

Recording script M5: Information about a zoo

Hi there, everybody, and welcome to Animal World. Before you start your visit, I'd just like to tell you about a few special events happening here today. They're all free, and I'd really encourage you to go as many of them as you can, as I think you'll learn a lot.

The first event is called The World of Ants, and it's happening this morning quite soon in the Insect House, which is just a short walk from here. The well-known entomologist Dr. David Crocker, who many of you will have seen on television, is giving a lecture all about ants - the different types of ants, how they organize themselves, what they eat, their behavior and so on. It's actually a fascinating subject. So, The World of Ants, a lecture by Dr. Crocker, in the Insect House, and it starts at 11 o'clock and lasts for 60 minutes.

At midday, that's 12 o'clock, there's a film which is just as fascinating and it's called The Great Migration. This is all about birds and how they migrate across continents and oceans using the Sun, the stars and the Earth's magnetic field. As I said, it's a film - an absolutely spectacular film - which all the family will enjoy, some fabulous photography - and it's on in Theater C, which you can see here just behind me - so bear that in mind for 12 o'clock.

The next event is a demonstration taking place in the Exhibition Room and given by Monica Chaddha. It's called Encouraging Garden Wildlife. Monica will be showing you ways of encouraging animals, birds and other wildlife to visit and live in your garden, how to place boxes and nests, what food to put out for them and all sorts of practical advice. That's at 2.30, so just after lunch.

The final free event for today is Birds of Prey. Tasha, their keeper, will be giving a display of some of our most magnificent birds and how they fly, and I thoroughly recommend this event. The display includes eagles, vultures and owls and will be starting at 3.45 on the lawn outside. It's an unforgettable experience, so remember, on the front lawn at 3.45 to see the birds flying.

Now, I'll just give you a few directions before you leave, especially for those of you who are feeling a bit hungry. When you leave the main building, you come to an area where the path divides. If you take the right-hand path, you'll see the lake on your right, and exactly opposite the lake on your left is the gift shop. Apart from selling gifts, it sells snacks, sandwiches and light drinks. If you walk on past the lake, on your right you'll also see the penguins. Go past the penguins and you'll come to the restaurant, also on your right. Don't go too far, or you'll come to the aquarium. The aquarium is on your right at the crossroad, and just over the crossroad, also on your right, is the lion enclosure.

If you're thinking of having a picnic, the best place to go is the picnic area, and for this you need to turn left at the crossroad and walk along a few meters. At the end of the path, you'll find the picnic area on your left.

Now, if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them and, once again, I really hope you enjoy your visit. Thank you.