

Zoo Preview

Dear Educator,

Thank you for choosing to bring your students to the zoo. We want you and your students to have the best experience possible while you are here.

Studies show that the more familiar students are with their field trip destination, the more prepared they will be to learn during their visit. We hope that you will be able to take the time to share this presentation with your students before they visit the Zoo. I recommend that you also share this information with the chaperones.

Please note that the species on display may change as our staff biologists do their best to meet the needs of our animals. Therefore, the species highlighted in this presentation may vary slightly on the day of your visit.

Enjoy your walk with the animals!





POINT DEFIANCE

ZOO

& AQUARIUM

Metro Parks Tacoma

Let's get ready!

to visit the
Zoo!



Hi! My name is Baku and I
am a Malayan tapir. I am
here to help you get ready
for your trip to the Zoo!

I'll walk with you as you find
out what you might see when
you visit us.

Are you ready
to get started?



When you get to the Zoo



Your teacher will give you a ticket. You will put that ticket under a red light so it can be read by a computer.

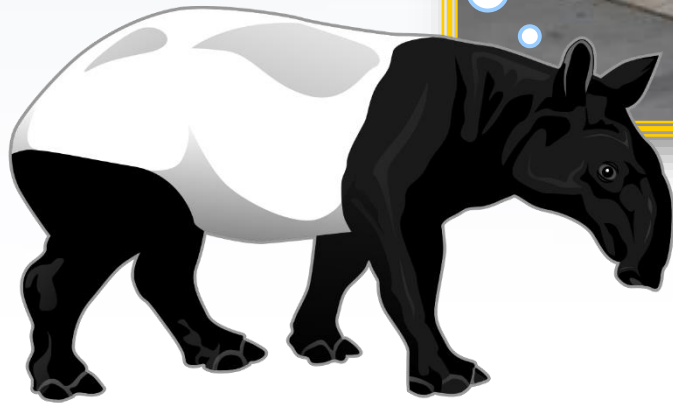
When the light turns green you can walk through the turnstile.



Know your way around!



The adult in your group can take a picture of this map to help you on your zoo journey.

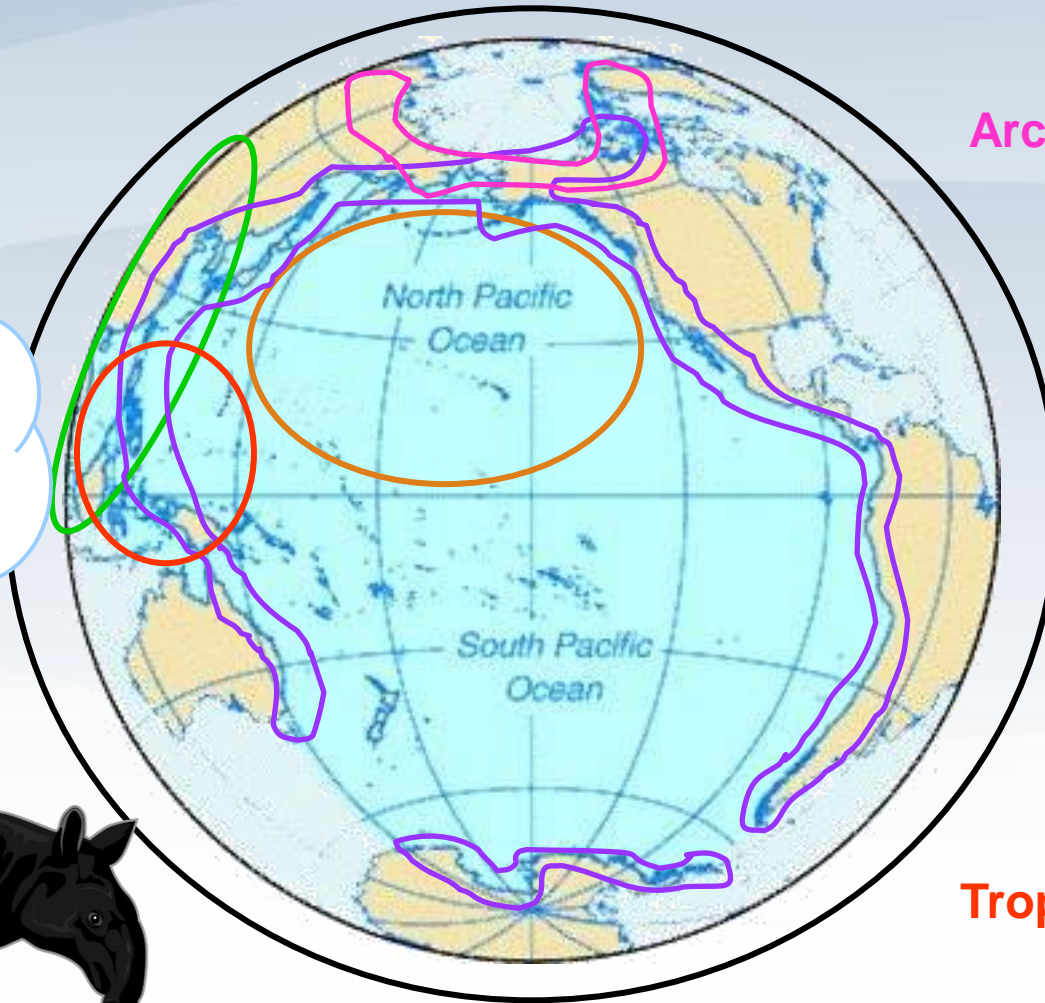


There are maps like this all around the zoo.

The Pacific Rim

Animals in the Kids' Zone are from all over the world!

The land around the Pacific Ocean is called the **Pacific Rim**. You will see animals from all over the world!



Arctic Tundra

Rocky Shores

North Pacific Ocean

Southeast Asian Forests

Tropical Reefs

Pacific Seas Aquarium



• Moorish Idol



• Giant Pacific Octopus



• Jellies



• California Sheephead



• Scalloped Hammerhead Shark



• Rockfish



• Spotted Eagle Ray

All these animals
can be found in
the Pacific Ocean.



Pacific Seas Aquarium

Tidal Touch Zone



• Sea Anemone



• Sea Cucumber



• Sea Urchin



• Limpet



• Hermit Crab



• Sea Star



Here you can meet animals that live in Puget Sound and along the Pacific coast. Touch gently with one finger!



South Pacific Aquarium



This Aquarium is closed
for renovation.
It is scheduled to re-
open spring 2024 as the
Tropical Reef Aquarium.



SE Asian Forest Sanctuary



• Lowland Anoa



• Indian Crested Porcupine



• Asian Small-Clawed Otter



• Malayan Tapir



• Siamang

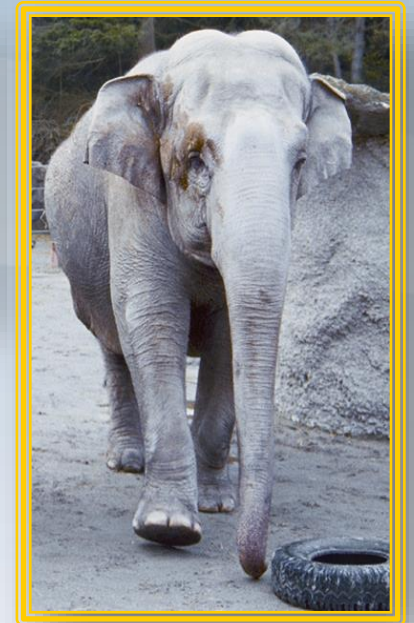
These animals are good at hiding. See which ones you can spot during your visit! You might even see me!



• Clouded Leopard



• Lar Gibbon



• Asian Elephant



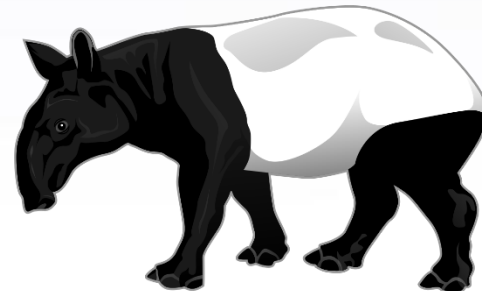
• Sumatran Tiger

Budgie Buddies!



Note to teachers: This exhibit is seasonal. Please check our website to see if the budgies will be accessible during your field trip.

These small birds are colorful and fun to watch.
The best way to see a budgie up close is to be quiet and move slowly.



Little Explorers Nature Play Garden

This area is designed
for children under
the age of 6, but
open to all.



This amazing pollinator garden
attracts bees, butterflies,
birds and other wildlife. It's
especially colorful in the
spring.



Penguins



Magellanic Penguins
live on the rocky
shores of South
America.

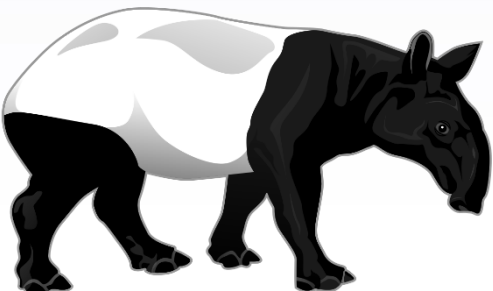


I really like their
outfits!

Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater



The Wild Wonders
Outdoor Theater
offers the animals
a chance to show
off their stuff!



Note to teachers: Full scripted presentations occur in the late spring and summer. However, these animals make scheduled appearances on stage all year! Visit our [daily presentations](#) page to confirm times.



Rocky Shores



• Tufted Puffin



• Common Murre



• Horned Puffin



• Sea Otter



• Harbor Seal

Watch how
these animals
move around in
their marine
environment
AND on land!

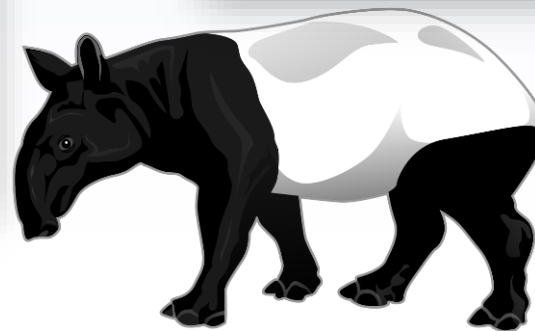
I like to swim, but
I'd never go in the
ocean!



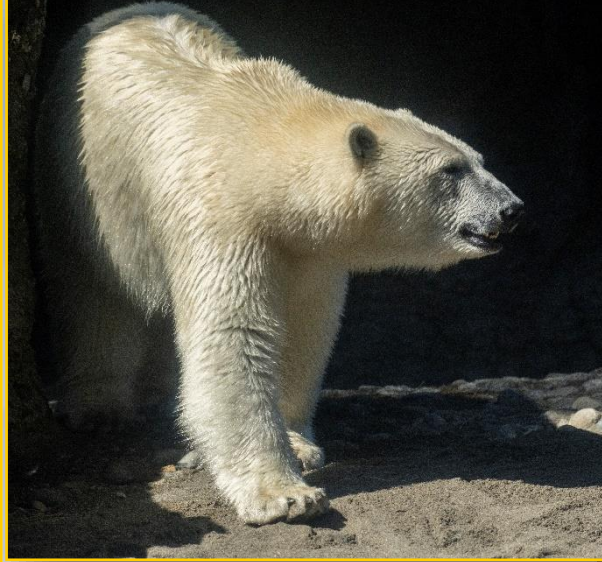
• California Sea Lion



• Pacific Walrus



Arctic Tundra



• Polar Bear

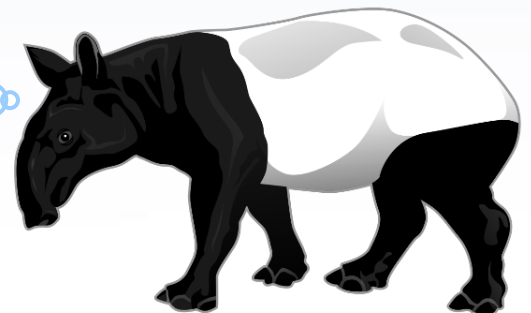


• Arctic Fox



• Muskox

I could never live
in the Arctic.
It's too cold for
tapirs!



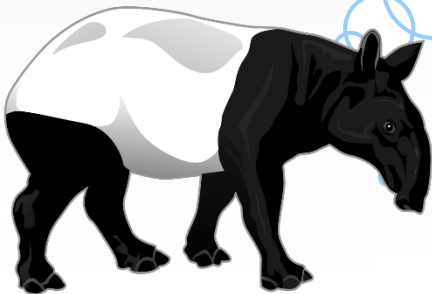
Red Wolf Woods



Did you know that American Red Wolves are one of the most endangered animals in the world?

There were eight puppies born here in 2019. It was very exciting!

Did you know that Malayan tapirs are also an endangered species?



Kids' Zone



- Meerkats



- Ruffed Lemurs



- Damaraland Mole Rat



- Poison Dart Frog



- Axolotl



- Hourglass Frog



- Magnificent Tree Frog



- Orate Horned Frog

This area of the Zoo can get really busy. Kids, make sure to keep your adult with you!



Note to teachers: We recommend saving this area until last since students will want to stay and play on the climbing structures.

Kids' Zone



• Emerald Tree Boa



• Kenyan Sand Boa



• Green Tree Python



• Corn Snake



• Bells Hingeback Tortoise



• Prehensile-tailed Skink



• Pancake Tortoise



• Black Breasted Leaf Turtle



• Madagascar Hissing Cockroach



• Red-Bellied Piranha



• Giant Tailless Whipscorpion



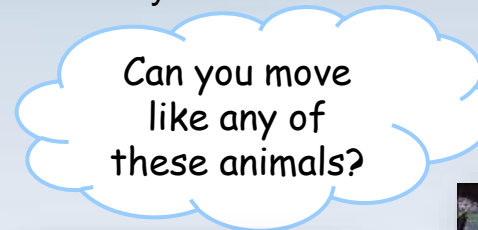
• New Caledonian Giant Gecko



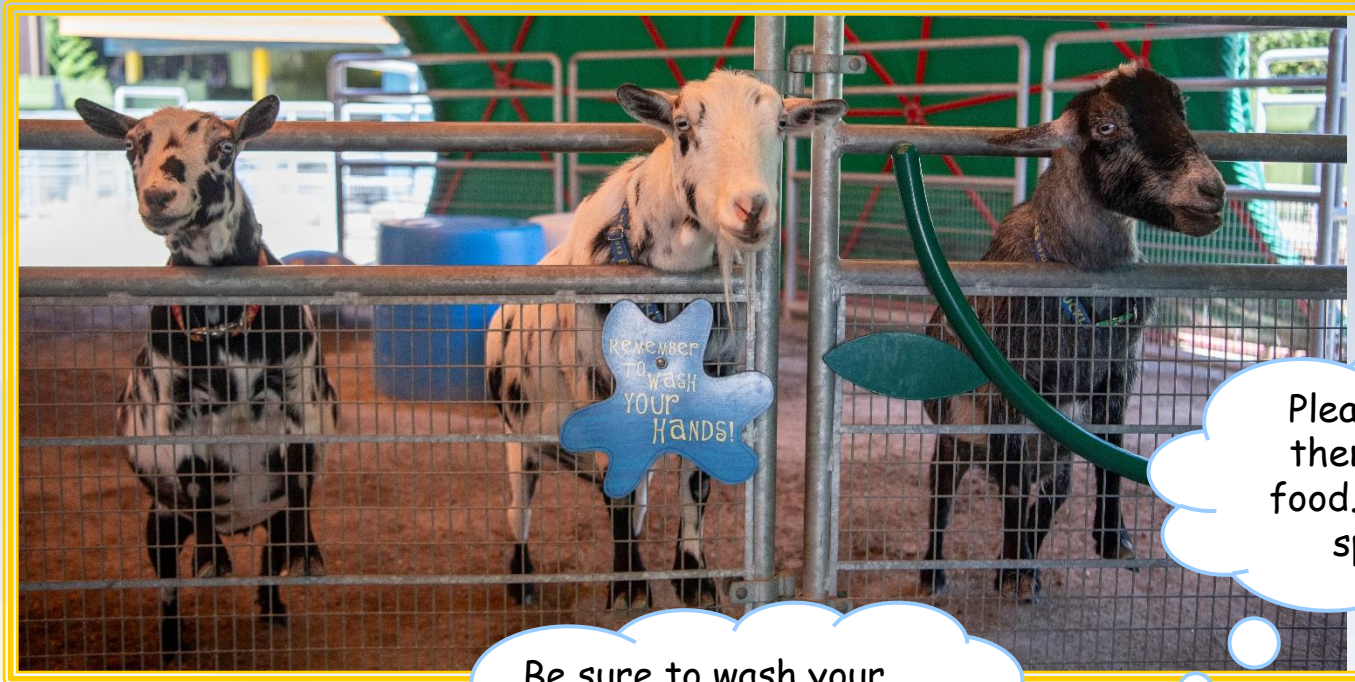
• Giant Leaf Insect



• African Cichlids



Kids' Zone



Please don't feed them any of your food. They are on a special diet.

Be sure to wash your hands after you pet or feed the animals!

Note to teachers:

This exhibit is seasonal. Please check our website to see if goats will be accessible during your field trip.



Plants from Around the World!



• Prickly Pear Cactus



• Wollemi Pine



• "Hot Lips" Salvia



• Eucalyptus



• Fern



• Bamboo



What to do if you get lost:



Find a person in a **blue or green Zoo shirt**. These people work at the Zoo, and they will help you find your group.

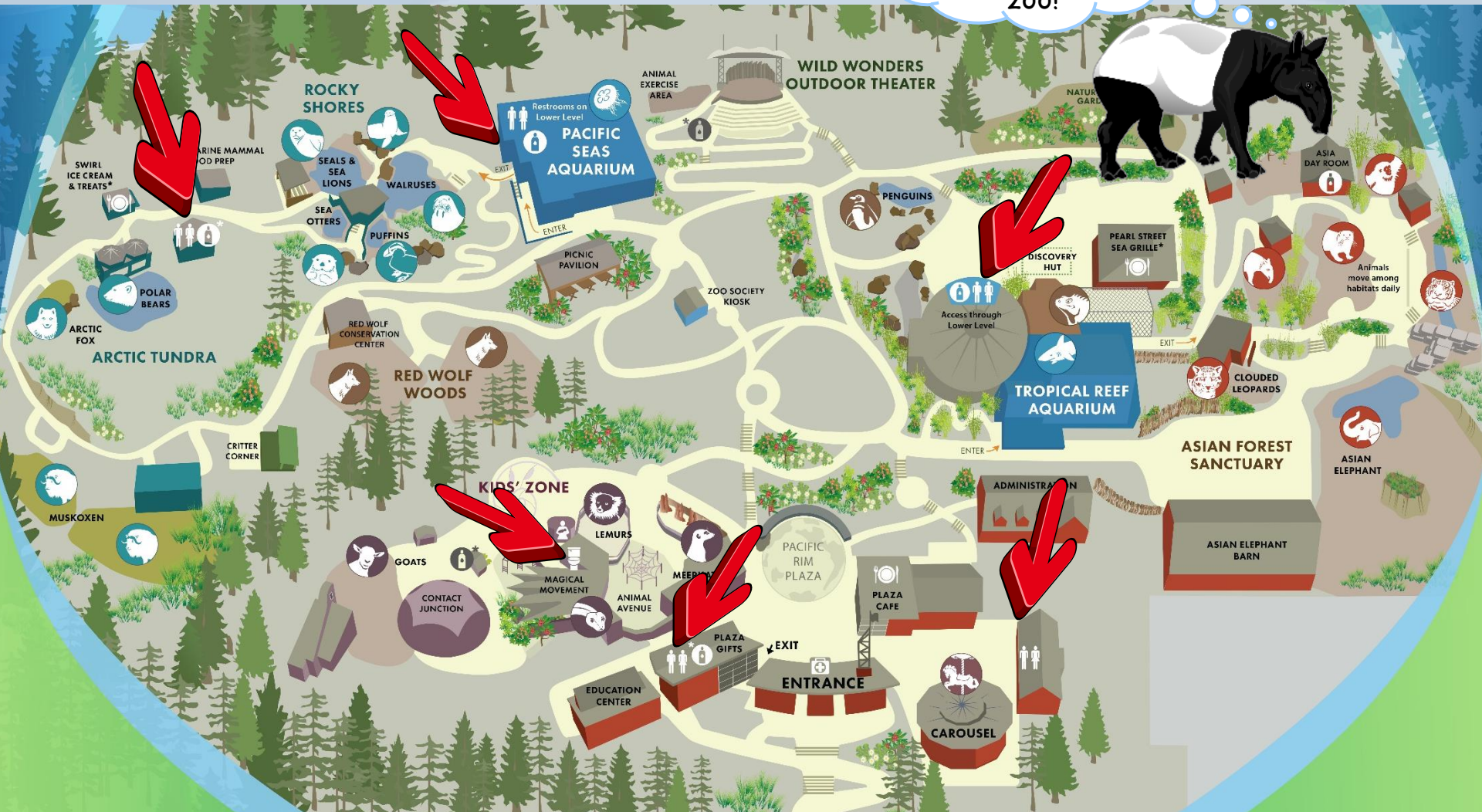
HELPFUL TIP: Take a good look at your adult chaperone. Remember what color hair they have, what color their clothes are. This will make it easier for us to help you find them!



You can also ask me questions about the animals.

Can you find the 6 restrooms?

I live in this
part of the
zoo!



North Pacific Aquarium

- The **North Pacific Aquarium** closed in March 2018. This building has been transformed into a behind the scenes area for our aquarium staff and is closed to visitors.
- *However, restrooms on the lower level will remain open.*



We don't know yet what will happen with this building. But I'm sure it will be amazing!



If you have time and it's okay with your teacher, check out these other attractions:

Plaza Café



Gift Shop



Carousel

The carousel costs \$2.00 to ride!



On your ZOO day please.....

Keep an eye on your **CHAPERONE!** They would be lost without you!

Be **SAFE**...this means always using walking feet, especially on slippery paths and stairs.

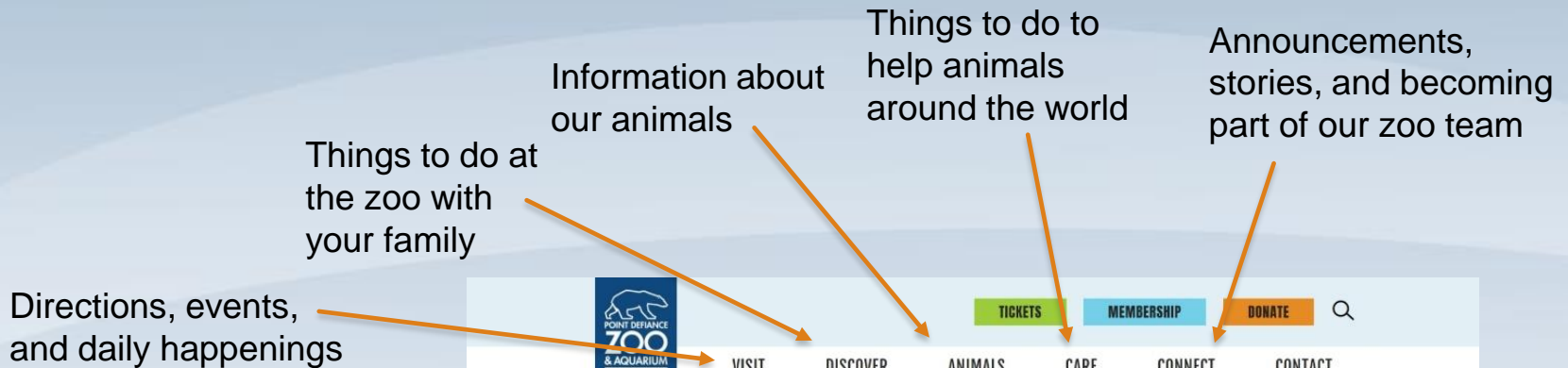
Have **FUN** and see some amazing animals!
Look for me and say hello!

Being **SAFE** also means staying on the pathways and keeping your feet on the ground.

Be **KIND** to the animals and other visitors. This means using quiet voices. Please don't ever throw something into where an animal lives!



For more information.....



I love learning new things, don't you?

