I am going to visit the Detroit Zoo!
When we arrive at the Zoo, we will pull into the parking lot or garage. The parking lot may be busy, so I might have to wait patiently.
Once we park, we will need to move toward the Zoo entrance. We may have to travel through a busy parking lot and across the street.

I will practice my safety skills by staying close to my group and crossing roads carefully.
Once we arrive at the Zoo entrance, there may be a long line because everyone needs a ticket to enter.

I may need to wait patiently for my turn.
As we enter the Zoo, I will see lots of people, both visitors and employees. There are many exciting things to look at like animals, nature, food and tents!

It is important that I stay with my group, and tell someone if I want to go to see something.
The Detroit Zoo is a certified sensory inclusive facility.

Sensory bags like this one can be borrowed during my visit. They are available at Customer Care and the Security Office as a first-come, first-served basis.
While I am at the Zoo, I may need help or have a question.

Zoo employees wear **blue** with a Zoo logo and name tag. Volunteers wear **red**. They will all be happy to help me!
The Detroit Zoo is a very big place. I may need to take a break for rest, food or the bathroom. There are benches, tables and bathrooms throughout the Zoo.

I need to remember to stay with my group and tell someone if I need a break.
If I need to use the bathroom, I will let my group know. While I am in the bathroom, I may hear loud flushes from the toilets or air from the hand driers.

If I need help, I can ask an adult from my group.

*Restrooms without auto flush toilets can be located on Zoo maps.
If I go inside the Polk Penguin Conservation Center, there may be music, lights flickering in the dark and water misting on me to make me feel like I am on a boat in the ocean.

If I feel uncomfortable, I can tell someone in my group.
If I go into the Wildlife Interpretive Gallery, it may feel warm inside. There will be birds and butterflies flying around me. A butterfly may even land on me!

I will keep my hands to myself, look where I go and stay calm. If I become uncomfortable, I can tell someone in my group.
Since I will have a long, fun day of visiting the Zoo, it is important that I dress comfortably. I can also bring a drink and snack to eat during my visit.

There are restaurants at the Zoo that my group may visit, too!
As I move through the Zoo, I will see a big fountain with a bear statue in the middle.

This is a relaxing place to rest. I can stand or sit on a bench and look at the water or take pictures.
As I move through the Zoo, there may be strong smells and loud noises from the animals. There are also some animals that roam about, like the peafowl and geese.

If I become uncomfortable, I can tell someone in my group.
There are a lot of animals at the Detroit Zoo! I can choose which animals I want to visit.

Just like me, animals need to rest. They may be resting while I am visiting, so I may not see them moving around and playing.
Some animals may be easy to find, but others may be hard to see.

I might need to slow down and look up high in a tree, in a cave or behind a bush or stone.
If my group chooses, we may ride the train from one end of the Zoo to the other. The ride may be bumpy, loud and dark when we go through the tunnel.

I will practice my safety skills by keeping my hands and feet inside the train.
If my group chooses, we may ride the carousel. There are different animals to ride on! It goes round and round and up and down while music plays.

If the carousel is busy, I may have to wait patiently in line for my turn.
There is a 4D Theater at the Zoo! If my group chooses, we can watch a movie on the big screen. I may have to wait patiently in line before the movie starts.

I can wear special glasses so that it looks like the characters are coming to life. It is loud and dark, the chairs shake and there might be other surprises that make it feel like I am in the movie, too!
When I am leaving the Zoo, I might see a gift shop. I can move through the gift shop if my group chooses to.

I can look at all of the gift options and it is okay if I do not buy anything.
As I move through the Zoo exit with my group, I need to remember my parking lot safety skills.

The Zoo visit was so much fun and I hope to come back soon!