

Zoo Trip Checklist

By Fae Fisher

- Planning the Zoo Trip
 - Visit the zoo's website ahead of time to learn what is offered and at what times.
 - Plan your trip for times when the zoo is less crowded.
 - If possible, purchase tickets online.
 - Find out the feeding schedule so you can see the animals in action.
 - Check to see if there are any animal shows or zookeeper talks.
 - Visit the zoo's website to print out a map of the zoo.
 - Figure out what you definitely want to see and do.
 - On the map, have your child mark what she'd like to see.
 - Number each area in the order that you plan to visit.
 - Teach your children that they are visiting the animal's home and need to respect the environment.
 - Decide whether you will bring snacks and lunch, or will buy them at the zoo.
 - Pack the night before so the morning isn't crazy.
 - Watch the weather.
- At the Zoo
 - For older kids, plan a scavenger hunt before you get to the zoo.
 - Have your little zoo keeper hold onto a map and help keep track of where you are.
 - Encourage younger children to make animal sounds.
 - Don't rush.
- After the Zoo Trip
 - Consider 'adopting' a particular animal if your child was really impressed with it.
 - Consider a zoo camp.
 - Go to the library in search of animal books or do an Internet search to find out more.