

SENSORY GUIDE



SENSORY LEGEND:

QUIET AREA



TOUCH DISCOVERY



LOUD AREA



COOL DOWN AREA



SPACE TO MOVE



STINKY AREA

EXPEDITION TANZANIA

AFRICAN ELEPHANT

BROWN BEAR

PEAFOWL

The peafowl roam the Zoo but please do not feed or touch them.

FROGS, LIZARDS, & MORE!

LEE H. BROWN FAMILY
CONSERVATION
LEARNING CENTERWORLD
OF PLAYGIRAFFE
ENCOUNTER

GIRAFFE

FLIGHT
CONNECTION
AVIARYPOLLINATOR
GARDEN

CROWNED CRANE

SPEKE'S
GAZELLE

WHITE RHINOCEROS

OSTRICH

ZEBRA

GOATS

MEERKAT

OTTER

EVENT
GARDEN60%
WILDLIFE
CAROUSEL

TORTOISE

RUFFED
LEMUR

ALLIGATOR

AFRICAN
WILD DOG

SLOTH

PRESENTATI
AREA

PACU

ANTEATER

ANDEAN
BEAR

FLAMINGO

FLAMINGO
GRILL

GIFT SHOP

Exit ▶
Entrance ▶**▼ Parking**

LAKE SHORE LANE

S. RANDOLPH WAY

FUTURE SITE OF
**Pathway
to Asia**



PREPARE FOR AN ADVENTURE

The greatest explorers study their route before a big adventure. Here is a guide to help you navigate Reid Park Zoo and have a wild time!



Entering the Zoo

I wait in line to get tickets before entering the zoo. When I buy my ticket from the cashier I can ask for a map of the zoo and ask any other question about the zoo I may have. Once inside, I can see what is happening at the zoo that day on the Event Boards. There are lots of animals and other exciting things to see at the zoo.

Inside the Zoo

Sometimes it is hard to decide where to start. I will take a deep breath if I feel unsure and remember I can visit lots of animals during my visit. The zoo is home to lots of different animals and just like I like to feel safe in my home, I will help the animals feel safe here at the zoo by using my walking feet and quiet voice.

There are lots of areas I can visit while I am in the zoo. There is a section with animals that are from South America and an area that has habitats with animals from Africa.

There are some activities I can do, like the giraffe feeding, train ride, and carousel that cost extra money. It's okay if I don't do those activities, there is still a lot to do and see at the zoo.



Needing a Break

The zoo is fun, but can be overwhelming. If I need a break in a quiet space or time to move my body, I will tell the people I am with. I can use the map to find a good spot for me, or ask an adult. It is ok to take breaks. There are benches all over the Zoo I can take a break at if I need it. Animals take breaks too!



Animal Encounters

Animal Encounters are when a zoo staff member presents a small animal in hand or a mobile habitat. I will listen quietly, while the staff member tells me and other guests all about the animal. If I have a question, I will raise my hand and wait to be called on. Some animals won't mind being touched. The staff member will tell me if and when it is okay to touch the animal and how to do so safely. This can be very exciting but I will keep my voice quiet and body safe so the animal feels safe. The zoo staff will help me touch the animal with one or two fingers so the animal and I both stay safe. After I touch the animal, I will use hand sanitizer to clean my hands.



At the Learning Center

The Conservation Learning Center has a lot of fun things to explore! Sometimes there are staff or volunteers in the area teaching about special animals called Ambassador Animals. The Learning Center is a great spot to cool down in or rest if I need a break. When I am inside this area I will use my inside voice and walking feet. This is the home of some animals and I will help them feel safe in their home.



World of Play

World of Play is a playground with lots of fun things to do! I will take turns on the playground. I wait for others to be finished with the equipment that I want to use. I make sure to let others have a turn if they are waiting. I can ask to play with others. It's ok if they say no, as there are other fun things to play with on my own. If I feel unsure how to use something, I will ask my adult for help. If I get too hot or tired, I can ask to go somewhere cool, like under the shade structure or inside the Learning Center.

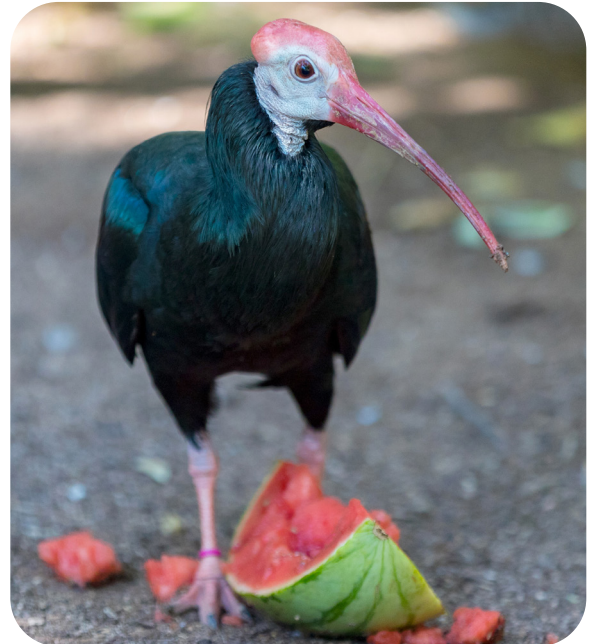
Keeper Chats

Keeper chats happen daily, and I can see where and when they will be on the day's Event Board or ask a staff member. A zookeeper will come talk to zoo guests about an animal they take care of. I can ask the zookeeper questions about the animals they take care of. If there are a lot of people, the zookeeper may not be able to answer all of the questions. It's ok if they need to leave to take care of the animals. I can try to ask any staff member my questions too!



Visiting Aviaries

An aviary is a large space that is enclosed with nets that birds live in. I can see a lot of different birds at the zoo's aviaries. The birds can fly freely in the aviaries and so there are special rules to keep them safe if I go in. There are two doors to pass through. I will wait for the first door to close, before opening the second one, so birds do not fly out! There are bird ID guides I can use to see what types of birds there are. I will walk on the paths. Birds may come close to me, but they will not hurt me. Even if a bird comes close, I will not reach out to touch them. If I don't like being in the aviaries, I can leave through the double doors at any time. When I leave I will leave the bird ID guide in the holder for the next guests to use.



Giraffe Encounters (Extra Money Required)

During specific times of the day, zoo guests can pay a fee to feed the giraffes. This costs extra money. If I am going to feed the giraffe, there are rules I will follow to keep me safe and to keep the giraffes safe. Lots of people like to feed the giraffes so I may have to wait in a line for my turn to feed the giraffe. Giraffes are shy animals who do not like to be touched, so I will not touch them. When it is my turn, I put hand sanitizer on my hands to keep the giraffes healthy. I will keep the food pieces whole, and hold them in my palm for the giraffe to take. A staff member can show me how to feed the giraffes safely if I am not sure. Giraffes have sticky tongues which might make my hand sticky too! I will use hand sanitizer or wash my hands at a bathroom after feeding the giraffes. Once a giraffe takes all of their food from me, my turn is over and I will explore the rest of the zoo.





Carousel Ride (Extra Money Required)

The carousel does cost extra money. The carousel is fun to ride on, but plays loud music and has a loud bell. If I go on the carousel I will pay at the desk outside of the carousel and wait for the staff member to let me on. There are lots of animals to choose from! If someone else is on the animal I want to ride, I will pick another animal. I can choose an animal that moves up and down, an animal that doesn't move, or I can sit on one of the benches. Before the ride starts, I will put on my seatbelt. While the ride is going, I will keep my hands on the pole handle. I will stay in my seat until the ride stops. I cannot get off until the ride stops, this helps keep me safe. If I am nervous, I can have one of the people I came with ride next to me to remind me I am safe. When the ride stops I will walk to the exit, and leave the carousel.



Train Ride (Extra Money Required)

The train is fun to ride on but does cost extra money! When the zoo is very busy the train ride goes around the pond and fountain in the park. If it is not a busy day, the train ride goes around the zoo. Sometimes, the conductor may ring a bell! If I ride the train, I will stay seated for the whole ride. I can wave to people outside the window! Once the train stops at the end, I will exit the train so others can ride!



Finding Help

If I need help, I can ask staff or volunteers at the zoo. I can ask them questions about the animals or where the bathrooms are too! Staff at the zoo wear a shirt or jacket that says "Reid Park Zoo Staff". Volunteers at the zoo wear a red or grey shirt that says "Reid Park Zoo Volunteer" or "Docent".



Going Home

When we are done at the zoo, I get ready to go home. Coming to the zoo helps save animals in the wild! I can come to the zoo another time to see the animals again.