



Werribee Open Range Zoo
Social Script

WERRIBEE
OPEN RANGE ZOO



I am going to Werribee Open Range Zoo. Werribee Open Range Zoo has lots of different African animals. It also has some Australian animals too.

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When I arrive at the Zoo, there might be different places to line up. The different lines will be for the different types of ticket that people have.

My adult will tell me which line we need to use. I will wait my turn.
If I want a map, I can ask for one at the ticket booth.



There are many staff members and volunteers at Werribee Open Range Zoo. If I have any questions or need help, I can ask somebody wearing a Zoos Victoria uniform.



I will see an information booth as soon as I walk inside the Zoo.

If I have a question, I can ask a volunteer at the information booth.



There are toilets at the entrance to Werribee Open Range Zoo. There are also toilets in other places in the Zoo. I can look at the map to find the toilets.

There are male and female toilets at the Zoo. There are also disabled and unisex toilets.

There are hand dryers in some of the toilets. They might be loud.



There are lots of different sounds and smells at the Zoo. There are speakers around the Zoo that play animal noises.

Some of the displays play loud radio sounds too.
I might also smell the animals and animal poo.

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There will be signs at some of the enclosures. I can read these to learn more about the animals.



The animals at the Zoo live in enclosures. The enclosures are their homes and their safe place. I will speak calmly when I am around the animals.

I might not see all the animals that I want to see at the Zoo. That's okay.



There are lots of decorations and decorative signs at the Zoo. I can ask my adult if I find any of them confusing.



Sometimes there are events on at Werribee Open Range Zoo. These will be on the Zoos Victoria website.



There will be Keeper Talks at different times during the day.

I can find out when they are by looking at a map.

At a Keeper Talk, a Zoo staff member will talk to a group of people about an animal they have at the Zoo.

The staff member might use a microphone and speaker to talk.

It might be loud.



There is a Keeper Talk at the Zoo called Crazy About Cats. This talk is sometimes about the cheetah, and sometimes about the serval. I will find out which cat is being talked about that day when I get to the Zoo.

In the Crazy About Cats serval talk, they will lock the doors because the serval will be loose. This means that I will need to stay inside the room for the whole talk.

I will stay seated during the talk.

I will also need to keep any food and drink in my bag except for water.



If I really need to leave the serval talk, I can tell a staff member and they can let me out.
They will need to put the serval away first which will take a few minutes.
I will be safe in the serval talk. The serval is friendly and will be behind a roped off area
with a keeper.
I will be quiet during the talk so that I
don't scare the serval.



I can go on the safari tour when I am at the Zoo. The safari tour goes for 40 minutes and I won't be able to get off once I am on the bus. Lots of people like to go on the safari tour. There might be a long line of people waiting to get on the bus. I will wait my turn.

If I am finding it hard to wait in line, I can tell a Zoo staff member. The staff member will then take me to a different area to board where there isn't a line.



The Zoo staff member will tell me when I can get on the bus. They will be talking through a speaker. It might be loud.

I will walk on to the bus calmly. There is also a lift on to the bus for wheelchairs. I might not be able to choose who I sit next to if it is busy.

I will need to keep any food and drink in my bag while I am on the safari tour. It is okay to drink water on the bus.



I will stay in my seat for the whole safari tour. I will also keep my hands inside of the bus. This will make sure the animals feel safe and that I am safe too. It can get quite bumpy and windy on the bus. The sides of the bus are open so I might get cold from the wind. I might also get some dust in my eyes. I can bring fidget toys or headphones on the bus if I need them.

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There will be red buttons on the ceiling of the bus. I will only press those if there is a medical emergency. If there is any other kind of problem, I can ring the phone number at the front of the bus. Sometimes people accidentally drop things outside of the bus. If that happens to me, I can tell a staff member at the end of the tour. They can't stop the bus during the tour. I can then tell them what I dropped and where and they can go and look for it.



The Zoo tour guide will tell us facts about the animals during the tour.
The Zoo is a safe place for lots of animals that might be endangered in the wild.
They might talk about this as well.

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There is a speaker on the bus that the tour guide will use to talk to us. It can be loud. I might also be able to hear music playing through the speakers when the guide isn't talking.

At the end of the tour, I will get off the bus calmly. I can then ask the guide if I have any questions about the animals.



If I need a break, there are places where I can sit down around the Zoo.

There are also cafes where I can have something to eat and drink.

I can also bring food and drink from home.



There is a water play area in the Zoo. It is in an area called Hippo Beach. It only runs on warm or hot days. I can ask my adult if I can play in the water play. I will need to have bathers on.

There is also a play area at the Zoo called Ranger Kids. I can ask my adult if we can go there. Sometimes the play areas can be loud if there are lots of other children there.

I can tell my adult if I want to leave.



I can visit the lions when I am at the Zoo. Sometimes it can be busy at the lions.
There is a ute at the lions that people can play on or sit in.
I might have to wait my turn to play in the ute.



I can visit the Australian Trail while I am at the Zoo. The Australian Trail is an area of the Zoo that will have lots of Australian animals.

The kangaroos and emus can go wherever they want inside their enclosure.

They might even come near me.

I will be safe because the animals are friendly.

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There are roped off sections in the Australian Trail. This is a safe space for the kangaroos and emus to have time away from humans.

I will make sure to stay behind the ropes so that the animals feel safe.

I will look at the animals with my eyes instead of my hands.

I will keep any food to myself because the animals have their own food to eat.

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There is an aviary on the Australian Trail that has small birds inside.
They can fly around inside the aviary. I will be safe.

I will need to use an airlock to get in and out of the aviary. This means that I will only be able to open the door when the light next to the door is green.



I can visit the Chirnside Woolshed while I am at Werribee Open Range Zoo. It is an old building that shows what a woolshed would have been like in the past. It will smell a bit in the woolshed. I will also be able to hear voices of people on speakers pretending to be working in a woolshed.



There is a shop at the entrance to the Zoo.

I can ask my adult if we can look in the shop. It's okay if my adult says no.



I can tell my adult when I am ready to leave the Zoo. There are two main exits from the Zoo.

I can exit through the shop. If it is quite busy the exit in the shop will be closed.

I can also exit through a turnstile near the toilets by Ranger Kids.

The turnstile is always open.



Most prams and wheelchairs can fit through the turnstile. Sometimes bigger wheelchairs don't fit through the turnstile.

The shop exit fits bigger wheelchairs but it isn't always open. If I am using a big wheelchair on a day when the shop exit isn't open, I can tell a staff member at the Zoo. They will open up a different exit for me to use.



I saw lots of animals at Werribee Open Range Zoo.

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