Visiting the Zoo: Spring Break
National Zoo Social Narrative

Smithsonian
National Zoological Park
Conservation Biology Institute
Today, I am going to visit the Zoo.
There may be a lot of people visiting the zoo, too. There are many people and things I will see at the zoo that are there to keep me safe.
Zoo Police are at the zoo to keep me safe. I may see them walking or riding vehicles around the zoo. If I am lost or need help, I can find zoo police wearing this uniform.
If I need help or have a question, I can ask a keeper with a grey shirt, a volunteer with a red shirt or someone with a name tag.
I may bring a **bag** for my fun day at the zoo. My family and friends might bring bags, backpacks or strollers.
To keep me safe, **zoo staff** will look inside everyone’s bag, backpack or stroller.

I may have to wait in a line at the bag check. I will get everything in my bag back after the **zoo staff** look at it.
If I didn’t bring a bag, I can go through a different line at the entrance.
Zoos use barriers to keep people in the **right place**.

There are many different kinds of barriers I might see at the Zoo keeping me in the right place.

- One kind of barrier I might see is a railing.
- Another type of barrier I might see is a fence.
- I might also see a glass window helping me to stay in the right place.
While I am at the zoo I might see signs telling me how to stay in the right place and be safe.
At the Zoo I may see signs telling me important information about good Zoo behavior.
Some signs might also tell me that it is OK to touch something.
When I am walking through the zoo, it is important to stay close to my adult. There will be a lot of people at the zoo. My adult can help me stay safe and have fun.
Buildings might be very crowded. I can take a break by walking along the boardwalk at **Small Mammal House** if it is too crowded inside.
If I keep going along the path, I may see an area to sit and take a rest. I may see a pond, too.
There is a space behind Reptile Discovery Center where I can find more animals and it might be less crowded.
The zoo is on a large hill. I might feel tired walking up and down the hill. I can take a break on benches. The benches outside the Elephant Community Center are a good place to take a break or eat lunch.