Asia Trail is a section of the Smithsonian’s National Zoo that features different kinds of animals that are native to Asia. Some of them are familiar, like the giant panda. Others may be a new sight to see, like the Japanese giant salamander. Move along Asia Trail to discover these amazing animals.
I may use this map as a guide through Asia Trail.
I may see giant pandas. I may see them eating bamboo, like the one above.
I may see Asian elephants. Elephants live in groups called herds. The females are called cows and the larger males are called bulls. An elephant’s trunk is very useful and strong. It can spray water, lift and carry heavy logs and pick up a single peanut.
I may see Asian small-clawed otters. They are expert swimmers.
I may see a fishing cat in the exhibit. Fishing cats are skilled at hunting fish in water. There is a glass barrier between me and the fishing cat. I will be safe.
I may see a Japanese giant salamander. Its color helps to camouflage it by blending in with the background.
I may see a sloth bear. Francois is enjoying his coconut. Sloth bears have large claws that are used to dig for insects.
I may see glass and artificial bamboo barriers. I will be safe.
I may see a clouded leopard. Clouded leopards have long tails that allow them to move through trees with great skill.
There may be some exhibits that are empty. I may see signs that tell me that no one is home.
I may see sculptures like small-clawed otters, a giant panda, sloth bears, a Japanese giant salamander and red pandas. I may touch them.
I may see signs that help to keep me safe. Also, I may see a schedule of events along Asia Trail about when the keepers are feeding the animals or giving a talk.
I may see pathways with steps and hazard stripes for safety.
I may be able to see animal slides if I look through the viewfinders.
I may see signs and displays that provide information about the Asian animals.
I may see displays with tabs that I may pull to learn interesting facts about the animals along Asia Trail.
I may see signs with flaps to lift. I may see displays with wheels to spin. I may pretend to be a **scientist** by watching the animals and looking for answers to some questions.
There are areas along Asia Trail where I can rest and take a break if I want to.
I may see keepers giving a talk or doing a sloth bear demo. There may be large crowds. There will be a barrier to keep the crowds in an area where everyone can see. Keepers may use a microphone and their voices may be loud.
The animals along Asia Trail look very different. Some of them are large, some of them are small. They all live in different habitats. After visiting Asia Trail, I may be able to name some Asian animals. Also, I may discover other Asian animals living elsewhere at the zoo.