

Preparing for a visit to the Dallas Zoo

Sensory Friendly Morning
Success Story

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Planning a trip to the Zoo
is fun. There are some things
I need to do to prepare.



There is a lot of walking at the Zoo. I will make sure I wear comfortable clothing and shoes.

I will spend a lot of time outside. I will make sure we check the weather before going to the Zoo.



I can bring food and water for when I get hungry and thirsty. We can also buy snacks and drinks at the Zoo if my parents decide to do that.



Each person going to the Zoo needs a ticket. We will buy our tickets online ahead of time.

A Zoo helper will scan our tickets to let us in.

We might have to wait in line for a few minutes until it's our turn. This is okay.



There are many noises at the Zoo. My parent can ask to borrow a KultureCity™ backpack from the Information Booth that includes silencing headphones.

I can also cover my ears if I don't like to hear the loud noises.



The cement paths take me to the animal exhibits. I walk safely everywhere I go.



Inside the Zoo there are a lot of things to see. I can look at a map and signs to help me find my way.



If I am not sure where to go,
I can ask someone with a
name tag. They will help me
find my way.



There are special activities just for me. I will wait in line if I want a turn.



The animals I want to see will
be behind a fence or glass.
This is their home.



If I want to talk to an animal,
I can wave, smile, or speak
softly. The animal may get
scared if I climb on the fence
or tap on the glass.



Sometimes the animals are playing where I can't see them. It is okay if I don't see every animal at the Zoo.



I can visit the new I Spy Butterflies exhibit. A friendly staff person will let me inside. I will wait for them to close the first door before I enter the exhibit.



Sometimes, butterflies will land on the path. I need to watch where I put my feet, so I don't step on them.



There are lots of butterflies
inside. I will look with my
eyes and keep my hands
to myself.



Educators wear a Zoo shirt and a nametag. I can talk to an educator if I want to learn more about an animal. I will try to wait until they are not talking to someone. Waiting my turn to talk makes everyone happy.



Before I leave, a friendly staff person may ask me to spin in a slow circle to make sure no butterflies leave the exhibit with me.



I can climb in the new nature play space. There are some instruments I can play. I can put my headphones on if I don't like the noise.



When it is time to leave the Zoo, the exit signs show me the way out.

I can always come back to the Zoo on another day.

