

Sept 2

220hz, right side goal, basil reward.

***Rogue** is up and was already up before I was. Regardless, e does not enter the maze right away. But, e does and goes down the line and makes it to the fork. E picks the correct direction, or at least starts to, then kinda just sits there with eir head in the tube. E retracts and starts looking down the other way. Then, e turns around. E may be more active this morning, that does not seem to influence what e wants to do. There for a minutes, I thought e would make a quick shot of it like last time. But, no. So, I wait. E goes back toward the entrance. Eir decent down the entrance tube is slow, but goes all the way. Then turns around and goes back to the fork and starts down the correct direction again. This time though, e keeps going. Eir head peaks out at 20 18. E seems uncertain and goes back in a bit then peaks out eir head again. Most snails would be on their way out already, but nt so much Rogue. Eir head is still barely peaking out. E heads toward the bottom for the tube. Mostly there, e begins to exit onto the glass. Rogue completes the maze at 29 03. E stays in the experiment.

Isabella - E goes to the top of the entrance cap then into the maze. e goes straight to the fork and goes down the correct way. E seems to stop in the middle of the tube. E turns around and goes back to the fork. It seems the snails are going to make me wait today. I am only going to 11a though. E goes back toward the entrance, goes all the way, then turns around and sits just before the fork for ages. She's a little retracted but just seems to be staring with eye tentacles partially out. I give her a spray to help get her going again (it's been over ten minutes). It does not help. She does not have much time left. After a while, E starts looking into the wrong way and begins heading down that direction, but retracts again before going in fully. E begins looking down the correct way again. E has fewer than 3 minutes left, but she is beginning to head down the correct direction. E retracts in the middle of the tube. Eir time ends. Isabella does not complete the maze.

Having to wait nearly to 30 minutes for each snail, I am realizing that I'm going to have to make a judgement call. I cannot take 9 snails into the test. With Rogue doing how e did, it doesn't look like they'll easily eliminate themselves.

-Yellow Belly - Without any time wasted, I put em into the maze and e leaves the cap immediately. At this point, I've ultimately given em an ultimatum. If e gets to the fork and heads down the correct way, then I'll keep waiting. E is near the fork but hasn't quite ventured up to it.

This is actually hard because, I guess I want to see them succeed. I just can't take them all to testing.

Yellow Belly turns around and heads back toward the entrance. After a while, e turns around and goes near the fork again. Yellow Belly begins entering the wrong side and eir time is up. I am removing em from the experiment.

***Big Yellow** - E heads into the maze with little hesitation. When e gets to the fork, e hangs out there for over 5 min before starting down the correct direction. My hopes of any of these guys going quickly today are dashed. Big Yellow seems to look around uncertainly part way through the tube. I can see eir tentacles coming out. Eir head peaks out at 10 43. E exits the maze completely at 13 39.

***Trails** - E goes right in the maze and up. E goes half way to the fork then does a circle. At the fork, e heads the correct direction. Eir head peaks out at 7 11. E does a big stretch then attaches to the glass. E stretches out again for a while, then makes a full exit at 10 48.

While I awaited Trails, I calculated how many snails I can actually keep moving forward with. If I wake up at 6:30a every day, then I can feasibly run 8 snails with 30 minutes each. They don't all take that long, but I think getting my number down to 8 would be wise, both for my sanity and the sake of having strong subjects. I hope Dr. Quinary does well so that I can keep em as my control. I'll seriously consider 9 if I just can't bare to lose 3 today. But having only 7 would also be good. I've taken one out. Choosing two more, much less more than that will be tough for me.

Smotchkkiss - E goes right in and up. E meanders down toward the fork, taking eir time. Part way, e turns around.

Smotchkkiss, Rogue, and Gary are the ones I'm considering taking out. Rogue, I probably should have removed before I tested em this morning but now I've made it harder.

Anyway, Smotchkkiss has turned back toward the fork. If e succeeds, e is definitely staying in. E has made it to the fork. E just sits there, in the fork. E has started to seem like e would go the wrong way, the right way, and now looks like e might consider going back toward the entrance. Toward the entrance e goes, but turns around again. C'mon, Smotchy, I got other snails to test! E turns around and sorta zigzags toward the bottom before finally fully turning back to the fork. E goes the wrong way, then turns back and eventually heads toward the entrance. E has less than 20 minutes left. E loops around the spot where e stopped, then turns back toward the fork. E switches to the other side. Eventually heading toward the fork again. E has 5 minutes. And, e starts heading the wrong way. Then up and starts heading back toward the entrance. I'll see where e is at by the end of this minute. If e is not heading into the correct part, e is definitely is not going to make it. None have done it in 1 minute.

Dr. Quinary - E is slowly making it toward the maze, then goes to the top first and back more into the cap. It's been over five minutes and e has not left the cap. It's been 13 min and Dr. Quinary has not entered the maze. At 14min, I spray em. E gets closer to entering, but still does not enter the maze. E turns around to go further back into the cap. If e doesn't turn around and go into the maze in the next 4 min, I'm calling it incomplete. Dr. Quinary is a slow snail and e will not be able to complete the maze in the remaining amount of time. Dr. Quinary did not complete the maze.

***Muscles** - Right away, e heads to the top of the cap. After a short bit, e goes into the maze. E goes straight to the fork, then enters the correct side. I missed when eir head poked out, but e is now connected to the glass. E fully exits the maze at 11 10.

-Gary - E goes to the top of the cap but does not enter the maze. After 8 minutes, some of eir body is in the maze. E is a bit retracted but still looking around so I do not want to disturb em. After retracting further, I give em a spray. This effectively motivates em and e moves further into the maze. E zigzags a bit toward the speakers, but stops short of going past and halts. There has been no further movement and it is passed the time where e could make it, even if e starts moving again now. Gary did not complete the maze. Gary is being removed from the experiment.

Backward Spiral - E goes to the top of the cap. E does not go in, just stairs into the maze and back and forth, seeming completely indecisive. If I were in eir shoes, I would be dreading the maze by this point. BSpiral has retracted. I offer a spray to assist. E wakes up but remains in the cap. I am tempted to remove em soon before of the stress I put em through yesterday (being tested twice and one of those times was probably terrifying). E is finally entering the maze though. E is moving very slowly. Minutes have passed and eir body is still not 100% in the maze. E is awake though and making slow millimeters here and there. E is fully in the maze now, just making the slowest progress I've seen yet. E is at about 15min. E could make it, but is a slow snail, so e would really have to get on it to finish. E is starting to move forward ever so slightly faster... either that or my eyes are getting wonky (which is totally possible at this point). Actually, I think e is just retracting. Eir tail part has moved forward, but eir head part has not. E actually has now made slight progress forward, but it's not enough. If e does not make dramatic progress forward in the next 2 minutes, then it is passed the time e could make it to the end in 30. This makes me sad, but I think (and I'm likely projecting) that the break we'll take tomorrow might do eir good. With a few minutes until the 30 is up, I have ended it. Backward Spiral did not complete the maze.

***Dr. Strange** - E is up and at 'em. Went right to the fork and is heading in the correct direction. There is an awful and loud sound coming through the window. It moved on after a few seconds, but I feel like it was there too long and Dr Strange has stalled a little. But not much. E is still heading toward the mazes end. Eir head peaks out at 3 57. E attaches to the glass and goes down it rather than forward or up, which is odd. Regardless, Dr. Strange completes the maze at 7 09.

The day ends with 5 successes, 2 removals, and 9 snails left in the game total.

Hooray for Trails, Dr. Strange, Rogue, Muscles, and Big Yellow!!!

Farewell to Yellow Belly and Gary (who are doing beautifully in the terrarium)!

Tomorrow (Saturday) will be a break for everyone. Then, we'll see how things go on Sunday!