

# Melbourne Zoo Social Script



*Fighting Extinction Schools*

**ZOOS**  
VICTORIA  
EDUCATION

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My class is going to Melbourne Zoo, home to many different animals.

It is a place where I can look at animals, and learn about them and their habitats.

There will be other visitors at the Zoo that I need to share the space with.



Most schools enter the Zoo via the Rail Gate entrance.

My teacher will go up to the Ticket Office window to get the program for the day.

There may be other schools arriving at the same time, so it is important I stay with my class.





There are lots of staff and volunteers at the Zoo who are here to help me and answer my questions. If I get lost from my group, I can ask them for help.

They may be wearing different clothing, but they will all have one of these logos on their clothing.

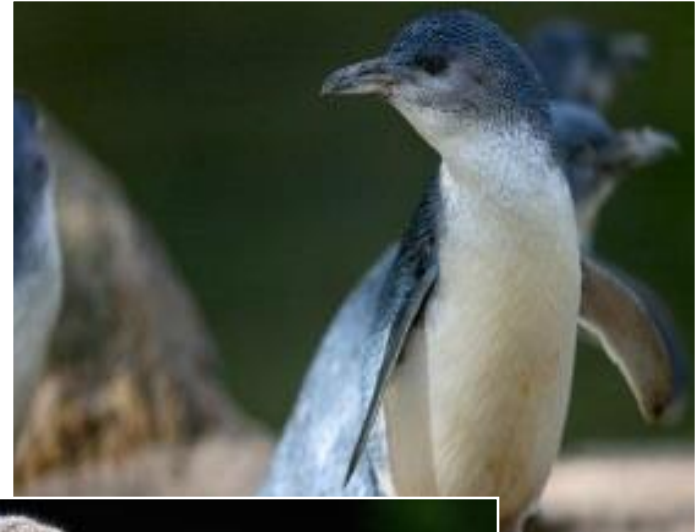
They might have a radio to talk to other people to help me.



I might visit all areas of the zoo or I might visit just a few. My teacher has a map and knows where we are going.

I might see the animals. They can't reach me. I might not be able to stop for long at each animal.

It's important that I listen to my teachers directions and stay with my group.



Animals at the Zoo live in special homes called 'enclosures'.

It might be hard to see the animals in their enclosures. They might just be hiding away for a bit, having some quiet time on their own.





I might go into an area where the Lemurs can move freely around me.

I will need to stay quiet and walk on the paths to help the animals feel safe.

I will be safe as well.



There are areas in the zoo that are dark.

That is to help the animals feel safe. It is safe for me too.

If I feel uncomfortable I can tell the teacher with me to take me out.

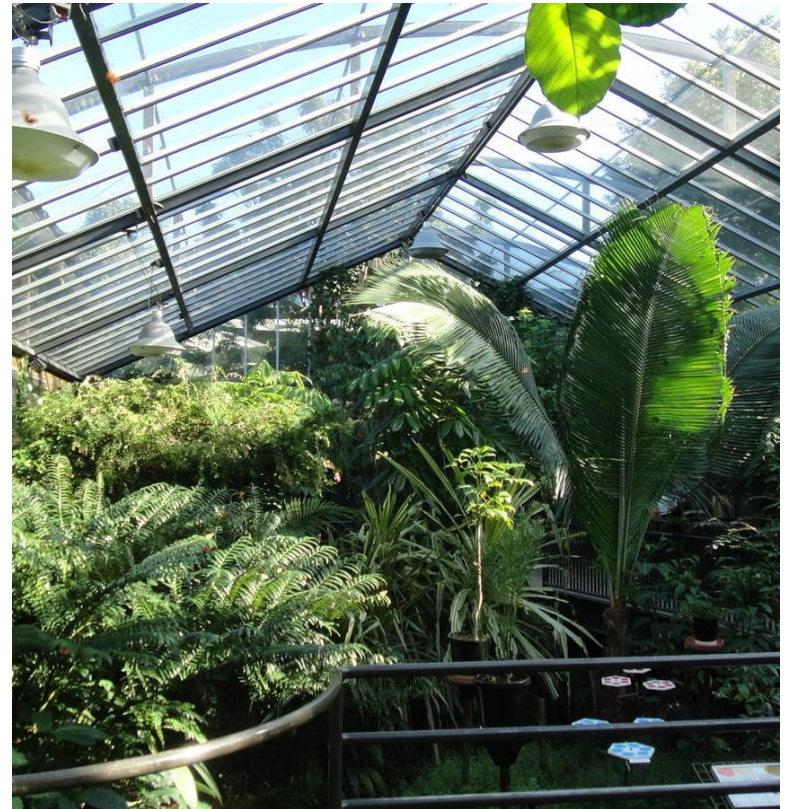




There are areas in the zoo that may feel hot.

That is to help the animals stay warm in their tropical habitat.

If I get uncomfortable I can ask the teacher with me to take me out.



I might go with my teacher and my class to a Keeper Talk. They will tell me about a certain animal and what I can do to help it.

I will sit quietly in the stand and not call out while the Keeper is talking and working with the animal. I will be safe sitting with my class.



Some of the animals are  
behind glass windows.

They might get scared if I  
knock on the glass.

I'll make sure they're happy  
by keeping my hands away  
from the glass.





There might be unusual smells as you walk around the zoo, as animals smell very different to us.

Animals can also make loud and interesting noises that sound very different to the sounds we make.



Lots of wild birds live at the zoo. I might see them walking or flying round.

They will not hurt me, and I will be safe if I don't chase them or feed them.



My class might go into a special area. A Zoo Teacher might talk to my group. While the special area looks different, it is actually similar to the places I learn in at school.

I will remember to behave like I do at school.





I might get up close to an animal and touch some special things to help me learn more about animals.

If someone else from my class is holding something I could try to just look at it.  
If I do get to hold something I can try to be careful.



# Important Things to Remember

- Listen to the adult who is leading my group
- Stay close to my group
- Walk and not run
- Speak with my quiet voice, even though it may be noisy
- Wait patiently when I have to line up
- Only touch things and climb on things that I am allowed to
- Listen carefully when an adult is talking to me
- Be quiet around the animals and not scare them by tapping on the glass
- Do not feed or throw any objects into the animals' homes

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