



GOING TO THE CINCINNATI ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN





**I AM GOING TO THE CINCINNATI
ZOO & BOTANICAL GARDEN TODAY!**

**WHEN I GO, THERE ARE MANY
THINGS I WILL SEE AND MANY
THINGS I CAN DO.**

I AM SO EXCITED!

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PARKING LOT



When we arrive, we will park in the main parking lot. If the main parking lot is full, we may need to park in a different parking lot.

ESCALATOR/ELEVATOR/STAIRS



If we park in the main parking lot, we will walk towards the Zoo entrance and take the escalator, elevator, or stairs. My family or group can decide if we will use the escalator, elevator, or stairs. I may need to wait if we use the elevator.

THE BRIDGE



Depending on which parking lot we park in, we will walk across the bridge that crosses the street. The bridge is safe and it will take me 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 that I am okay.

BUYING TICKETS



After we cross the bridge, we can buy tickets at the green ticket building. We might have to wait in line to buy our tickets and that is okay.

ENTRANCE GATE



After we buy our tickets, we go to the entrance gate. There might be a lot of people waiting to go into the Zoo. I will try to wait patiently. When it is my turn, the Zoo staff will scan our tickets or membership and we can go into the Zoo!

ZOO RULES



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.

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.

WHO TO ASK FOR HELP



I will stay with my family or group. If I get away from my group, I can ask a Zoo staff member to help me. Zoo staff members wear shirts with the Cincinnati Zoo logo and name badge.

ZOO MAP



We can also get a Zoo map at the ticket office or the Welcome Center.
We can also get a sensory map at the Welcome Center.

SENSORY BAGS



If I need one, we can rent a Sensory Bag at the Welcome Center. The Sensory Bag has lots of tools to help me while I am visiting the Zoo. I will be able to keep some of the tools, but not all of them and will need to return the bag when we leave the Zoo.

ACCESS PASS



If I need it, we can get an Access Pass from Welcome Center, Train, Carousel, Roo Valley and Kanga Klimb Ropes Course. I will use this pass to wait in line for the rides, but I can see animals or explore other areas while I wait. When it is our turn to go on the ride, we will give this pass to a Zoo staff member and we will enter the ride.

SCOOTER PALS



I might see people riding scooters dressed as animals. These are called Scooter Pals. If my family or group agrees, we can rent one and ride it around the Zoo. We will only ride it on the main path because it will scare some of the animals.

ANIMALS I CAN SEE



I can see many animals at the Zoo. I can plan which animals I want to see. I might not have time to see all the animals, and some animals might not be available when I'm at the Zoo. That's okay. Maybe I can see them the next time I come to the Zoo.

ANIMALS I CAN TOUCH



There might be a few animals that I can touch, like a lizard or a goat. I will follow the rules when I touch an animal so that I am safe and the animal is safe.

ANIMALS THAT SMELL



Some animals and places at the Zoo have strong smells (like elephant house, the flamingos, Birds of the World, and the Night Hunters). If the smell is too strong for me, I can cover my nose or go to a less smelly area.

LOUD PLACES AT THE ZOO



Some places at the Zoo can be loud. On Gibbon Island, the gibbons sometimes make a very loud call. The train whistle can sound loud. The restaurant can also be noisy if it is crowded. If a place is too loud for me, I can use headphones or go to a quieter area.

RIDING THE TRAIN



I might be able to ride the train at the Zoo. We need to buy a ticket if we are going to ride the train. Lots of people like to ride the train, so it might be loud or crowded.

RIDING THE CAROUSEL



I might be able to ride the carousel at the Zoo. We need to buy a ticket if we are going to ride the carousel. Lots of people like to ride the carousel, so it might be loud or crowded. Music will also be playing at the carousel.

ANIMAL PROGRAMS



I might be able to go to an animal program at the Zoo to learn more about certain animals. The animal programs are Cheetah Encounter, Barnyard Bonanza and the Bird Encounter. I can see the times for these programs on the Zoo website.

WHERE TO EAT



If we want to eat at the Zoo, we can bring food from home or buy food at a Zoo restaurant. The Base Camp Café has burgers, sandwiches, pizza, soup, and salads. Other Zoo restaurants include LaRosa's, Outpost Café, Wild Burger, and Taco Caja. Not all the restaurants are always open, so we can check the Zoo website on the Zoo Today page for hours.

USING THE BATHROOM



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, cover my ears, or use the sensory friendly bathrooms located in Vine Street Village, Mai Thai's Marketplace, LaRosa's or the picnic shelters.

TAKE A BREAK!



If I am tired from all the walking at the Zoo, I can rest on a bench until I'm ready to see more animals.

CALM SPACES AND CALMING ROOM



If I need to take a break from the action at the Zoo, I can ask my adult to take me to a quiet place. The Peace Garden (near Birds of the World) and the Passenger Pidgeon Memorial (between World of Insect and Gorilla World) are quiet places. We can also visit one of the two Calming Rooms (located in Vine Street Village and Mai Thai's Marketplace) if we need a more private space.

ZOO GIFT SHOP



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 ok.

LEAVING THE ZOO



When it is time to leave the Zoo, I will walk with my family or group out the exit gate and across the bridge. We can take the escalator, stairs, or elevator down to the parking lot. We will walk to the car.

VISIT AGAIN



Everyone is so proud of my when I follow the rules and have a good day at the Zoo!

I might want to come back to the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden again another day!