

GOING TO THE CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN

Social Story



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WE CAN PARK IN ONE OF THE ZOO PARKING LOTS. WE MAY HAVE TO WALK A LONG WAY TO GET TO THE ZOO.



WE CAN TAKE THE ELEVATOR OR ESCALATOR TO GET FROM THE PARKING LOT TO THE ZOO.



IF I FEEL SCARED WALKING ACROSS THE BRIDGE, I CAN DO LOTS OF THINGS TO HELP ME FEEL BETTER. I CAN HOLD SOMEONE'S HAND, TAKE DEEP BREATHS, AND TELL MYSELF THAT THE BRIDGE IS SAFE AND I AM OKAY.



WE CAN BUY TICKETS AT THE TICKET BUILDING. WE MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT IN LINE TO BUY OUR TICKETS AND THAT IS OKAY.



**WE WILL GO TO THE ENTRANCE GATES. WE MIGHT HAVE TO
WAIT OUR TURN TO GO IN.**



I WILL FOLLOW THE ZOO RULES SO THAT I AM SAFE AND THE ANIMALS ARE SAFE. I WILL WALK ONLY ON THE PATHS TO KEEP ME, THE ANIMALS, AND THE PLANTS SAFE.



IF I NEED HELP, I CAN FIND A ZOO STAFF MEMBER TO HELP ME. ZOO STAFF MEMBERS WEAR SHIRTS WITH THE CINCINNATI ZOO LOGO AND THEY WEAR A NAME BADGE.



WE CAN BUY A MAP FROM THE WELCOME CENTER, OR USE THE NEW ZOO APP.



WE CAN PICK UP A SENSORY BAG AT THE WELCOME CENTER IF WE NEED TO.



I MIGHT SEE SCOOTERS DRESSED LIKE ANIMALS. IF MY GROUP AGREES, WE CAN RENT ONE.



THERE ARE A LOT OF DIFFERENT ANIMALS I CAN SEE AT THE ZOO. THE ANIMALS CAN CHOOSE IF THEY WANT TO BE OUTSIDE OR NOT, SO I MIGHT NOT SEE THEM.



THERE ARE SOME ANIMALS THAT I CAN TOUCH. I WILL LISTEN TO THE ZOOKEEPER SO THAT I CAN KEEP MYSELF AND THE ANIMAL SAFE.



**THERE ARE 3 ANIMAL PROGRAMS I CAN SEE:
BLAKELY'S BARNYARD BONANZA, THE CHEETAH
RUN, AND THE WINGS OF WONDER BIRD SHOW.**



SOME INDOOR HABITATS OR OTHER ANIMAL ENCOUNTERS AT THE ZOO MIGHT NOT BE OPEN WHEN I VISIT. THAT'S OK!



I WILL TRY TO USE A QUIET VOICE SO THAT I DON'T SCARE THE ANIMALS.



IF IT IS CROWDED, I MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT FOR MY TURN TO SEE AN ANIMAL OR DO AN ACTIVITY AND THAT IS OKAY.



SOME PLACES AT THE ZOO HAVE STRONG SMELLS. IF THE SMELL IS TOO STRONG FOR ME, I CAN COVER MY NOSE OR GO TO A LESS SMELLY AREA.



SOME PLACES AT THE ZOO CAN BE LOUD. IF A PLACE IS TOO LOUD FOR ME, I CAN USE HEADPHONES OR GO TO A QUIETER AREA.



I MIGHT BE ABLE TO RIDE THE TRAIN AT THE ZOO. I MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT IN LINE FOR MY TURN. MY GROUP CAN ALSO ASK ABOUT THE RIDES ACCESS PASS IF WE NEED HELP WITH WAITING.



I MIGHT BE ABLE TO RIDE THE CAROUSEL AT THE ZOO. I MIGHT HAVE TO WAIT IN LINE FOR MY TURN. MY GROUP CAN ALSO ASK ABOUT THE RIDES ACCESS PASS IF WE NEED HELP WITH WAITING.



IF WE WANT TO EAT AT THE ZOO, WE CAN BRING FOOD FROM HOME OR BUY FOOD AT A ZOO RESTAURANT. NOT ALL THE RESTAURANTS ARE ALWAYS OPEN, SO WE CAN CHECK THE ZOO WEBSITE FOR HOURS.



THERE ARE RESTROOMS THROUGHOUT THE ZOO FOR WHEN I NEED A BATHROOM BREAK. MOST OF THE RESTROOMS HAVE AUTOMATIC FLUSH TOILETS AND AIR HAND DRYERS. IF IT IS TOO LOUD, I CAN USE HEADPHONES OR COVER MY EARS.



IF IT IS TOO LOUD, I CAN FIND A SENSORY-FRIENDLY BATHROOM THAT HAS A MANUAL FLUSH TOILET AND PAPER HAND TOWELS. THESE BATHROOMS ARE IN VINE STREET VILLAGE, LAROSA'S, PICNIC SHELTERS AND MAI THAI'S MARKETPLACE.



IF I'M TIRED, I CAN REST ON A BENCH UNTIL I'M READY TO GO AGAIN.



IF I AM FEELING OVERWHELMED AND NEED A QUIET PLACE TO CALM DOWN, I CAN ASK MY GROUP TO TAKE ME TO A CALMING ROOM. THERE IS ONE NEAR THE ZOO'S MAIN ENTRANCE AND ONE NEAR MAI THAI'S MARKETPLACE.



IF I NEED TO TAKE A BREAK FROM THE ACTION AT THE ZOO, I CAN ASK MY GROUP TO TAKE ME TO A QUIET PLACE. THE PEACE GARDEN (NEAR BIRDS OF THE WORLD) AND THE PASSENGER PIGEON MEMORIAL (BETWEEN WORLD OF THE INSECT AND GORILLA WORLD) ARE QUIET PLACES.



THERE ARE ZOO GIFT SHOPS. IF MY GROUP AGREES, WE CAN LOOK IN THE GIFT SHOPS. I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO BUY SOMETHING AT THE GIFT SHOP EVERY TIME I VISIT. THAT IS OKAY.



WHEN IT IS TIME TO LEAVE THE ZOO, I WILL WALK WITH MY GROUP OUT THE EXIT GATE AND CROSS THE BRIDGE. WE CAN TAKE THE ESCALATOR OR ELEVATOR DOWN TO THE PARKING LOT.



**EVERYONE IS SO PROUD OF ME WHEN I FOLLOW THE
RULES AND HAVE A GOOD TIME AT THE CINCINNATI ZOO.**

**THANK YOU FOR VISITING THE
CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN**

