

Important information about Simba!

Simba is like a young child – if there is a lot of noise/excitement around, he will match that and become quite jumpy and possibly nibbly. So we must be calm around him, particularly when there are children with him. He should have no more than 4 children in a group when walking him. If he is saying hello to a class, they should be quiet and in a line if waiting to stroke him.

For now, it's best that adults hold the lead, and not a child.

Keep Simba on a shorter lead – this can give more control.

He's quite strong when on a lead; he will often pull forward! A good idea is just to stop and say 'wait' and be patient – he will stop!

If he sees a pigeon or another animal, he'll be wanting to eat it, so be aware! Keep a firm hand on the lead.

If Simba has something in his mouth, and won't let it go:

Don't try to take it off him. He's very protective of 'his things' and may growl/become aggressive if you take it off him.

Try distraction, for example with a treat, or jog with him.

Don't worry – most things he can have in his mouth. We can get it off him when he's back in his pen. He has eaten gloves, whiteboard rubbers, and all sorts- and it comes out the other end eventually. He usually will chew things as opposed to eating them.

Take poo bags with you just in case – there is a bin by the front door.

Treats are a double-edged sword. The good part is that it helps to distract him and listen to your instructions. The bad part is that they can make him more excited and jumpy, so be firm with him!

Jumping Simba!

If Simba is quite jumpy, it's best to turn away from him and ignore him. Being higher up can help too- if he is in an excited mood, it's best to be above him as opposed to being at his level.

Stroking Simba

Children must always ask an adult if they can stroke Simba. When stroking him, do so on his back as opposed to his head. Remember it's best to wash your hands/sanitise before and after.

Things that aren't good for Simba:

1. Conkers
2. Daffodils
3. Chocolate
4. Macadamia Nuts
5. Corn On The Cob
6. Avocado
7. Cooked Bones
8. Grapes And Raisins

Verbal commands that Simba knows:

1. Sit
2. Lay Down
3. Paw
4. Wait
5. "Simba Here"
(Treats help to reinforce these)

