle…), I found the Zoo class to be lengthy, but easy to implement the functions I had plan to make. I made several small errors along the way, but all were easy to troubleshoot.

I think the only other struggle I had was with birthing a random animal if an adult animal was present. I landed on using a bool variable to determine if an adult was present. If not, the function looped through again with a different animal checking for adults.

All in all, this project was an emotional roller coaster. I was feeling low when I had spent 15 hours on dynamic allocation, wondering if I could finish the project at the snail speed. Luckily, I made it work, and the rest of the project was not too bad. In total, I believe I spent 25 hours on this project, and it has made me a better programmer to be sure.

Test Tables

For InputValidation Class – This class was already tested in Project 1

Test Case	Input Values	Driver Functions	Expected Outcomes	Observed Outcomes
input too low or high	input < 2 input > 200	getInt(2, 200)	You must select an integer equal to or between 2 and 200.	You must select an integer equal to or between 2 and 200.
input in correct range	2 < input < 200	getInt(2, 200)	Returns input	Returns input
input extreme low	input = 2	getInt(2, 200)	Returns 2	Returns 2
input extreme high	input = 200	getInt(2, 200)	Returns 200	Returns 200
input not an integer	input = a	getInt(2, 200)	You must enter an integer value.	You must enter an integer value.
input not an integer	input = 123abc	getInt(2, 200)	You must enter an integer value.	You must enter an integer value.
input not an integer	input = enter key	getInt(2, 200)	You must enter an integer value.	You must enter an integer value.
input not an integer	input = asdf 123	getInt(2, 200)	You must enter an integer value.	You must enter an integer value.

For Menu Class - This class was already tested in Project 1

Test Case	Input Values	Driver Functions	Expected Outcomes	Observed Outcomes
input option string	"Start Langton\'s Ant simulation"	addOption(string) printOptions() main()	1. Start Langton's Ant simulation	1. Start Langton's Ant simulation
input option string	"Quit"	addOption(string) printOptions() main()	1. Start Langton's Ant simulation 2. Quit	1. Start Langton's Ant simulation 2. Quit
input too low or high	input < 1 input > 2	getInt(1, 2) promptUserChoice() main()	You must select an integer equal to or between 1 and 2.	You must select an integer equal to or between 1 and 2.
input not an integer	input = a	getInt(1, 2) promptUserChoice() main()	You must enter an integer value.	You must enter an integer value.
input valid	input = 1 input = 2	getInt(1, 2) promptUserChoice() getUserChoice();	returns 1 returns 2	returns 1 returns 2

Animal/Tiger/Penguin/Turtle Classes

Test Case	Input Values	Driver Functions	Expected Outcomes	Observed Outcomes
initiates each Animal/ Tiger/ Penguin/ Turtle object with correct values	m_age=1+ m_cost = 0+ m_numBabies = 0+ m_baseFoodCost = 10+ m_payOff = 0+	Animal() Tiger() Penguin() Turtle()	Correct values are stored no matter what input	Correct values are stored no matter what input
age each animal by 1 day	m_age>=0	ageUp()	m_age increases by 1	m_age increases by 1
isAdult: if the animal is an adult return true	m_age < 3 m_age >= 3	isAdult() ageUp()	if the animal is an adult (m_age >= 3) then return true, otherwise, return false	if the animal is an adult (m_age >= 3) then return true, otherwise, return false

For Zoo Class

Test Case	Input Values	Driver Functions	Expected Outcomes	Observed Outcomes
Printing of Zoo information	N/A	printStats() main()	Stats about the game: money and number of each animal	Stats about the game: money and number of each animal
Beginning – adding 1 of each type of animal to the zoo	numTigers = 1 numPenguins=1 numTurtles = 1	startZoo() Zoo() addAnimal() main()	1 of each animal type in the zoo	1 of each animal type in the zoo
Beginning – adding 2 of each type of animal to the zoo	numTigers = 2 numPenguins=2 numTurtles = 2	startZoo() Zoo() addAnimal() main()	2 of each animal type in the zoo	2 of each animal type in the zoo
Beginning – adding 1 or 2 of each type of animal to the zoo	numTigers = 1 numPenguins=2 numTurtles = 1	startZoo() Zoo() addAnimal() main()	1 of each (Tigers/Turtles) and 2 penguins zoo	1 of each (Tigers/Turtles) and 2 penguins zoo
Spending correct food costs	various 1/2 numTigers/ numPenguins/ numTurtles values	Zoo() addAnimal() payFoodCosts() main()	Correct amount is spent on food based on animal type and quantity	Correct amount is spent on food based on animal type and quantity
Correct random event outcomes	random events SICK ATTENDANCE BIRTH NOTHING	randomEvent() die() getBonus() birth() main()	Correct outcome happens to the Zoo based on a random value. (e.g. animal dies when sick, extra money for tigers during an attendance boom, birth of an animal, or nothing)	Correct outcome happens to the Zoo based on a random value. (e.g. animal dies when sick, extra money for tigers during an attendance boom, birth of an animal, or nothing)
No deaths when no animals are present	numTigers=0 numPenguins=0 numTurtles=0	die() main()	There cannot be a death when there is not an animal to kill	There cannot be a death when there is not an animal to kill
Correct payouts for	various 1/2 numTigers/ numPenguins/	Zoo() addAnimal()	Correct payoff amounts based on	Correct payoff amounts based on

each animal type	numTurtles values	getPaid() main()	each animal type and quantity	each animal type and quantity
Buying an adult animal	1=Tiger 2=Penguin 3=Turtle 4=No buy	addAnimal() main()	Correct animal added to the zoo with the correct expenditure	Correct animal added to the zoo with the correct expenditure
Game repeats until no money left	money = 100	addAnimal() main()	After buying an animal over 100, game should end because money is <=0	After buying an animal over 100, game should end because money is <=0
Zoo doubles arrays every time max capacity is hit	tigerCapacity = 10 penguinCapacity = 10 turtleCapacity = 10	addAnimal() x 11 addAnimal() x 20 addAnimal() x 100 main()	Add more than 10 animals of each type to each “animal cage” and see if the array doubles in size to accommodate	Add more than 10 animals of each type to each “animal cage” and see if the array doubles in size to accommodate
Days run events correctly in proper order	Various	liveDay() printStats() age() payFoodCosts() randomEvent() getPaid() buyAdult()	All the functions to the left execute events according to the specs and a day goes up by 1 afterwards	All the functions to the left execute events according to the specs and a day goes up by 1 afterwards