



A Social Narrative for
Visitors on the Autism
Spectrum

Prospect Park Zoo



Today we are going to a zoo. The zoo is called the Prospect Park Zoo.



To get to the Prospect Park Zoo we might take the subway or a city bus.



The subway station can be loud, crowded, and busy and sometimes the sound can echo.

On the walk to the zoo, we may hear and see some interesting things in the park.



Like this carousel which plays music and spins



Or this historic house that may have people farming and using tools in the yard.

There are two entrances to the zoo and we will walk through one of them. This is what they look like.



Flatbush avenue entrance



Children's Corner Entrance
*this entrance is wheelchair and stroller accessible



At the entrance, we may have to wait in line before entering. The admissions staff are very friendly. We can say “hello!”



If we are here for a class or birthday party we will meet a zoo educator or volunteer. They are all very friendly.



Once we are in the zoo, we will walk around and see animals.



Some animals that we may see walking around like squirrels, pigeons and chipmunks, are wild.

Others like this peacock live at the zoo. We will give the animals space to move around. We will not touch or feed them.



If we get too close to the animals, a security guard will remind us to look but not touch the animals. Security guards are there to keep us and the animals safe.



This is our administration building. If we need first aid or the lost and found, we can go here to talk to a security guard.



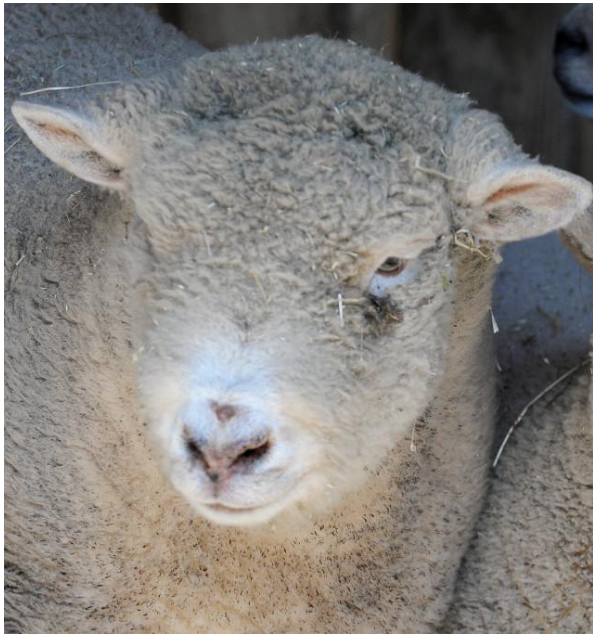
Some animal exhibits can be found indoors and others are in outdoor areas.



Animals that we can visit on the Discovery Trail are the dingos, red pandas and otters.



We can see the flooded forest fish tank and pallas cat in the Animal Lifestyles building.



And if we visit the barn we can see the sheep, goats, and zebu.

We may choose to feed the animals at the barn



We can place a piece of food in our hands and let the animal lick the food off of our hands. This will feel wet and it might even tickle a little bit.



If we don't want to touch the animals but we still want to feed them, we can take a piece of food and place it on the top or bottom ledge of the fence.



Areas of the zoo might look, sound, smell and feel different.

There are dirt paths on the Discovery Trail and Barn areas. This means that the ground can sometimes feel soft under your feet, especially if it has recently rained. The barn can also have a strong odor at times.



We can hear the different sounds that animals make in many of our outdoor exhibits. Indoor exhibits can be noisy as well, especially if there are a lot of visitors.



The sea lion pool and otter exhibit might smell like the animals' food, fish!



Inside the Animals in our Lives building there is a dark room filled with nocturnal animals that are most active at night. It might take a few seconds for our eyes to adjust to the darkness.



If we need a break while we're at the Zoo, we will tell our family or friends, "It's time for a break." Some good places to take a break are around Sea Lion Court, at the picnic tables or on the grass.



Restrooms are located in this building, near the Discovery Center.



When we are ready, we can go see more animals.



For snacks and souvenirs, we can visit the Sea Lion Cafe. Here we can find light refreshments and a variety of gift items.



After our visit, we will take our belongings and leave the Zoo with our family and friends. We can always come back to the Zoo for more fun in the future.