

# Faith Talk

## MEMPHIS ZOO

*Visit again, for the first time*

Interesting Memphis Zoo Trivia:

- The Memphis Zoo opened in 1906.
- More than 3,500 animals live at the zoo.
- There are over 500 species of animals represented.

Based on visitor opinions our local zoo was ranked #1 in the U.S. in 2008 by TripAdvisor. The Memphis Zoo offers free admission for Tennessee residents on Tuesday afternoons (visit [memphiszoo.org](http://memphiszoo.org) for details). Plan a zoo adventure to explore God's creativity in your own family.

Before arriving at the zoo, discuss your favorite animals. Why are they your favorites?

Discuss the different EARS you will see at the zoo. (big bunny ears, hidden bird ears, furry tiger ears, floppy elephant ears). How do your ears compare, and how do you use them?

Discuss the different EYES that you will see you today. (snake slit eyes, fish eyes on opposite sides, staring owl eyes) What will you enjoy seeing today and how you to appreciate your eyes?

Discuss and compare different body parts (feet, neck, skin).



**HomePoint**  
*Building Faith at Home*

Why do you think God made the animals so different?

Discuss how God's creativity is shown in His creation?

If you were going to create a new animal, what features would you include? Would he have the feet of a panther, the tail of a bunny, and the strength of a bear? Have fun "creating" new animals and give him a unique name.

As you explore the zoo, point out the benefits of unique traits:

- A giraffe's neck helps him reach leaves that other animals can't reach.
- A duck's feet help him swim faster than if he had toes.
- A monkey's long arms help him swing from tree to tree.

As you discuss God's animal creation, look for opportunities to point out positive qualities in each family member:

- Your child can run really fast.
- Your daughter is especially good at math.
- Your son makes friends easily.

Take opportunities to praise the qualities you value in your child. Explain that God made each person unique and special, just like each of the animals. Your child is one-of-a-kind and is extremely valuable to God and to you.

*"Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it."* Psalm 139:14

For additional Zoo discussion points, visit [Bellevue.org/homepoint](http://Bellevue.org/homepoint) for Seeing More Than Animals at the Memphis Zoo.

Share your zoo adventure pictures using #OutdoorFamilyAdventure.