



# 2022 Annual Photography Contest Hints & Tips

## Hints & Tips

**Here are a few Hints and Tips to allow you and the animals to have a happy day:**

***“There are no photographic rules, just good photographs” ... Ansel Adams***

1. Please don't cross any barriers to get closer to enclosure/animals
  2. Please don't use anything to attract the animal's attention (food, noises, lights, laser)
  3. Wait for it.... Patience will pay off
  4. Be familiar with your camera:
  5. Bring extra memory cards and batteries
  6. Offer assistance if a fellow contester needs help with their camera
  7. Share creative ideas with others
  8. Be sure to ask permission if a non-zoo person will be in your photo (obtain & sign model release form)
  9. Scope out the whole area early and plan your path
  10. Think “calendar image,” not just a snap-shot
  11. Think “composition”
  12. Focus on the animal's eyes
  13. Without violating Zoo rules, get as close as allowable to the enclosure fence
  14. Reptile room.....NO FLASH PLEASE... hold steady/brace camera
  15. Know where the sun is... use it rather than cuss at it...
  16. Avoid flash when possible... it spooks the creatures
  17. Wait for the animal to do something
  18. Yawn, stretch, look at you, stalk something, peek out from behind
  19. Avoid the following situations if possible:
  20. Avoid direct sunlight on the chain link enclosure... make a shadow if necessary.
  21. Wait for the animal to move farther from the fence (might help make the fence disappear)
  22. Best: you are close to fence, animal is far from fence
  23. Taking photo through viewing glass:
  24. Get as close to the glass as possible and cup your hands around the lens
- Use a rubber lens hood if possible and put the rubber part against the glass

Watch for reflections and shadows of people

**Above all... have fun and help us make a truly remarkable calendar this year !!!**