

Bored penguins visit art museum

19th May, 2020



A group of penguins became a tour group for the day when they visited an art museum. The penguins were from the Kansas City Zoo in the USA. The zoo teamed up with the nearby Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art. Bosses of both the

zoo and the art museum decided the penguins needed a change of scenery. The penguins were getting lonely because the zoo is closed due to the coronavirus pandemic. They are used to seeing many visitors every day. A zoo official said: "Quarantine has caused everyone to go a little stir crazy, even the residents of the Kansas City Zoo. So several of the penguins decided to go on a field trip to the Nelson-Atkins, which is still closed, to get a little culture."

The zoo's executive director, Randy Wisthoff, said the penguins have missed their regular interactions with zoo visitors. He said: "We're always looking for ways to enrich their lives and stimulate their days. During this shutdown period, our animals really miss visitors coming up to see them." The museum director joked that the penguins liked the art of Italian artists. He said: "They seemed to react much better to Caravaggio than to Monet." He added: "We are so happy today to welcome our colleagues from the zoo and they've brought special friends and we're seeing how they react to art." The penguins that visited the museum were Humboldt penguins, which are native to Peru and Chile.

Sources: independent.co.uk / nypost.com / labibble.com

Writing

All animals would benefit from art. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

group / penguins / museum / zoo / bosses / scenery / pandemic / visitors / culture / executive / director / shutdown / artists / happy / colleagues / friends / native / Peru

True / False

- a) Two penguins escaped from a zoo to visit an art gallery. T / F
- b) A zoo boss wanted the penguins to have a change of scenery. T / F
- c) The penguins weren't used to seeing visitors every day. T / F
- d) The article said the penguins decided to go to a field. T / F
- e) The zoo's executive director wanted the penguins to make him rich. T / F
- f) The director said the penguins really liked French art. T / F
- g) The penguins liked paintings by Caravaggio more than those by Monet. T / F
- h) The penguins that visited the museum are from Chile and Peru. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. visited | a. better |
| 2. scenery | b. usual |
| 3. due to | c. shut |
| 4. several | d. local |
| 5. closed | e. because |
| 6. regular | f. co-workers |
| 7. enrich | g. went to |
| 8. react | h. view |
| 9. colleagues | i. respond |
| 10. native | j. a small number |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What do you think about what you read?
- b) What do you think of art museums?
- c) Do you prefer art museums or other museums?
- d) What is your favourite museum?
- e) What art do you like?
- f) Who is your favourite artist?
- g) What other animals might like art?
- h) What questions would you like to ask the zoo owner?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|-------------------------|
| 1. A group | a. their lives |
| 2. the penguins needed a change | b. crazy |
| 3. the zoo is closed due | c. director |
| 4. caused everyone to go a little stir | d. from the zoo |
| 5. get a | e. to the coronavirus |
| 6. The zoo's executive | f. better to Caravaggio |
| 7. ways to enrich | g. of penguins |
| 8. They seemed to react much | h. little culture |
| 9. welcome our colleagues | i. Peru and Chile |
| 10. native to | j. of scenery |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think of penguins?
- What do you think of zoos?
- What are the good things about zoos?
- What are the bad things about zoos?
- Would you like a change of scenery?
- Would you like to have many visitors every day?
- Have you ever gone stir crazy?
- What was the last field trip you went on?

Spelling

- A pogur of penguins
- the penguins needed a change of cserney
- due to the coronavirus andmiccep
- the tindesesr of the Kansas City Zoo
- laveser of the penguins decided
- get a little euctrul
- The zoo's cveiuxtee
- missed their eaglurr interactions
- tiusmlate their days
- The museum drcirtoe
- welcome our escagluoel from the zoo
- veitna to Peru and Chile

Answers – Synonym Match

1. g	2. h	3. e	4. j	5. c
6. b	7. a	8. i	9. f	10. d

Role Play

Role A – Science Museum

You think the Science Museum is the best museum. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their museums. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Penguin Museum, Food Museum or Museum of English.

Role B – Penguin Museum

You think the Penguin Museum is the best museum. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their museums. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Science Museum, Food Museum or Museum of English.

Role C – Food Museum

You think the Food Museum is the best museum. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their museums. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Penguin Museum, Science Museum or Museum of English.

Role D – Museum of English

You think the Museum of English is the best museum. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their museums. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): Penguin Museum, Food Museum or Science Museum.

Speaking – Museums

Rank these with your partner. Put the best museums at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| • Museum of English | • Science museum |
| • Penguin museum | • History Museum |
| • Anime and manga | • Fashion Museum |
| • Food museum | • Music Museum |

Answers – True False

a	F	b	T	c	F	d	F	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	T
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.