

# Messages for Signs at Animal Exhibits

**Bactrian Camels** have bumps over their eyes that act as built in sun visors to help keep out bright sunlight.



**Chimpanzees** (Common & Pygmy), avoid the peak hours of the sun. Most of their activity is in the early morning and late afternoon hours.



**Ducks and Geese** have webbed feet that allow heat to escape from their body. This is one way they keep cool even on very hot days.

**Elephants** use dirt and hay as a natural sunblock. They spread it on their backs to cover their skin. Elephants also keep cool by snuffing up trunks full of water and spraying themselves.



**Galapagos Tortoises** have shells that protect them from many dangers in the environment, including predators, rain, and the sun's strong rays.

**Hares, Rabbits & Cottontails** are nocturnal animals. Most of their activity is in the evening or night and they rest during the day when the sun's rays are the strongest.

**Hippos** secrete a pinkish oil that helps keep their skin moist in the hot sun and acts like a sunscreen protecting their skin from sunburn.



**Koalas** spend most of the day sleeping in eucalyptus trees. In addition to providing a food source for koalas, the leaves of the tree protect koalas from the sun's strong rays. Koalas are nocturnal animals. They sleep during the day when the sun's rays are the strongest and are awake in the evening and at night when it is cooler.

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**Lowland Gorillas** avoid the peak hours of the sun. Most of their activity is in the early morning and late afternoon hours.



**Meerkats** have black rings around their eyes that absorb the sun's rays, protecting their eyes from sun damage.



**Naked Mole Rats** cannot control their body temperature very well. That is why they live in cool burrows under the ground, away from the heat of the sun.

**Orangutans** (Southeast Asia) shelter themselves from the sun's strong rays by draping leafy branches over their heads and necks.

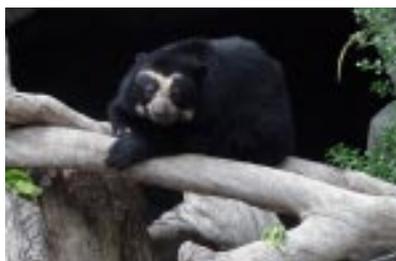


**Pigs and Warthogs** do not have sweat glands. They wallow in mud to keep cool and protect their skin from the sun's harmful rays.



**Polar Bears** have special eyelids that act like sunglasses, shielding against the blinding glare of the sun's rays hitting the snow.

**Rhinos (Southern Black)**, use mud as a natural sunscreen. They roll over in the mud to make sure they have a thick coating on their skin to protect it from the sun. They are most active during the evening, night, and early morning when the sun's rays are weakest.



**Spectacled Bears** sleep during the day under large trees or in a cave to keep out of the hot sun.

**Waxy Tree Frogs** prevent water loss by making a waxy substance that they rub all over their skin. This waxy substance is a type of fat that keeps water from leaving their body.