Before visiting ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is a very large zoo with lots of animals that I might see.

I can look on the zoo website or map to choose which animals I might want to try and see the most.

Weather
The weather may be cold and I may have to wear my coat.

The weather may be warm and I may have to wear sun cream and my hat.
I will be coming to Whipsnade Zoo for the day.

When I arrive at the entrance to Whipsnade Zoo, I may have to queue and wait while my adult is buying my ticket.

There may be other people that I do not know in the queue.

I may have to wait patiently until it my adult’s turn to buy the tickets.
During the day I will walk around the zoo and see lots of animals.

This is a map of the zoo with pictures of some of the animals I might see. I can plan where I need to go to try and see some of the animals.

My adult will be given a map when I arrive to help me to find my way around the zoo. I can use signposts to help me find the animal enclosures.

I can read the signs at the animal enclosure to find out who lives inside.
People who do different jobs at the zoo have different coloured uniforms but all will have the ZSL Whipsnade Zoo logo on their uniform.

I can talk to the people that work at the zoo to ask questions about the animals.

The people that work at the zoo may tell me what to do in some parts of the zoo. This is to keep me safe and to keep the animals happy and healthy.
I may have to queue to wait for the next train. There may be people that I do not know in the queue and on the train.

I will wait until I am told to board the train and I will walk calmly to one of the carriages.

The station master will blow their whistle when the train is ready to leave and the train driver will blow his horn to show that he is ready to leave.

A presenter will speak on a microphone so that I can learn about the animals that I can see from the train.

The train is a real steam engine train so will let out steam during the journey around the zoo. When the train driver leaves the steam out of the engine the train makes a noise. We will go through a tunnel where it will go darker for a short time.
Hullabazoo

I may play in the indoor play area if I am under 10 years of age.

My adult can book a session for me to play by visiting Hullabazoo indoor play when we first get to the zoo. On a busy day, a play session is limited to one hour.

I may play in the outdoor adventure play area. I may visit the outdoor adventure play area at any time as my adult does not have to book this.

There may be children that I do not know playing in the play area.

The Hullabazoo play staff will tell me the rules and will remind me when it is time to finish my play in the indoor play area.

Staff who work at the indoor play area wear a blue uniform.

It is important that I do exactly what the play staff ask me to do when I am in the Hullabazoo area so that I do not hurt myself.
Lost Children

I will stay with my adult when I am in the zoo.

If I cannot find my adult then I will find somebody who works at the zoo.

I know who works at the zoo as they will have a ZSL uniform. I will wait with the ZSL staff until we find my adult.

These are pictures of different people who work at the zoo who can answer your questions while you are at the zoo.
Places to eat at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo

I might eat my lunch in one of the cafes at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo.

I will choose the food that I would like to eat and my adult will pay for the food for me. If it is busy we may need to wait in a queue until it is my turn.

I might eat a packed lunch that I have brought to the zoo with me.

I can find a picnic bench, wet weather shelter, space on the grass or the schools’ lunch room to eat my lunch with my adult.

After lunch I will put my rubbish in a bin and put recyclable materials in the correct part of the bin.
Free roaming animals

I may see many different animals that live at the zoo.

Muntjac, Chinese Water Deer, Mara, Bennett's Wallaby and Peacock

I will stay quiet and I will not chase the animals that I see so that they do not feel scared. I will not feed the animals.

Peacock

Bennett's wallaby

Mara

Muntjac
Who lives at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo?

Big animals

I may see some big animals like White Rhinos

White Rhinos
Who lives at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo?

Small animals – Butterflies

I may see some small animals like butterflies.
Who lives at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo?

Warm areas – Butterfly house & Aquarium

I may see some animals inside of their house. The house might be warm so that the animal does not get too cold.

Butterfly House

Aquarium

Hippo House
Who lives at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo?

Sensory – Hippos, Giraffes and Lions

I may smell some of the animals or their food, like the hippos and giraffes. Hippos mark their territory by flicking poo with their tails, but the poo will not come near me.

I may hear some of the animals making loud noises like roaring lions. This is the way that the lions talk to each other.
Who lives at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo?

No touching unless told by a volunteer/keeper

I will not touch any animals unless a zoo keeper tells me I am allowed to.
Who lives at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo?

Enclosures that I am allowed to enter

Lemur walk through.
I may walk in the lemur enclosure and I might see a lemur jump or walk near to me. I will not stroke the lemurs as they do not like to be touched. I will not feed the lemurs as the zookeepers will feed them special zoo food.

Farm – goat walk through
I may visit the farm. The animals may be noisy and they might walk near to me. I will not feed the goats as they have to eat special zoo food.

Ring-tailed lemur
Pygmy goats at the farm
I may go to an animal talk. The presenters will use a microphone so that everybody is able to hear them.

The birds in the bird show might fly near to me but they will not touch me.

Animals may be noisy if they are being fed during a talk.
I will leave the zoo with my adult at the end of the day.

I will have lots of memories of my day at the zoo.

Everyone at ZSL Whipsnade Zoo is looking forward to seeing you soon!