

BRaille READING PASSAGE: WORKSHOP 9

Lower Wordsigns and Groupsigns

The Discovery Tram Tour

On behalf of all of us at the Phoenix Zoo, let me welcome you to the Zoo Tram! The Discovery Tram Tour is an hour and a half of pure animal fun. This tour will take you past favorite animals as I bestow knowledge that you might not learn otherwise. Not only will you see our furry and scaly locals, but any stress you have will disappear as you view our best displays of flowers. My personal favorite is made up of rare tropical begonias and roses. My name is Conrad; sit back and relax as I take the controls and show you MY Phoenix Zoo!

To start the tour, we have the conniving American alligator. She doesn't want to discharge a lot of effort to eat. The alligator can be quite lazy, and she likes to conserve muscle power. To do that, she will cover up with small sticks and twigs while swimming. Birds will mistake the alligator as a log and the twigs as nesting material. As a bird lands on the alligator to grab the twig for her nest, the alligator consumes the bird in a single gulp. Quite distressing if you ask me!

No contest, my favorite animal on our tour is the Asian elephant, on the left. The Asian elephant's largest concern is eating. And eating he does! He can consume over 2,000 lbs. of food a week. The concept of dieting is completely foreign to this guy. Contrary to popular belief, the Asian elephant is not the largest land animal. That award actually goes to the African elephant, which can easily weigh six tons. The Asian elephant is closer to four tons. Hope that dispels any myths you may have heard.

Notice how the orangutan exhibit has very tall walls? This isn't due to them being fond of tall concrete structures. It's a result of them being fantastic at picking locks! We can't use any barred doors with locks on them thanks to the orangutan's disturbing knowledge of lock picking. We feed them, care for them, love

them—yet they show disloyalty to the zookeepers by trying to escape. What dismay it might cause to have an escaped orangutan!

I believe you might be able to see our cheetahs but look swiftly. They are considered the fastest land mammals on earth, so they will run to hide if they see us watching them. I have no concept of how they can run close to 60 mph, but they can. Contrary to what you might have heard, cheetahs can't roar. They can still communicate by growling, purring, and chirping.

Our last animal on the tour is the two-toed sloth, on the left. No police can convict a sloth of speeding or disorderly conduct, considering how slowly they move. I might want to have a sloth wear a beret, but most of a sloth's life is upside down, so that plan is out. You can skip betrothal of the sloth as well; they live solitary lives.

Conserve the groans for my bad jokes and odd humor. I became a tour guide to share knowledge by making you laugh. I hope I have not disturbed you abundantly. I appreciate you laughing at my jokes and hope you will bebop all over the rest of the zoo and have a superb visit!

The image displays a 10x10 grid of 100 Braille characters. Each character is composed of dots arranged in a 3x6 grid. The dots are represented by black circles on a white background. The characters are arranged in a regular pattern, with each character occupying a single cell in the grid. The characters are formed by different combinations of the six dots in the 3x6 grid, creating a variety of patterns that represent different Braille characters.

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