

Муниципальное казенное учреждение
«Центр комплексного обслуживания и методологического обеспечения
учреждений образования» г. Пензы

Penza: Place in the Heart



Пенза
2024

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Пособие включает дидактические материалы (тексты по краеведческой тематике и задания к ним), направленные на реализацию регионального содержания федерального государственного стандарта основного общего образования по предмету «Английский язык». Предназначено для обучающихся, учителей, методистов образовательных организаций.

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Оглавление

Предисловие	4
Family Time	6
«We are from Penza»: People with a Strong Character and Deep Family Bonds.....	7
Penza Folk Crafts: Abashevo toys	8
Shopping in Penza	9
Public Transport in Penza	10
School Education in Penza	11
Family Weekend in Penza	12
Festivals of Penza Oblast	13
A Place to Visit: Tarkhany	15
Family Attraction: Penza Zoo	16

Предисловие



Пенза – чудо десятое Света.
Мест в России загадочней нет.
Если где-то живут без поэтов,
То здесь каждый десятый поэт.

...Тут красивые мамы и дети.
И у пензенцев так неспроста –
Потому что на нашей планете,
Правит миром всегда красота.

Пенза – город душевных атлантов,
Место творческих норм и констант.
Если в Пензе ты признан талантом,
То в России ты точно талант.

В. Гвоздев

В преддверии Года Семьи в России началась работа над созданием сборника на английском языке, включающего текстовые материалы и задания о родном городе под общим названием «Penza: Place in the Heart».

Краеведческие материалы, которые подобраны в соответствии с тематическим содержанием федеральной рабочей программы основного общего образования по английскому языку и адаптированы для понимания обучающимися 5-7 классов, могут быть использованы в урочной и внеурочной деятельности.

Связующим звеном всех разделов является именно тема семьи: удивительные традиции, которые передаются от поколения к поколению; уникальные памятники Пензы, посвященные материнству и детству, любви и верности; излюбленные места отдыха семей с детьми нашего города; самобытные праздники, связанные с богатой историей и культурой Сурского края. Всё то, что дорого сердцу каждого пензенца.

Все страницы сборника структурированы следующим образом:

- название темы;
- аннотация, которая направляет обучающихся на путь «новых открытий»;
- текст, который является ключом к открытию новых знаний. (Ему отдано центральное место на странице);
- яркие фотографии, выступающие визуальной опорой к текстовой информации;
- увлекательные задания (в том числе творческого характера), которые собраны в блоке «Activities».

Остановимся подробнее на методических рекомендациях по работе со страницами сборника. Для погружения в тему предлагаем Вам организовывать совместное чтение аннотации, которая помогает настроить обучающихся на активную познавательную деятельность. Также хорошим подспорьем учителю в вопросе настроя учеников на рабочий лад могут стать фотографии, размещенные на странице. Например, можно предложить с их помощью спрогнозировать, о чем пойдет речь в разных частях учебного текста. Или организовать мини-

викторину «Что вы знаете о ...?» с опорой на предлагаемый иллюстративный материал.

На предтекстовом этапе необходимо снять лексические трудности: каждый текст содержит *лексические единицы*, незнакомые для обучающихся 5-7 классов. Они выделены в текстах жирным шрифтом. Рекомендуем учителю провести работу по их активизации до прочтения текста.

Во время работы с текстовой информацией допустимо делать пометы на полях: «Что было известно до прочтения текста», «Что узнал во время чтения текста», «Какая информация из текста особенно удивила». Или отмечать фрагменты текста в соответствии со следующими критериями: «Понятно», «Не понятно», «Есть вопрос!» (что-то при чтении текста навело ученика на мысль, и он хочет узнать больше об этом).

Для работы на послетекстовом этапе мы предлагаем воспользоваться заданиями из раздела «Activities».

Публикация настоящего сборника – это увлекательный опыт совместной методической деятельности учителей иностранного языка общеобразовательных учреждений города Пензы под руководством *М.Г. Переточкиной*, начальника отдела воспитания и дополнительного образования Городского научно-методического центра, учителя английского языка высшей квалификационной категории. Авторами - разработчиками учебных материалов сборника выступили:

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Мы благодарим за оказанную помощь в рецензировании учебных материалов сборника сотрудников кафедры «Иностранные языки и методика преподавания иностранных языков» ФГБОУ ВО «Пензенский государственный университет»: *И.Г. Потылицину*, доцента кафедры, кандидата филологических наук и *О.А. Павлову*, доцента кафедры, кандидата филологических наук.

С уважением к читателю,

*Переточкина М.Г.,
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2024 is the Year of the Family in Russia. Penza has very strong family traditions. Here you can see different monuments devoted to the family.

Spotlight on Penza goes on an excursion to see them all!

A



1. The Monument “Mother”

The Monument “Mother” was created by Georgy Kurdov in 2020. It is **located** on Sobornaya Square opposite the Spassky Cathedral. This monument is 5 m high. You can see a woman **holding** a little child.

B



2. The monument “Family”

The monument “Family” was created in the 1950s. It is located in a **courtyard** in Volodarskogo Street. You can see a woman **holding** a child in her arms. There is a man sitting next to them. All of them are smiling.

C



3. The Monument “Peter and Fevronia of Murom”

The bronze statue of Saints Peter and Fevronia of Murom is located near the Spassky Cathedral. They are a symbol of true love and **marriage** in Russia. The monument was created by the famous sculptor Konstantin Chernyavsky in 2020. Peter and Fevronia of Murom are holding a **dove** in their hands as a symbol of **devotion**.

Activities

1. Read and match the texts to the photos.

2. Look at the monument “Family” in picture A and make a story about the family pastime. Remember to say about:

- people (appearance, age, clothes);
- place;
- weather;
- family tradition;
- activities;
- emotions.

3. Give a small talk about your family answering the questions:

- How big is your family?
- Who is your best friend in the family? Why?
- What traditions do you have in your family?
- Where do you spend your free time?
- What do you like doing together in your leisure time? Why?

“WE ARE FROM PENZA”: PEOPLE WITH A STRONG CHARACTER AND DEEP FAMILY BONDS

The Latin proverb says, “Each man’s character shapes his fortune”. Today **Spotlight on Penza** tells a story about the natives – people with a strong character, a great zeal and a good ambition to *succeed**.



Do you have any ideas who this woman is? The lady is **young/middle-aged**. She is **tall/short** and slim with long **curly/straight** hair. These cute facial features belong to Maria Sittel, one of the most beautiful women and one of the most famous television **presenters** in Russia.

Maria was born in Penza on 9th November, 1975. Sittel began her television career in the program *Musical Souvenir* on a local TV channel. Later Sittel **appeared** as a daily news presenter on Channel “Russia 1”.

Moreover, Maria is **keen** on sport. She swims, skis and skates to keep fit. She is also famous for being a **skillful** dancer.

Maria Sittel is not only a talented reporter, but a loving mother of 5 kids.

All in all, she is the **pride** of our city.

*** If you succeed, you get the results that you want.**

Do you **recognize** this young man on the photo? As you see, he is in his early **thirties/fifties**. He is rather **short/tall**, but **slim/heavily built**. This man is fit and athletic. He has got short **fair/dark** hair and green eyes.

This is Denis Ablyazin, a famous Russian gymnast. He was born in Penza on 3rd August, 1992. Denis **took up** gymnastics when he was 7 years old. And he **succeeded** in it and even got a nickname “The Lord of the Rings”. Ablyazin is Olympic Champion 2020 in Tokyo and a seven-time Olympic Games medalist.

He made such great **achievements** thanks to his strong character, hard work and good **support** of his family.

Activities

- **Look at the photos and suppose what professions these people have.**
- **Then read the texts, choose the right word in bold to learn more about their appearances.**
- **Say what character traits helped each person succeed.**
- **Give a title to each paragraph, then use them as a plan to write a short article about any famous person from Penza.**

Use this site for more ideas:

List of Famous people born in Penza Oblast, Russia - FMSPP.com



PENZA FOLK CRAFTS: ABASHEVO TOYS

Would you like to make something nice with your own hands in your leisure time? *Spotlight on Penza* visits the village of Abashevo, the origin of handmade clay toys.



What do you know about this folk craft?

Match the question words to the answers.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Where...? | a) Red, blue or green. |
| 2. What...? | b) In Abashevo. |
| 3. Who...? | c) Famous toy whistles. |
| 4. What colour...? | d) T.N. Zotkin. |
| 5. How...? | e) As an amulet. |

Now make questions to the answers.

Now read the text to learn more about this folk craft.

The old village Abashevo is located in Spassky District, Penza Oblast. It is famous for its handmade toy **whistles**. They are made of a special kind of **clay** you can find only near Abashevo.



The greatest master of Abashevo toys was Timofey Zotkin who was born, lived and worked in the village of Abashevo. Now his toys are shown in the museums not only of this country but abroad.

Modern masters do not only make Abashevo toys but **promote** their **folk craft**. They give lessons for young and adults teaching them how to make clay whistles.

These toys look like fairy animals and people. They say you can use them as a family amulet. Do you know that every figurine has its secret meaning?

For example, a lady is for **purity**, a rider is for **loyalty**, a cow is for **harvest**, a dog is for friendship, a goat is for **achievement**, a dog with a puppy is for motherhood, a bird is for creativity, a **ram** is for money, a lion is for **authority**, a deer is for **unity** with nature. All toys have long necks, short legs and holes for whistling. A toy deer has **horns** on its head. They can be usual, sun-like or tree-like. Tree-like horns symbolize a tree of life.



Traditionally, Abashevo toys are painted in red, blue or green. Small elements may be gold, silver or not coloured at all. Each colour has its meaning. Red is for the sun or blood, the beginning of life, green is for grass and blue is for the sky or water.



Activity

Draw or model your own Abashevo toy. Present it to your classmates and talk about it using the plan.

Plan:

- what animal it represents;
- what this animal means;
- what parts of body it has;
- what colours it is;
- what each colour means.

SHOPPING IN PENZA

Shopping is popular among the young and the old. There are many shopping centres and malls in Penza. **Spotlight on Penza** looks at three of them.



KOLLAZH ★★★★★ 5,0

The shopping centre “Kollazh” provides different shopping services to suit everyone. There is a wide range of clothes shops, shoe shops, sports shops, electronics and home **appliance** shops. There is a cinema, a children's entertainment centre and a food court. You can also shop for food there. For the **convenience** of visitors there is a **spacious** free parking. It's easy to spend many hours in “Kollazh” just having fun.



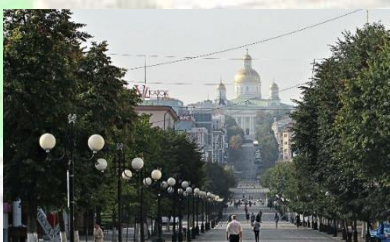
PASSAZH ★★★★★ 4,8

“Passazh” offers visitors a **wide variety** of shops, cafes and restaurants. There one can **purchase** clothes, shoes, cosmetics, perfumery and household goods. The shopping centre “Passazh” has a kid's **entertainment** club where parents can leave their children while doing the shopping. There is a paid parking zone.



VYSSHAYA LIGA
★★★★★ 4,9

The shopping centre “Vysshaya Liga” is located in the downtown Penza. It is a place where you can find everything you need. “Vysshaya Liga” has eight floors and offers **customers** some excellent choices to shop, eat and relax. There are plenty of clothing shops, a cinema, a skating rink, a food court, an **amusement arcade** and a grocery shop as well. There is also a paid parking garage.



If you are interested in buying souvenirs from Penza, walk along Moskovskaya Street next to “Vysshaya Liga” where street **vendors** sell souvenirs, paintings and handmade items.

Activities

• Study the text, the photos and name:

- 1) two centres where you can go to the cinema;
- 2) a centre where the parking is free;
- 3) a centre where there is a skating rink;
- 4) a centre that is the most popular among the customers.

• Talk about the shopping centre you would like to visit. Say:

- where it is located;
- what it looks like;
- what the centre offers;
- what you can do there.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN PENZA

Nowadays, many people commute by public transport in Penza because it is rather cheap, fast and comfortable. **Spotlight on Penza** takes a look at the city transport network.



Every day thousands of Penza citizens use public transport to get to work, university, college or school as it helps to **cover** long distances – from one city area to another. Ticket fees are rather cheap and various routes are **possible**.



One can see route taxis and buses on the city roads but the most common type of city transport is a trolley bus. There are many new trolleybuses on the lines now. They look modern and cosy. They are quick and ecologically friendly. Today **trackless lines** cover all the city areas. The longest route has trolleybus number 105 that goes from Sputnik area to Arbekovo area. The **trolleybus line** is 26 km long.



The Drama Theatre in late 1930-s

However, there is no **underground** in Penza in contrast to Samara and Nizhny Novgorod. But do you know that there was a tram line in Penza? It is not a myth, it is a true story!



The train station in late 1930-s

In late 1930s in Penza there was a tram which ran from the Drama Theatre to the Bicycle Factory (later known as the ZIF factory). The **pedestrian crossing** at the railway station “Penza-1” used to be a tunnel for the tram.

Unfortunately, the tram line was closed 2 years after its launch. There were some reasons for it. Firstly, there was not a constant timetable. Secondly, the tram was very **narrow** and sometimes the wagons **overturned** with passengers.

Activities

• Read the text and answer the questions.

1. What kinds of public transport can we see on the roads of Penza now?
2. Why are trolleybuses so popular among passengers now?
3. What is the longest trolleybus line?

• Read and mark the sentences **T** (true) or **F** (false).

- 1) There was a tram that went from the Drama Theatre to the Bicycle Factory in Penza in 1936.
- 2) The pedestrian crossing on the railway station “Penza-1” used to be a garage for the tram.
- 3) The tram line was closed because people did not like it.



The unique photo of Penza's tram

SCHOOL EDUCATION IN PENZA

The State Educational Standards make the schooling similar in different parts of the country. However, each city has something special. **Spotlight on Penza** studies the city school system.



A

Russian students typically attend school for 9 or 11 years, with the school year running from September to June. They start school at the age of 6-7.

The primary school lasts 4 years and teaches pupils elementary skills, such as reading, writing, counting. Most schoolchildren in Penza learn English as a foreign language.

Physical education (PE) is a **significant** part of the school program. Today schools of Penza have **well-equipped** indoor gyms and swimming pools, modern outdoor sports grounds, football and hockey pitches.

The secondary school starts from the 5th grade. This is the time when children start learning Biology, Geography, Chemistry, Physics and some other new subjects.

Information Technology is one of the **compulsory** subjects as IT-skills are **essential** in the modern world. Schools of Penza have computers, laptops and **Internet access** in all the classrooms.

If students want to gain more **knowledge** and skills, they have the **opportunity** to attend different optional classes: Drama Club, Media Club, Sports Club and others.

Also, centers of additional education for children, such as "Quantorium" and IT-cube offer students various **courses**. Today there are 4 quantoriums and 2 IT-cubes in Penza schools.

Studying at school, doing after-school activities and attending centers of additional education help students make a **proper** choice of their future profession.



B



C



D

Activities

- Read and match the paragraphs of the text to the photos (A-D).
- Give a talk answering the questions.

- 1) Do you think education is important nowadays? Explain why.
- 2) What is your favourite subject at school? Why?
- 3) What sports can pupils do at school?
- 4) What centre of additional education would you like to attend? Why?

Do you know?

Quantorium.

It is a unique area equipped with modern high-tech equipment. It makes practice and project work an integral part of studying.



IT-cube.

It is a special teaching centre for kids to create 3D simulations and games using a graphical programming language.



E



F

FAMILY WEEKEND IN PENZA

At the weekend, Penza citizens enjoy spending time together with the people who are most important to them – their **FAMILY MEMBERS**. **Spotlight on Penza** spends this weekend in a very unusual place called “TREELAND”.



A. You can find “Treeland” near the **holiday village** Barkovka in a beautiful **pine forest**. Here you can see wooden sculptures of Russian fairytale characters such as Baba Yaga and Koschei the Deathless. The Russian warrior guards this land. All the figures are made by well-known Cheboksar **wood carvers**.

B. Look at the map of “Treeland” and find a place to visit: the large playground, the wooden **swing**; the open air cinema, the **hut** of pine tree branches.



D. Come to “Treeland” in winter to go skiing in a beautiful forest and ride on a sledge with Father Frost. Welcome to the fairytale land! It is free for everyone!

C. If you want to rest and relax, go to the magic **swamp** and admire **herons** and ducks or spend your time fishing.



Read the texts (A-D) and match them to the pictures (1-10).

Discuss

1. How do you usually spend your weekends?
2. What do you like doing with your family?
3. Would you like to visit “Treeland” and why?

Activity

Write to *Spotlight on Penza* about your best family weekend.

FESTIVALS OF PENZA OBLAST

“Studying history is essential in order to better understand the present and foresee the future.”

*Vissarion Belinsky,
a native of Penza Oblast*



Spotlight on Penza visits a unique site – Zolotarevka settlement where an all-Russian historical and cultural festival takes place every year.

There is a **unique** monument – ‘Zolotarevka **settlement**’ near the village of Zolotarevka in Penza Oblast. It is a **site** of the legendary Mordvinic city – a big **trading** centre – and its **fortress** ruins. In the year of 1237 there was a great battle between the city **dwellers** and the Mongol-Tatar army.

Zolotarevka settlement has become a site of archeological excavations since 1882.

The first historical festival “Zolotarevka settlement – crossroads of civilizations” was held in 2006 after a great archeological **dig** by Professor Belorybkin. Now this festival attracts not only residents of

the Penza region but also tourists from other regions.

Reconstructed armour and weapons of warriors, medieval clothes, vivid performances of historical reconstruction clubs make your visit unforgettable.

Guests can play ancient games, take part in an exciting quest and enjoy interactive activities such as clay modelling or **weaving** a **chain mail**. Moreover, everyone can take part in an **archery** tournament and compete in a **tug of war**. Music lovers have a great chance to listen to **ancient** musical instruments.

There are souvenir shops with goods made by Penza craftsmen.



Activity

Read and say:

- what historical festival is held in Zolotarevka and why;
- what it is famous for;
- what festival activities are offered to visitors.

Discuss

- Would you like to take part in this historical festival? Why?
- What activity do you find the most interesting?

Every year many historical, cultural and literary festivals are held in Penza Oblast in summer. They attract not only Penza citizens but also residents from different parts of our country. People come there with families to relax and have fun. **Spotlight on Penza** visits three of them.



A. Belinsky District, Belinsky

Every year Belinsky Spring Festival takes place in the town of Chembar. It is the place where the Russian critic and writer Vissarion Belinsky spent his childhood. In his **honour** the town was renamed into Belinsky in 1948.

The key events of the festival are:

- the **Award** Ceremony "I am a Fighter in the World" to the best literary and theater figures;
- workshops and games;
- open air libraries and book shows;
- literary quizzes and excursions.

B. Luninsky District, Suvorovo village

Every year Suvorov's Porridge Festival takes place in the village where the family **estate** of the Suvorovs was located.

It starts with laying flowers and **wreaths** at the monument after Alexander Suvorov. Then every guest can take part in sports competitions (**tug of war**, darts, shooting) or in the music contest of patriotic songs, buy souvenirs.

What is more, visitors can taste more than 20 types of porridge cooked according to old **recipes**.

C. Kuznetsky District, Radishchevo village

Every year, **Tikhvin Fair** attracts thousands of tourists. The tradition **traces** back to the 18th century when Grigory Ablyazov, the grandfather of the Russian writer Alexander Radishchev built a manor and a church after the Tikhvin **icon** of the **Virgin**, a **patroness of trade**, there. The Radishchev family welcomed **merchants** to sell their goods in the manor annually.

In 1994 the tradition was **revived**. Today you can meet different characters such as **buffoons**, **gypsies**, merchants and **hawkers** at the fair, buy souvenirs made by Penza **craftsmen** and take part in contests and sport games.

If you are hungry, you can visit the "**Refectory Yard**" and eat homemade food that was traditional in the Radishchev family: fish soup, okroshka, kvass and pies.



Activities

- Read the texts and say which of these festivals is literary, historical and cultural.
- Now describe the festival emblems.
- Match the photos to the texts. Prove your opinion.

Discuss

- Which festival would you like to take part in? Why?
- Which festival can you recommend a foreigner to visit? Why?

A PLACE TO VISIT: TARKHANY

Penza is rich in various natural and cultural sights which attract thousands of tourists every year. **Spotlight on Penza** visits the most popular site – the State Lermontov Museum in Tarkhany.



Church of St. Mary of Egypt

Poet's monument

House museum

Folk's izba

Winter

Christmas Ball

- visit the Christmas ball;
- ride in a one-horse open sleigh;
- go tubing;
- have tea with **bagels** at the **mill**.



C



E



G

Autumn

The Poet's Birthday Celebrations

- take part in the Lermontov **Research Conference**;
- **recite** the poems by the Poet's monument;
- take photos at the **estate**;
- go on an excursion to the Poet's house



A



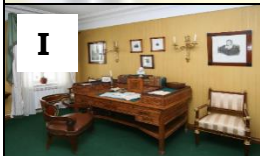
B

To the south-west of Penza, in the Belinsky District there is a small **site** called Tarkhany. It is a homeland of the great Russian poet Michael Lermontov. Here, in his grandmother's **estate**, he spent his childhood after the mother's death.

In Tarkhany you can see the poet's house, the church, the **folk's izba**, the mill, nice ponds and gardens. The museum and educational centre was built several years ago to make **exhibitions** there. There is a bronze **Poet's monument** there.

Tarkhany **attracts** thousands of tourists all the year round – with different activities in every season.

For example, in July the traditional Lermontov Festival is held. Many guests visit the estate on this day. Russian **celebrities** read Lermontov's poems on the main stage. An exhibition of folk crafts is usually held at the estate on this day. Also, visitors can go on horse-and-**carriage** rides or go boating on the pond. Everyone can taste tea with Tarkhan honey and pies.



I



J

Spring

Night in the Museum

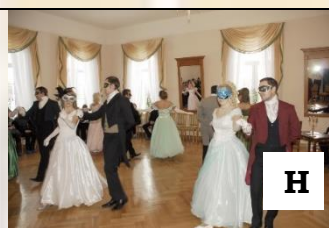
- walk in the apple garden;
- see a **performance**;
- **participate** in master classes of traditional Tarkhan crafts.



D



F



H

Summer

Lermontov Festival

- rest in the pavilion in the Far Garden;
- _____;
- _____;
- _____;
- _____.

Activities

1. Read the text and say **what you can see** in Tarkhany.
2. Read the text and complete frame "Summer".
3. Look at the frames. Match the word combinations in the frames (**Winter, Spring, Summer, Autumn**) to the photos (**A-J**).
4. Give a small talk about special offers of Tarkhany in different seasons.

FAMILY ATTRACTION: PENZA ZOO

Many citizens like to spend their weekends in the zoo. There you can see **rare animals***, take part in different activities and learn more about the wildlife.

Spotlight on Penza goes to the local zoo.



* If animals are **rare**, they have small populations in the wild.



The Penza Zoo was **founded** in 1981 on Krasnaya Street, on the territory of the former **Bishop's estate**. It was a nice place with fruit trees and ponds.

Today the Penza Zoo is home to more than 2000 (!) **species of wild** animals.

The zoo offers you the **opportunity** to see a polar bear and an arctic wolf, a monkey and a lion, an owl and an eagle, a crane and a peacock, a zebra and an emu, a camel and a yak, a parrot and a swan, a llama and a bison, a deer and a moose, a zebra and a lynx, and many others.



There is a nice tradition in the zoo to give names to the **zoo dwellers**. For example, Simba I is the name of the legendary lion that lived in the zoo for 19 years. Now the statue of Simba welcomes the visitors at the central **entrance**.

Do you know that the symbol of the Penza Zoo is a moose?

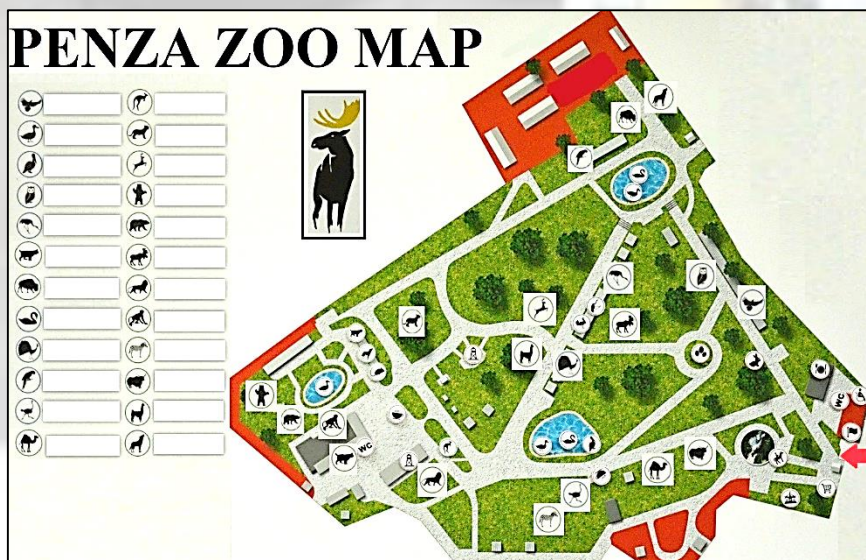
The fact is that moose are rare animals in Russia but there are many moose in Penza forests. These animals are large, strong and **stately**. A good symbol, isn't it?

Thanks to the **keepers'** care the zoo animals regularly **give birth** to cute babies. What a joy it is to see the happy animal families in the zoo!



Activities

- Study the Penza Zoo map. Complete it with the **highlighted words in the plural**.
- Create a factfile about one of the Penza Zoo animals you like. Tell your classmates about it. Use this website for more information:
<http://www.zoo-penza.ru>
- Imagine your foreign friends are on holiday in Penza. Make an excursion in the Penza Zoo for them.



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Учебно-методическое пособие

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