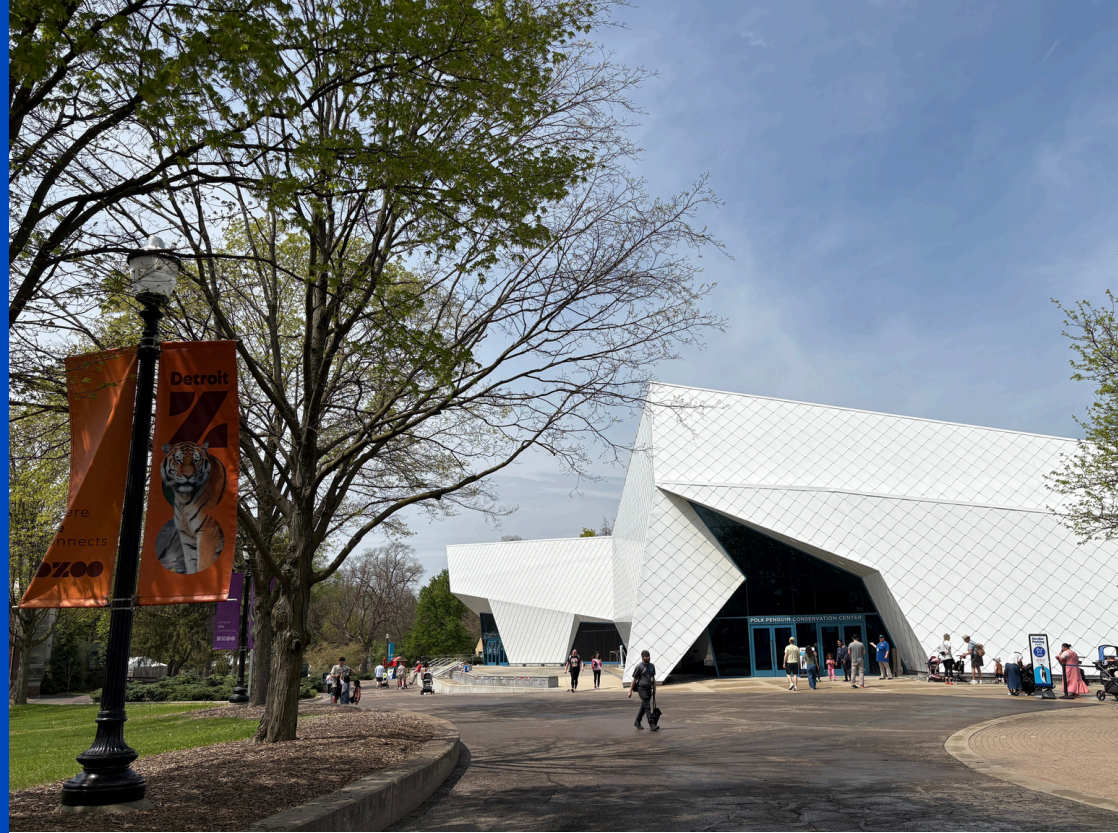




**I am going to visit the
Polk Penguin Conservation
Center at the Detroit Zoo**

Today, I am going to visit
the Polk Penguin
Conservation Center at
the Detroit Zoo.

My group and I will
enter through these
doors.



In front of me, I will see penguins behind a glass wall.

The air might feel cold, but that is okay because penguins love chilly weather.



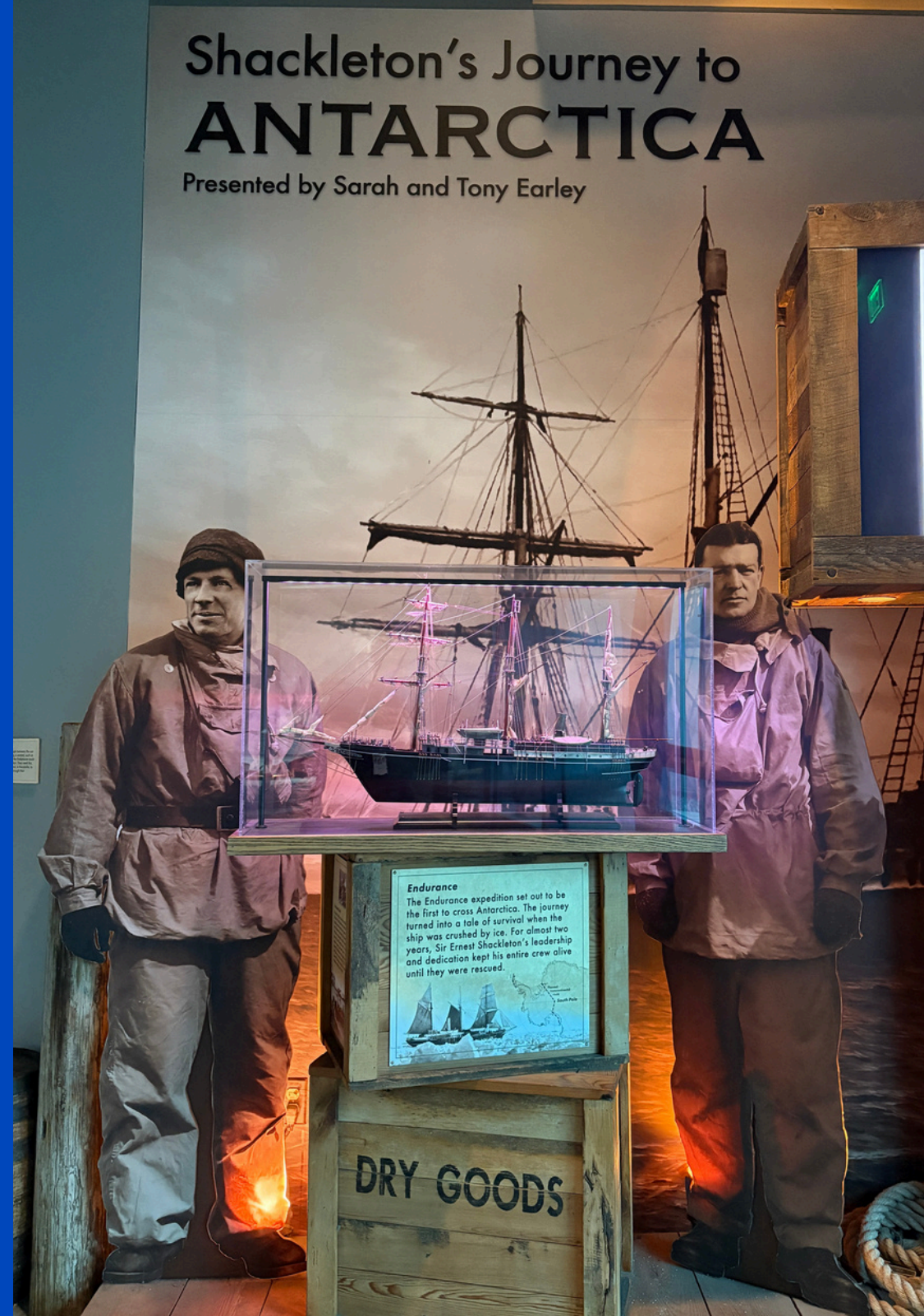
There might be a fishy smell because the penguins eat fish.

If I feel overwhelmed, I can cover my nose or step outside for fresh air.



When I look to the right,
I will see a display with
Sir Ernest Shackleton.

If I look closer, I can read
about Shackleton's
journey to Antarctica.



I can explore the Endurance, which simulates a ship. It will make me feel like I am on a real ship deck.

As I enter the ship, it may be dark or noisy.

If I feel afraid, I can hold someone's hand or take deep breaths.



As I enter the Endurance, I will see a sign that tells me what kind of effects I might experience.

Sometimes there are loud noises like waves crashing, wind blowing or birds cawing.

The light is sometimes dark, and I might feel puffs of air and mist to simulate wind and spray from the sea.

DRAKE | PASSAGE EXPERIENCE

This 4-minute looping video features both calm and stormy seas. It includes the following:



Loud noises



Water spray



Low lighting



Blowing air



Disorienting visuals



Watch your step as you proceed through the Drake Passage Experience, as some areas may be slippery.

The simulation of the ship only lasts a few minutes.

Sometimes the weather is stormy, but if I wait, I will see blue skies again.



As I walk down the ramp, porthole windows show videos of sea animals, just like I am on a real ship.



At the end of the ramp,
I will see the Shackleton
Exhibit, which displays
art.

I can look at the art but
will make sure not to
touch it.

If I go to the right, I will
see a tunnel of water
that I can walk through.



When I walk in the tunnel, penguins may swim around me.

Part of the floor is clear, so I might see the penguins swimming underneath, but I am safe.

If I feel nervous, I can walk over with someone from my group or sit and scoot along the benches.



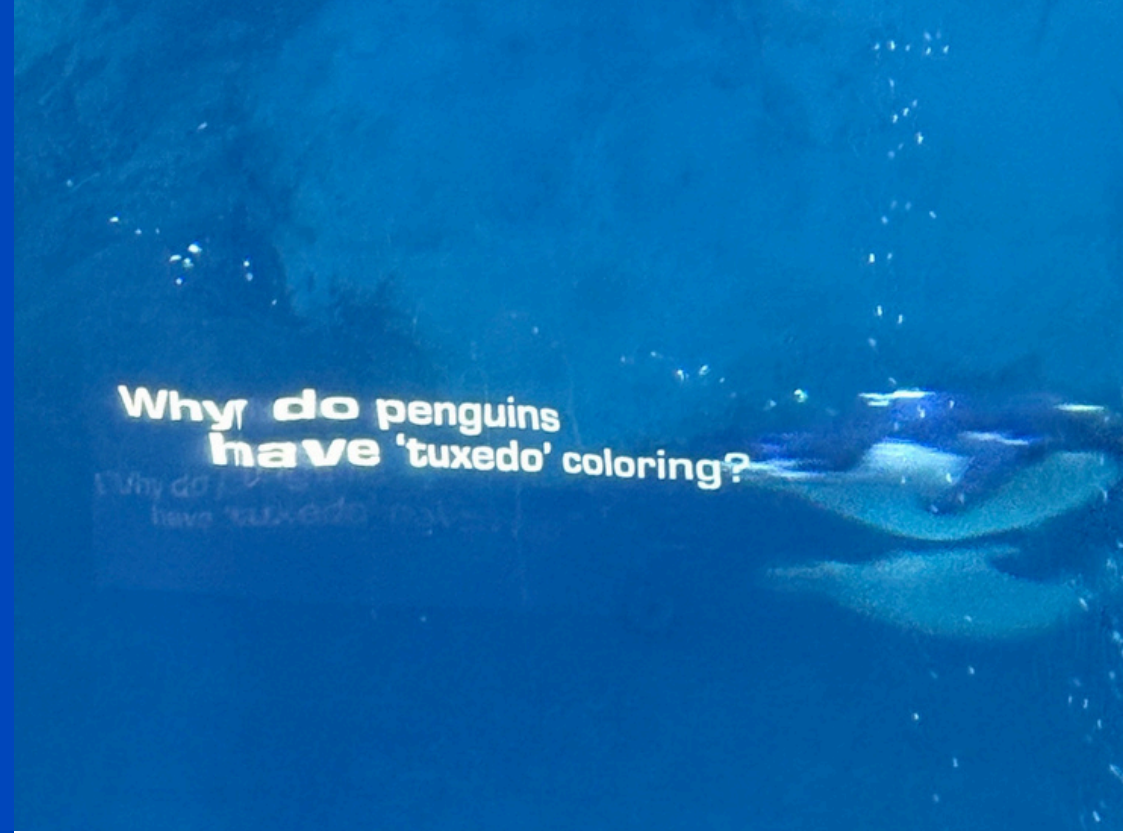
After I walk out of the tunnel, I will see a big wall where penguins may be swimming and playing.

If I need to rest, I can sit on the benches and watch the penguins.



If I look up at the glass wall, I may see information reflected.

Sometimes the reflection can be confusing, but if I watch, I can see different facts about penguins and their environments.



When I am ready, I can either take the stairs or an elevator to get back to the main level.

They will both take me to exactly the same spot.



Once I exit the stairs or elevator, I will see one last viewing window to watch the penguins.

If I am tired and need to take a seat, there is a bench where I can rest.



As I am leaving, I will see Drake Passage Gifts.

I can move through the gift shop if my group chooses to.

I can look at all the gift options, and it is okay if I do not buy anything.



Before we exit, I can use the restrooms or get water. There are also benches if I need to sit.

I can either use the stairs outside or the ramp to continue exploring the Zoo.



My visit to the Polk
Penguin Conservation
Center at the Detroit
Zoo was so much fun
and I hope to come
back soon!



A penguin, likely a Chinstrap penguin, stands in the center-right of the frame. It has a black head and back with a white belly and a distinctive white stripe under its chin. Its orange beak and feet are visible. The background consists of large, translucent blue and white ice blocks. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

Thank you for visiting the Polk Penguin Conservation Center at the **DetroitZOO**

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