

BIRMINGHAM
ZOO



SUMMER
CAMP

PLANNING GUIDE 2017



Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are truly grateful that you are considering ZooFari Camp as part of your summer. 2016 was an amazing year and we can't wait to begin 2017! The Birmingham Zoo would like to partner with you to educate your child about the natural world.

We strive to create learning experiences that inspire and teach children about our amazing world. Through specifically designed curricula your camper will explore and discover the natural world like never before. Campers will take part in animal encounters, games, nature hikes, animal shows, keeper talks and interactive educational experiences.

Throughout this planning guide you'll find a variety of camp themes that will have your camper excited and ready to learn. We have a wonderful summer planned and can't wait to share it with your child.

Sincerely,
the Birmingham Zoo Camp Staff

2630 Cahaba Road, Birmingham, AL 35223
www.birminghamzoo.com



Campers may experience up-close animal encounters, exciting lessons, splash fountains, guided tours, animal demonstrations, rides and so much more. The best place for summer fun is at the **Birmingham Zoo Camp!**



CAMP SCHEDULE

Grade	Week 1* May 30 – June 2	Week 2 June 5 – June 9	Week 3 June 12 – June 16	Week 4 June 19 – June 23	Week 5 June 26 – June 30
4K	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean
5K-5th	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean
	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives
	Art Safari	Art Safari	Art Safari	Art Safari	Art Safari
3rd-5th	N/A	Jr. Zoo Keeper	Jr. Zoo Keeper	Jr. Zoo Keeper	Jr. Zoo Keeper
6th-8th	N/A	Behind the Scenes	Behind the Scenes	Behind the Scenes	Behind the Scenes
	N/A	Zoo Keeper	Zoo Keeper	Zoo Keeper	Zoo Keeper
9th-12th	N/A	N/A	N/A	Animal Wellness	Conservation Connections

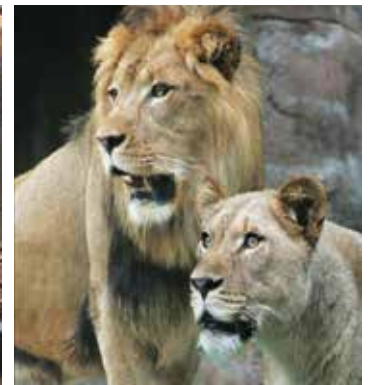
Grade	Week 6* July 5 – July 7	Week 7 July 10 – July 14	Week 8 July 17 – July 21	Week 9 July 24 – July 28	Week 10 July 31 – August 4
4K	Freestylin'	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives
5K-5th	Freestylin'	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives
	Freestylin'	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean	Nature Detectives	Pirates of the Zooribbean
	Freestylin'	Art Safari	Art Safari	Art Safari	Art Safari
3rd-5th	Freestylin	Jr. Zoo Keeper	Jr. Zoo Keeper	Jr. Zoo Keeper	N/A
6th-8th	N/A	Behind the Scenes	Behind the Scenes	Behind the Scenes	Cat Week
	N/A	Zoo Keeper	Zoo Keeper	Zoo Keeper	N/A
9th-12th	N/A	Animal Wellness	Animal Wellness	N/A	N/A

*Week 1 is a 4 Day Week. Week 6 is a 3 Day Week.

ZOO KEEPER CAMP NOTIFICATION

(This applies to the 6th - 8th grade Zoo Keeper Camp ONLY)

- Monday begins at 8:30am
- Tuesday through Friday, begins at 7:30am





SPECIALTY CAMPS

GRADES 5K-5th

Art Safari

Let's go on an Art Safari! Campers will take a trip around the world and learn how animals and people use patterns and colors to help them in their daily life. Campers will then use what they learn to make their own masterpieces! They will also enjoy animal demonstrations, Zoo Keeper talks, splash pad fun, Zoo hikes, train and carousel rides and so much more!

GRADES 6th-8th

Zoo Keeper

It's time to roll up your sleeves and learn what life is like as a Zoo Keeper! Campers will take part in many hands-on activities alongside Zoo Keepers including animal husbandry, feeding, observations, training, enrichment and will learn the value of teamwork. Zoo Keepers start their day early so this camp begins at 7:30am sharp on Tuesday – Friday. Campers are sure to get their hands dirty in this one of a kind camp.

Note: Monday begins at 8:30am.

Behind-the-Scenes

This camp is for campers interested in a one-of-a-kind Zoo experience! Campers will explore many of the areas most Zoo guests never see. We will travel behind-the-scenes with a Zoo Keeper as they perform their daily tasks. We will learn how the animal nutrition center prepares meals for more than 900 animals a day as well as what it's like to work with animals during a wildlife show and much more. This camp promises to give an in depth look into what it's like behind-the-scenes at the Zoo!

GRADES 9th-12th

Animal Wellness

This camp will explore the many different methods Zoo Keepers and animal healthcare professionals use to take care of all the animals at a Zoo. Through demonstrations, behind-the-scenes tours and hands-on opportunities, students learn basic skills in providing medical care for a wide variety of animals. Throughout the week we will explore topics including minimizing stress in animals and learning to use basic tools for weighing and monitoring.

Conservation Connections

Using the Zoo as base camp we will explore conservation efforts in Alabama and at the Birmingham Zoo. Participants will learn about our male elephant herd, the delicate balance and relationship of gopher tortoises and indigo snakes, the affect climate change is having on polar bear populations in the Arctic, and much more. This camp will include observations, data collection and inquiry based investigations in order to answer questions that participants themselves determine.

This camp will increase awareness and knowledge of the world around them, as well as their place within it.

Note: June 26 - 30 ONLY



CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

PRIMARY CAMPS

GRADES 4K-5th

Pirates of the Zooribbean

Ahoy there! We are setting sail for mysterious islands filled with exotic animals, lost treasures and pirates. Get your map and hoist your jolly roger for this journey that will take us out to sea as we learn about wildlife and water conservation in faraway places through crafts, games, shanty's, scavenger hunts and so much more! Yer little lad will not want to miss out on this grrrreat adventure!

Nature Detectives

Campers will explore animals, habitats, and the wonders of the natural world as they trek through the Zoo on our journey. We will take an up close look at nature like never before through Zoo hikes, scavenger hunts, arts and crafts, behind the scenes journeys, animal demonstrations and much more! Campers will gain an appreciation and love for the natural world.

Freestylin'

Are you searching for something exciting for your child to do during the week of July 4th? We have the answer you've been searching for! For the first time ever, we are offering a summer camp where the kids are in control. Campers may choose from many options throughout the day as they decide what interests them the most. Options include Zoo hikes, games, train rides, carousel or slide, create crazy crafts, or relax and watch a movie voted on by them. This camp is sure to be a big hit for all!

Note: Only available July 5 - 7 for 4K-5th grades.

GRADES 3rd-5th

Jr. Zoo Keeper

Does your camper want to work at the Zoo? Campers have a chance to experience what it's like to be a Zoo Keeper! This will be an introduction to zoo keeping as campers learn about zoo animals, training, talk with Zoo Keepers, learn to work with animals and also get a chance to create enrichment for the animals. Campers will not want to miss this exciting adventure!

GRADES 6th-8th

Cat Week

Cat Week is a special camp developed by one of our very own Predator Zoo Keepers. For one week only you can join us as we learn how cats at the Zoo are cared for and trained as well as their amazing adaptations. This camp will fill up fast! Space is limited.

Note: July 31 - Aug. 4 ONLY

REGISTRATION

- Full Payment is due upon reservation.
- Walk-up registrations are NOT ALLOWED.
- Zoo Members may not register non-custodial children, except for grandparents with memberships which include their grandchildren. Birmingham Zoo membership must be valid at time of registration.
- No refunds or make-up days will be allowed for missed days of camp.

- Transfer and changes of a registration are based on availability and cannot be guaranteed. A transfer or change request form must be submitted at least two weeks prior to the original session start date. This form is available online at birminghamzoo.com.
- Please note that falsification of any information (example: camper's age or membership) will result in the camper's dismissal without a refund. A copy of the camper's birth certificate may be requested at any time.
- All sales are final.

PRICING

All activities, lunches and snacks are included in the registration fee.



PRIMARY CAMPS	
Pirates of the Zooribbean (4K-5th) • Nature Detectives (4K-5th) Jr. Zoo Keeper (3rd-5th) Cat Week (6th-8th) July 31-Aug. 4 ONLY	
MEMBER PRICING	NON-MEMBER PRICING
\$260	\$295
Prorated for Memorial Week: May 31st – June 3rd	
\$210	\$235
SPECIALTY CAMPS	
Art Safari (5K-5th) • Zoo Keeper (6th-8th) Behind the Scenes (6th-8th) • Animal Wellness (9th-12th) Conservation Connections (9th-12th)	
MEMBER PRICING	NON-MEMBER PRICING
\$290	\$325
Prorated for Memorial Week: May 31st – June 3rd	
\$230	\$260
FREESTYLIN'	
Kids, do camp your way! (4K-5th) 3 DAY WEEK: July 5th -7th ONLY	
MEMBER PRICING	NON-MEMBER PRICING
\$175	\$195
FLEX DAYS	
Sold in packs of 5 days to be used at your convenience.	
MEMBER PRICING	NON-MEMBER PRICING
\$320	\$355

Flex Day Packs

- Flex Days are sold in increments of 5 days. The minimum purchase is 5 days per child and the maximum is 10 days per child.
- Flex Days can only be used for 5K-5th grades.
- Flex Days are good for 2017 Summer Camp ONLY.
- Flex Days are available to use for Primary Camps ONLY.
- The Birmingham Zoo Camp office must be notified the business day before your child will attend camp between the hours of 8am -3pm. Weekend and Holiday notifications will not be considered.
- Flex Days are not transferable or refundable and we do not prorate the Flex Days.
- Each child must have their own Flex Day Pack. Sharing with friends or siblings is not allowed.
- A Flex Day Camper will receive one camp shirt for each 5 days purchased.
- **These regulations will be strictly enforced.**

Early Care (Additional Fee)

- \$20 per week
- \$16 for 4 day week (May 30 – June 2 ONLY)
- \$12 for 3 day week (July 5 - July 7 ONLY)
- 7:30am to 8:15am
- Payments **MUST** be made through our online registration system - **Please do not send electronics, cards, or other items to Early Care.**

Extended Care (Additional Fee)

- \$40 per week
- \$32 for 4 day week (May 30 – June 2 ONLY)
- \$24 for 3 day week (July 5 - July 7 ONLY)
- 3:30pm to 5:30pm
- Payments **MUST** be made through our online registration system - **Please do not send electronics, cards, or other items to Early Care.**
- Campers may bring an extra snack for Extended Care.
- For the safety of all campers, the ZooFari Summer Camp program discourages any nut products to be brought into camp.

SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

A limited number of scholarships may be available. Please email camps@birminghamzoo.com stating your interest in a scholarship. If funds become available, we will notify you as soon as possible about the application process.



LUNCH

All lunches, snacks and activities are included in the registration fee.



DAILY MENU

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hamburger Chips, Fruit & Drink	Chicken Nuggets Chips, Fruit & Drink	Chicken Quesadilla Chips, Fruit & Drink	Hamburger Chips, Fruit & Drink	Chicken Nuggets Chips, Fruit & Drink
Vegetarian Option: Veggie Wrap, Chips, Fruit and Drink				

Unfortunately, we are unable to meet the dietary restrictions for all campers. If your child has dietary restrictions or food allergies please send two snacks a lunch and drink daily.

- Should a camper bring anything with nuts or nut products they will be seated away from the campers with allergies during lunch.
- All packed lunches should be labeled with the camper's name clearly visible on the outside of the lunch box.
- Packed lunches cannot be refrigerated or heated. Please plan accordingly.

SNACKS

- We provide a morning and afternoon snack.
- We cannot meet the many dietary restrictions needed for all campers. If your child has dietary restrictions or food allergies please send two snacks and a lunch each day of camp.
- If you are participating in the Extended Care option, feel free to send an extra snack for that time.

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A ZOO CAMPER

AN EXAMPLE SCHEDULE

What does a camper do? A lot! Check out this example schedule to see how fun Zoo camps are! *(This is an example schedule and does not guarantee that a camper will experience everything on this schedule.)*



8:30am – 8:40am: Camper Check-In

8:45am – 9:15am: Morning Rally

9:15am – 9:30am: Classroom Time

9:30am – 11:45am:

- Lesson
- Live Animal Demonstrations
- Snack
- Keeper Talk
- Animal Shows
- Zoo Hike

11:45am – 12:30pm: Lunch/Biofacts

12:30pm – 1:30pm: Keeper Talk and Craft

1:30pm – 3:15pm:

- Carousel or Train Ride
- Play in the Splash Fountains
- Feed the Giraffe
- Zoo Hike
- Snack

3:00pm – 3:15pm: Afternoon Rally

3:15pm – 3:30pm: Pack-Up

3:30pm – 3:40pm: Check-Out

CAMP DETAILS

CHECK-IN PROCEDURES

- Drop-off for Before Care is from 7:30am - 8:15am.
- Regular check-in is from 8:30am - 8:40am in the Zoo parking lot.
- On the first day of camp, parents will check-in at the check-in tent located in the Zoo parking lot.
- Please allow 5-10 minutes for check-in on the first day of camp.
- On the following days of camp, parents will walk their child to their teacher located in the Zoo parking lot.
- Please do not drop off a child without properly checking-in with camp staff.
- If you arrive after 9am please go to the membership office for check-in.
- There is no refund for camp days missed.

CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES

- Check-out is from 3:30pm - 3:40pm in the Zoo parking lot.
- After Care check-out is from 3:45pm - 5:30pm.
- Photo ID is REQUIRED to check-out a camper and the person checking out the camper must be on the authorized list of people who may check-out your child. NO EXCEPTIONS!

EARLY CHECK-OUT PROCEDURES

- For early check-out, please notify the camp teacher during check-in.
- When you arrive please go to the Membership Office and notify a Zoo employee you are here to check-out a camper.
- Please allow 10-15 minutes for early check-out due to the potential location of campers during this time.
- Please make arrangements for early pick-up before 2:50pm. After this time there is no guarantee on a timeline to retrieve your child.

- Photo ID is **REQUIRED** to check-out a camper and the person checking out the camper must be on the authorized list of people who may check-out your child. **NO EXCEPTION.**
- Parents are asked not to linger or approach campers once a camper has been dropped off.

GROUPING

In order to ensure that all campers receive age-appropriate opportunities, campers are placed into groups each week based upon grade levels. Only children with special needs will be considered for grade level changes and the request must be approved by the camp staff.

Please note that falsification of any information (example: camper age or membership) will result in the camper's dismissal without a refund. A copy of the camper's birth certificate may be requested at any time.

CAMPER BUDDY

- To ensure that camp ratios are met and everyone has a memorable, fun, and safe camp experience, we cannot guarantee that campers will be placed in a particular group or with a camper buddy.
- Only one buddy per camper will be considered.
- There will be occasions throughout the day when siblings and friends from different age groups will be participating in activities together, such as animal demonstrations, playground time and shows.
- Camp staff reserves the right to separate campers at any time.
- We cannot adjust camper groups after each camp session begins.

CAMP ATTIRE

- On the first day of camp, teachers will give each camper 2 camp shirts.
- All campers will be asked to go into the restroom and change into their camp shirt.
- Teachers will send home your child's extra camp shirt along with the shirt they wore to camp.
- For the safety of all campers we ask each camper wear a camp T-shirt each day of Summer Camp.
- Extra shirts may be purchased online for \$10 each.
- Comfortable tennis shoes, hats, visors, sunglasses and sunscreen are also recommended. (Camp staff cannot apply sunscreen or bug spray.)
- The Birmingham Zoo is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

RESTROOMS & CHANGING

- All campers must be completely toilet trained before they may attend camp. This means that campers must be able to use the restroom on their own, requiring no assistance and free from "accidents."
- Should a camper have an "accident," the parents will be notified and a change of clothes will need to be brought to the camper.
- If a camper has a second "accident," the parents will be asked to pick up their child immediately and camper will be dismissed from camp without a refund.
- Campers must also be able to change into their camp shirt on Monday and swimwear on Wednesday (water day) without assistance.

WHAT TO BRING

- Water bottle, preferably with a strap. Campers may refill their bottles throughout the day using the ice coolers provided.
- Please label jackets, lunch boxes, etc. with camper's name.
- Swim clothes and a towel on Wednesday.
- The Birmingham Zoo is not responsible for any lost or stolen items.



WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Money, jewelry, electronics, card games, collectibles, fireworks, lighters, weapons, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, or other inappropriate or valuable items.
- These items will be confiscated and given to the parents at the end of the day.
- The ZooFari Summer Camp program discourages any nut products to be brought into camp.
- The Birmingham Zoo is not responsible for lost or stolen items.

SUPERVISION & SAFETY

- All Zoo staff are screened before they are hired. In addition, trained teen and adult volunteers will assist teachers with camp.
- Class sizes average 12 students per teacher.

COMMUNICATION

- Please make sure we have your correct email address so you are well prepared for the first day of camp.
- We ask that all parents and guardians sign-up for **Remind**.
 - This is a free service that allows us to reach all parents and guardians at once.
- The Friday before your camper is scheduled to come to camp you will receive an email with a code.
 - You may text the code to the number given or follow the email instructions to opt-in for notifications.
 - If your camper is registered for numerous weeks you will receive a new code each week and will need to follow the same instructions to opt-in.
- After the week of camp is over you will not be reached by us again.

WEATHER

Camp will be held rain or shine, unless weather forces the Zoo to close for the day. In the event the Zoo is closed due to inclement weather, you will be notified immediately.



HEALTH & CODE OF CONDUCT

BEHAVIOR

- ZooFari Summer Camp expects all campers to behave in a respectful and courteous manner.
- The Birmingham Zoo reserves the right to remove a camper from camp at any time.
- Corrective measures such as removing the child from the group or consulting a parent or guardian may be used for minor behavior problems.
- Should a camper's behavior become a major distraction or is dangerous to others, the camper will be removed from camp and a parent or guardian will be notified immediately to discuss a solution.
- Extreme behavior will result in suspension from camp, and no refund will be given.

MEDICAL POLICY & PROCEDURES

- No child should be brought to camp that is visibly ill, or who has not been free from a contagious illness, rash or fever for at least 24 hours and no refund will be given. This includes campers who were sent home ill.
- Parents or guardians will be notified immediately if a child becomes ill.
- Any ill child waiting to be picked up will remain in the Education office until they are picked up by an authorized adult with a photo ID.
- Parents or guardians picking up an ill child will go to the Membership Office and someone from the camp staff will bring your child to meet you.
- First Aid will be administered to campers with minor scrapes, cuts, bumps and insect bites by our First Aid staff.
- A parent or guardian must complete the medical section of the online registration and e-sign the waiver given.

SELF-ADMINISTRATION POLICY

Campers may self-administer medication, both prescription and over the counter medications under the supervision of a Zoo staff member; however, the following procedures must be followed:

- All medications must be signed-in and out at the designated medical location during regular check-in and out times.
- Parents and Guardians must pick-up all medications daily.
- No medication should be given to a Camp Teacher or Volunteer.
- All medications must be a single dosage and clearly marked in a Ziploc bag with the child's name, dosage, time to administer the medication and the bottle must be in the original container with the label clearly visible.
- Medication must be in pill form. If the medication requires measuring, a parent or legal guardian should make arrangements with the camp staff to come to the Zoo and administer the medication daily.
- A parent or guardian has completed the medical section of the online registration and e-signed the waiver given.

EMERGENCY MEDICATION POLICY

Emergency medications such as Epi-Pens, inhalers etc. may be administered by a Zoo staff member; however, the following procedures must be followed:

- All medications must be signed-in and out at the designated medical location during regular check-in and out times.
- Parents and Guardians must pick-up all medications daily.
- No medication should be given to a Camp Teacher or Volunteer.
- All medications must be a single dosage and clearly marked in a Ziploc bag with the child's name, dosage, time to administer the medication and the bottle must be in the original container with the label clearly visible.
- A parent or guardian has completed the medical section of the online registration and e-signed the waiver given.

EXTRA ACTIVITIES

ZIPLINE

Campers in grades 3rd – 12th will have to opportunity to zipline as long as they meet the following requirements implemented by Red Mountain Park:

- The camper weighs at least 45 pounds and is 42 inches tall.
- A parent or guardian has completed and returned the zipline release form.
 - This form is available for you to print during online registration.
 - Zipline days and times will vary, therefore please turn in the completed release form to your teacher on the first day of camp.

WATER DAY

Campers in grades 4K-5th will have the opportunity to play in the Splash Pad on Wednesdays.

- If possible please send your camper in swimwear.
- If a camper needs to change into swimwear, they must also be able to do so without assistance.
- Please send a towel.
- Zoo staff cannot apply sunscreen.



