DENVER ZOO · CONSERVATION ALLIANCE ·

BOO AT THE ZOO

SOCIAL STORY:

What To Know Before My Visit

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PREPARING FOR MY DAY:

1. I should bring items like gloves, a jacket, and a hat, because it can get cold at night, and maybe a glow necklace because it can get dark. I should also bring a bag for trick-or-treating at night!



2. I should also have a comfortable costume since I will be wearing it all night.



3. I should bring an umbrella or a raincoat if it is raining to keep myself warm and dry.



4. I should remember that the Zoo is a very popular place for people to come and visit. This means there could be a lot of other people around me during my visit.

5. I should know that there will be a lot of music playing across the Zoo, and sometimes it might be loud. There will also be special lighting around the Zoo to help celebrate Halloween!



6. I should remember that the Zoo is a popular place for people to visit, especially around Halloween. That means there could be lots of people wearing costumes around me during the visit.



7. I should remember that I will see lots of characters around the Zoo, like Bigfoot and the Werewolf, but they are just people in costume who work at the Zoo.



DURING MY VISIT:

1. I can check out a Sensory Bag from Guest Services, where I will get some items to help my visit be more comfortable.





If I don't want performers to interact with me, I can ask for a Sunflower Lanyard from Guest Services. If I'm wearing one, then characters will know to please leave me alone.

2. If I need assistance moving around the zoo, I can speak with Guest Services about renting a push wheelchair or an electronic scooter to help me get around comfortably.

3. I can learn about where to find quiet areas in the Zoo by looking on a paper map of the Zoo, or I can find these locations on the map in the Sensory Guide.

4. I can know where characters are around the Zoo by looking for the cryptid symbol on the map. That way I can be prepared to meet them or avoid them if I want.

5. I can ask staff members about the allergens at each candy station so I can decide if I want the candy from those stations.

ZOO RULES:

1. I should be respectful of all the animals at the zoo, and I should not make loud noises or hit the glass so that I don't scare the animals in their homes.



2. If it is crowded, I will patiently wait my turn to see the animals.

3. I can have food and drink at the Zoo, but I should not try to feed any animals that I see during my visit.

4. I can throw away any trash that I have into a trash can. I can look at the pictures on the trash cans to make sure that my items are going in the correct bin. I will make sure not to leave any candy wrappers behind!



5. If I see any wild animals around the Zoo, I will give them lots of space so that they feel safe, and I shouldn't try and chase them.

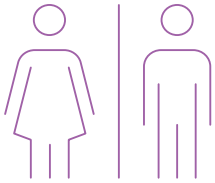






RESTROOMS:

1. During my visit, I will find restrooms located all around the Zoo. I can check a Zoo Map to see where they are located.



2. Many restrooms have loud hand dryers that may make me uncomfortable. If I don't like the loud sounds, I can use the headphones inside my sensory bag or cover my ears if it is too loud.



3. I will also find many drinking fountains around the Zoo, many of them will be very close to the restrooms so they are easier to find. It's important that I stay hydrated!



EMPLOYEES AND STAFF:

All staff members and Volunteers will have a shirt or name badge on with a logo that looks like this:

If I find myself separated from the group I came with, I can find anyone who has this lion logo on them, and they will help me get back to my group safely! Staff and volunteers may also be wearing a costume just like me! I just need to look for their name tag or their radio and I'll know they work for the Zoo.



EMPLOYEES AND STAFF:

If I am ever in need of first aid, or if I am feeling unsafe in any way, I can look for a staff member on the Security Team.



The Security Team wears dark green shirts, and tan colored pants to help them stand out. Remember to look for the lion on their shirt!

They are here to make sure that myself, the other visitors, and all the animals are safe, and I can approach them if I need help. But, any other staff member with the lion on their shirt can help me find them as well!

QUESTIONS I CAN ASK:

During my visit, here are some questions that I can ask a staff member to have a good experience and to learn more about the animals I'll see!

1. What kind of food do the animals eat?

2. What is this animal's name?

3. Where is your favorite animal in the zoo?

4. Where can I find the elephants?



If I have any other questions, I am free to ask anyone with the lion on their shirt or name tag, and they will give me the best answer possible!