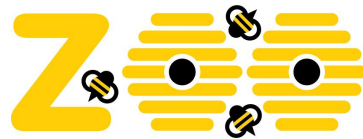


Visiting The Edmonton Valley Zoo

Social Narrative - Edmonton Valley Zoo:
School, Group or Birthday Programs

**EDMONTON
VALLEY**



Get Closer



Welcome to the Edmonton Valley Zoo!



The Edmonton Valley Zoo is KultureCity certified to assist guests with sensory needs. I can borrow a sensory bag at Guest Services during my visit to help me feel calm during my program.

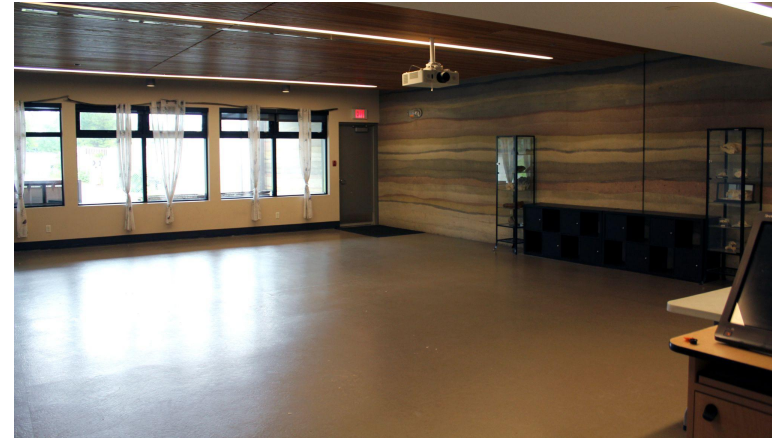
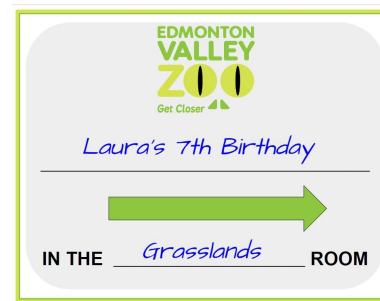
I can also visit <https://venue.kulturecity.org/venues/edmonton-valley-zoo> for more details on what to expect when I visit to help me stay calm.



When I arrive, I will be greeted at the main gate by a security guard or a zoo interpreter in a blue shirt.

If I am here for a guided program, I will wait near the gates or in the main plaza until everyone in my group arrives before starting the program.

It might be loud with many people waiting, I can wear my ear protectors if I want to.



If I am here for a birthday party, I do not need to wait for anyone, so I will walk into the EdVenture Lodge and follow the signs pointing me to the birthday party room.

Sometimes this building smells like fish, I will be expecting that when I walk in.



In the Winter, the zoo will run programs on days they aren't open to the public.

When I arrive, the gates might be closed. I will not panic, because an employee will meet me soon and let me inside.



I know the program has started when the staff member wearing a blue shirt arrives and starts talking to my whole group.

Sometimes they speak loudly so the whole group can hear. I will do my best to listen to what they tell me, and use my ear protectors if I want to.



The staff member in a blue shirt will lead our group for the next 1 hour and 30 minutes around parts of the zoo.

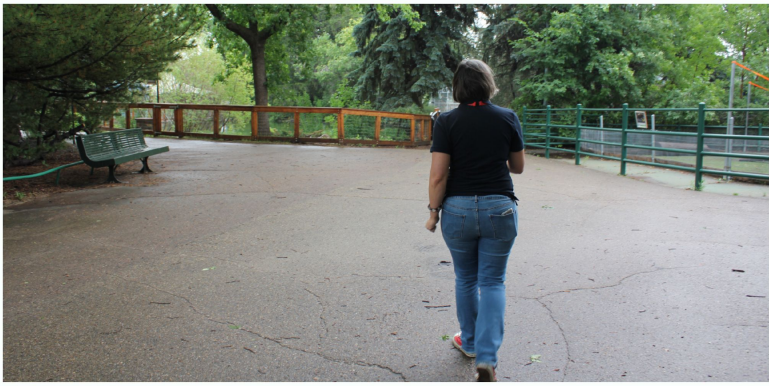
The staff member can tell me more about the animals and I can ask them questions. They may also have objects for me to touch. If they tell me it's okay, I can touch the objects if I want to. They might ask me to use alcohol-based hand sanitizer before I touch, if I don't want to use sanitizer I can choose not to touch the object.



Some paths at the zoo have twists and turns. In the winter, they may be wet or icy. Some paths at the zoo have small hills or inclines. If I need to take a break, I can tell the zoo staff member leading my group.



I may see signs that tell me how to be safe when visiting the zoo. These signs will help keep the animals and visitors safe.



During the program I will follow the staff member around the zoo pathways. My group will stop at some of the animal habitats and talk about them. I will stay with the group at all times.

Some of the buildings like Saito Centre or the Urban Farm will smell like animals, and the animals might make loud noises. I will see KultureCity signs that tell me which spaces I might need to use ear protectors.



My group will also spend time with the staff member in a classroom or reserved space to listen to them talk about animals. They will ask me to sit on the ground in a circle. I can stand nearby if that is more comfortable.

We will get to see a small animal up close. I am not allowed to touch the animals, so I will just look at them. I will do my best to stay quiet for the animal to feel safe.



When the program is over, the zoo employee will thank us all for visiting and leave the group. If the zoo is open to the public, I can stay and explore the zoo more or I can go home.

If I was here for a birthday party, I will get an hour of free time in the birthday room with my friends to play together and eat a snack. It might get loud, I can wear ear protectors if I want.