

My name is _____ and I am going
to the Rosamond Gifford Zoo!



To get into the zoo, **first** I walk into the main entrance, **then** I get my ticket to enter. I may have to wait in line. I can practice having a calm body as I wait. I am so proud of myself when I am patient!



There are many animals at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. In fact, there are more than 700 animals! Some animal exhibits are inside, some animal exhibits are outside. An exhibit means to show or display something. I am most excited to see the _____ during my visit to the zoo!



Many people are excited to see the new elephant twins. The twins can be seen from 11-11:30 a.m. and 2-2:30 p.m. through the viewing windows or outside if the weather is nice. There may be a big crowd and lots of noise during this time, especially if they are inside. If I am overwhelmed, my adult can take me to a different animal.



It is good to know that in cold weather, like winter, I may not see some of the animals in the outdoor exhibits because they need to stay warm. It is important and nice to care about the animals at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo!



Sometimes it may be sunny or bright at the zoo. If the sun or lights bother me, I can put on sunglasses or a hat. Also, I can go to a shady spot. It is important to feel good and comfortable during my time at the zoo.



Children, music, and animal noises are some of the sounds that I will hear at the zoo. If it is too loud I can put on my headphones or go to a **quiet place**. It is important to let my adult know that it is too loud for me.



Some of the **quiet places** I can go to are the **Animal Health Center** and **Education Classroom**. The Animal Health Center has a sensory friendly bathroom and a small room with a chair for me and my adult to rest. If that room is occupied, we can go to the Education Classroom. I may have to share the space with others, but they want it to be quiet - just like me!



Animals, people, food, and the outdoors are some of the smells I will smell at the zoo. If it is too smelly, I can eat a piece of candy, be sure my mask is over my nose, or smell something special. I feel good knowing I can make myself feel better.



If I get hungry, I can find a table or a bench and have a snack with my adult. If we did not bring food, we can visit the HoneyBee Café. Deciding what to eat can be difficult, so I can look at the menu before we go. My adult can use their phone to see the menu and order online by visiting: friends-of-the-rosamond-gifford-zoo.square.site



If I feel very wiggly or worried I can ask for a squeeze, take a break or go to a **quiet place**. Feeling calm is important and good for me!



Take a Deep Breath

Smell the flower



Blow the pinwheel



I can have my picture taken at the zoo. Maybe on the big make-believe tiger or posing as penguins. I may have to wait my turn to get my picture taken. It is kind to wait my turn. Being kind is the best!



It is important to be safe at the zoo. Staying with my adult, holding a hand, and not climbing will keep me safe. My safety is important to my family and the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. I love being safe!



The Rosamond Gifford Zoo has a store called The Curious Cub Gift Shop. I may or may not go into the gift shop during my visit. It is good to know that the zoo's gift shop is online, too. So, I can go to the Curious Cub Gift Shop in person or online! It is nice to have options!



<https://www.syracusezooevents.org/shop>

I can plan my visit to the zoo before I go by looking at **this map** of the Rosamond Gifford Zoo. It is helpful to plan my visit and makes me feel confident. My feelings are important!



SENSORY MAP AND GUIDE

LOOK FOR SENSORY SENSITIVE ACTIVITIES:

- Explorer's Outpost
- Curiosity Carts

- SMALL NOISE
- INTERMEDIATE NOISE
- LOTS OF NOISE

★ ALL BENCHES "BREAK ZONES"

- First Aid
- AED
- Restrooms
- Food
- Drinking Fountain
- Picnic
- ATM
- Emergency Phone



I can also go to the zoo's website to see the map and learn more.

<https://rosamondgiffordzoo.org/zoo-map>

Zoo's take good care of animals and that is important!
Rosamond Gifford Zoo here I come!

