

EDUCATOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

GROUP VISIT INFORMATION

CLASSROOM RESOURCES

VIRTUAL PROGRAMS

OUTREACH & MORE!

A large tortoise is the central focus of the image, resting on a patch of green grass. The tortoise's head is in the foreground, looking towards the viewer. Its shell is dark and textured, with some mud or dirt on it. The background is a soft-focus green field.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS GUIDE

BIRMINGHAM ZOO 2022-2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 1 Plan Your Trip
- 2 Accessibility
- 3 On-Site Programs
- 7 Classroom Resources
- 8 Home School Classes
- 9 Workshops & Events
- 10 Virtual Programming
- 14 Off-Site Programming
- 16 Field Trip FAQ's
- 18 New at the Zoo



INSPIRING PASSION
TO CONSERVE THE
NATURAL WORLD

DID YOU KNOW? THE BIRMINGHAM ZOO...

-  Was founded in 1955 and encompasses 122 acres.
-  Is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) and is the only AZA-accredited zoo in Alabama
-  Cares for 700+ animals of over 200 species.

TESTIMONIALS

"The Biofact Kit Program and the scholarship opportunity for presentations are valuable resources for schools whose children would otherwise be unable to see these types of artifacts and materials. It took some encouragement, but the [students] finally touched [the artifacts] and were amazed."

– **Mt. Hope Elementary, Biofact Rental Program 2022**

"This is our third trip to the zoo using the educational department programs available to us. The Zoo Engineering class has become our favorite and the one we will continue to use in the future. [...] Each of our educational leaders did an amazing job [...] of interacting with the kids and keeping their attention throughout the lab. Yes, the class was engaging for all students and kept our students with ADD, ADHD, and autism engaged without being too overstimulating for them. Overall, we had an amazing experience and enjoyed our trip while we were there."

– **Corner Middle School, In-person Zoo Lab 2022**

"My students loved their virtual field trip! [The Educator] kept them engaged and entertained the entire time! She explained things well and kept them on task. They learned so much! I was amazed at how much they learned! They also loved meeting [the animal]! Everything was organized and right on target for my third graders! The program met all my expectations! I look forward to going on another trip soon. Thank you all so much." "I've never been to a zoo. This was the best fun ever." - **Andalusia Elementary School, Super Senses Digital Discovery Program 2021**

PLAN YOUR GROUP VISIT!

WWW.BIRMINGHAMZOO.COM | 205.870.5230

GROUP RESERVATIONS

Reservations can be made by visiting the Zoo's website and completing the Group Reservation Request Form under the "Visitor Info" tab or by calling 205.870.5230.

Save time when you arrive for your visit by pre-paying and picking up your wristbands prior to your visit (or we will mail them to you!)

ADMISSION

CATEGORY	PRICE
Student/Child Admission	\$10.95 per student (\$6 for Title I schools)
Chaperone/Adult Guest Admission*	\$14.95 parent chaperone
Teachers	1 free teacher per 10 paid students (up to 10 free teachers), add'l teachers \$14.95
Bus Drivers/School Nurses	Free when included in group reservation

*Chaperones receive discounted rate **only** if included with the school's payment

Ride tickets, ride wristbands, and animal feeding experiences may also be available for pre-purchase for your group. Check the Group Reservation Request Form for availability and pricing.

ON-SITE EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Education program prices are in addition to admission

CATEGORY	PRICE
Discovery Programs	\$250 per group (up to 50 per group)
Field Experiences	\$175 per group (up to 25 per group)
Zoo Labs	\$200 per group (up to 25 per group)

Get full details for on-site education program options and pricing on pages 3-6.

THE ZOO IS OPEN RAIN OR SHINE!
REGULAR OPERATING HOURS: WED-SUN 9AM-4PM (5PM DURING DST)



ACCESSIBILITY

The Birmingham Zoo has been a national leader in making zoos accessible to individuals with disabilities and exceptional needs. From the Sensory Inclusive Initiative to the Visually Inclusive Program (VIP), the Zoo has resources to help make every student's visit a success!

To prepare for your visit, please see the accessibility page of our website where you will find more information about Sensory Bags, review our Social Story, reserve our VIP Bag for students who are blind or have low vision and more.



Use the camera on your cell phone or tablet to scan the QR code or visit <https://www.birminghamzoo.com/visitor-info/accessibility/>

ON-SITE PROGRAMS

The Zoo offers three different types of on-site programs to best meet the needs of your visiting group. Choose from:

DISCOVERY PROGRAMS

Auditorium-style programs, may include ambassador animal presentations

30 - 45 Min | Max group size: 50

One group - \$250 Two groups - \$450 Three groups - \$650

FIELD EXPERIENCES

Guided tour-style programs, may include habitat chats, biofacts, and student challenges

45 - 60 Min | Max group size: 25

One group - \$175 Two groups - \$300 Three groups - \$450 Four groups - \$575

ZOO LABS

Tour and classroom combination, may include habitat chats, biofacts, and career-focused challenges

90 - 120 Min | Max group size: 25

One group - \$200 Two groups - \$350 Three groups - \$475





ON-SITE PROGRAMS

NEW! DISCOVERY PROGRAMS

REPTILIAN REPUTATIONS TO FASCINATION

Snakes, dinosaurs, and cool monsters-galore! We will dispel common myths and stereotypes, talk about the adaptations crucial to reptiles over the ages, and turn fear to fascination.

Recommended for K - 2nd grade

SCIENCE K.3/1.7

SECRETS OF THE ZOO

Have you heard of a super needy bird, what a cockroach can teach people, or how a snake smells with its mouth? Come explore the hidden skills, features, and processes of animals up-close! You won't believe all the secrets our animals are hiding, and how much we can learn about ourselves, thanks to them.

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 4.9/4.10/4.11

CHOMP, CHOMP, OH MY!

Alligator or tiny snail— You'd be surprised who has the more vicious way to eat! Come on a journey where you will learn and see just who tops the food chain, who has the wildest way to eat, and what animals play important roles in the ecosystem, just by chowing down!

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 5.11

CHANGING WORLD, CHANGING SPECIES

Our world is always changing, and all living things must adapt to survive. Recently, human impacts have begun influencing physical and/or behavioral changes in certain animal populations. Students will explore species that may or may not be adapting quickly enough to the changes in our modern world and what they can do to help.

Recommended for 6th-12th grade

SCIENCE 6.15/ 7.7/ 7.8/ 7.9/ 7.18 & HS Biology 14

ON-SITE PROGRAMS

NEW! FIELD EXPERIENCES

REPTILES TOUR

What makes something living or nonliving? How do reptiles differ in how they use water, eat, have young, respond to their environment, and grow? How do some reptiles play incredibly important roles for their animal neighbors, like providing shelter, water, or dispersing seeds? Learn the answer to all these questions and more on this guided tour of our favorite reptile habitats at the Zoo!

Recommended for K-2nd grade

SCIENCE K.3/2.6/3.5

PRIMATES/SOUTH AMERICA TOUR

Ever wonder what makes a great survivor of the rainforest? Join our Zoo Educators as they take you through the primates and South America building to visit some of our favorite animals who have some awesome adaptations that help them thrive in the jungle above all other places in the world!

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 3.8/3.10/3.11/4.9

TRAILS OF AFRICA TOUR

How are people impacting resources, ecosystems, and populations and how do animals respond to change or competition? Come along as we explore and learn from elephants, giraffe, giant tortoises, lions, and more in this tour of the Trails of Africa.

Recommended for 6th-8th grade

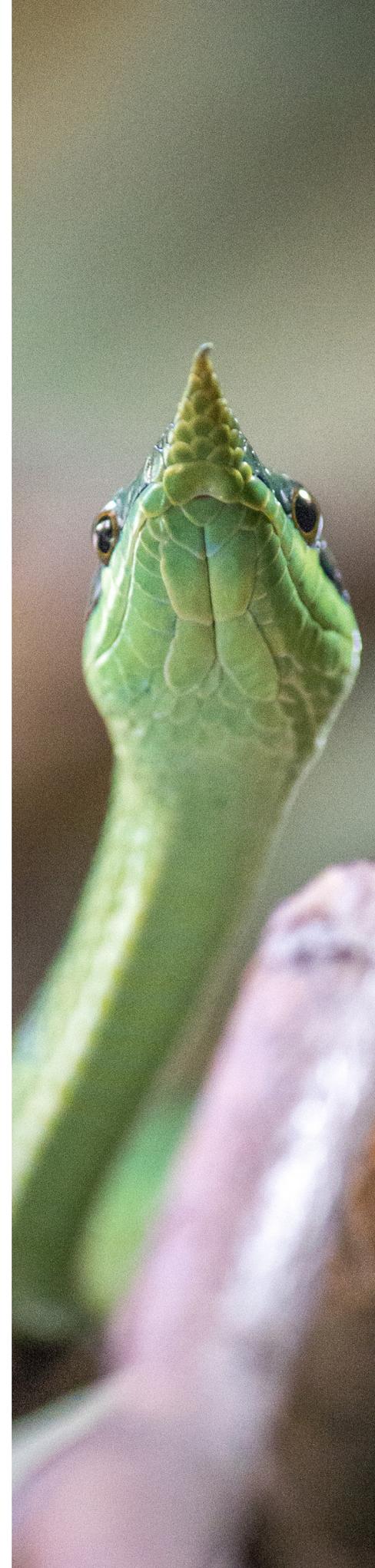
SCIENCE 7.6/7.7

ALABAMA WILDS AND BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

Ecosystems are incredibly dynamic, and those found in Alabama are one of a kind! Explore the Alabama Wilds, go ponding with an expert, and pop in to visit the Zoo's hidden pollinator haven as you learn first-hand how diverse ecosystems equate to healthy and beneficial ecosystems right in our own backyard.

Recommended for 9th-12th grade

HS ENVIROMENTAL SCIENCE 17A/11 & HS BIOLOGY 8





ON-SITE PROGRAMS

ZOO LABS

ZOO ENGINEERS

Discover what it takes to engineer a modern zoo! Students will apply important spatial and social and emotional skills along with what they know animals need to real world situations using the Birmingham Zoo as a context. Students are given a small, guided tour and set of guidelines and then challenged to design a habitat for an animal here at the Birmingham Zoo. They will become engineers and problem solvers just like real zoo professionals.

Recommended for K - 5th grade
SCIENCE K.3/3.5/3.8/3.10/3.11/4.9

ZOOKEEPER IN TRAINING

This class will focus on three areas of the zookeeper profession including research, training and enrichment. Students will gain an understanding of the hard work that goes on behind-the-scenes at the Zoo and will leave with a new perspective on the role zoos play in the conservation of species across the planet.

Recommended for 6th-8th grade

NEW! DEEP DIVE INTO EXPERIMENTATION

Join Zoo professionals in exploring real-world data to solve problems and better conserve species and places. Hear from the experts about their own research at the Zoo and across the globe, develop an experimental design of your own, and hear about career and intern opportunities at the Zoo.

Recommended for 9th-12th grade
HS ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 6/8/15/17a

CLASSROOM RESOURCES

RESOURCE CHECK-OUT

Up to 7 items may be checked out for up to 2 weeks for free. To see our available collection please visit the "Classroom & Field Trip Resources section" of our website or use the QR code below.

- **Biofacts** - The Birmingham Zoo has a variety of biofacts (animal artifacts) available for check out. These include bones, pelts, skulls, feathers and more. Find a perfect complement to your Science lesson. Included with checkout are guided talking points and accessory activity guides and lesson materials.
- **Moultrie Trail Cameras** - Find out what wildlife is visiting your school after hours by using our Moultrie Trail Camera. Camera check-out comes with instruction guide and lesson plan.

Trail cameras provided by: 

INQUIRY GUIDES

Use our Inquiry Guides to maximize the learning during your field trip! These guides will provide structure to your visit, provide background information to chaperones and enhance student learning at various habitats throughout the Zoo. Extension activities included. To download these, please visit the "Classroom & Field Trip Resources" section of our website or use the QR code below.

CLASSROOM EXTENSIONS

Use these to prepare your class before your visit or for follow up once you've returned to the classroom. To download these, please visit the "Classroom & Field Trip Resources" section of our website or use the QR code below.



Use the camera on your cell phone or tablet to scan the QR code or visit <https://www.birminghamzoo.com/education/teachers-resources/classroom-field-trip-resources/>





HOME SCHOOL CLASSES

NEW! CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

These guided tour and interactive classroom-style programs are offered monthly for 1st-5th grade and quarterly for middle school and high school students. The 120 minute sessions feature classroom instruction, application of standards-based curricula, guided tours, habitat chats, biofact shares, animal meet and greets, and occasional behind the scenes experiences.

These programs are only available at the Zoo, in person, for pre-registered participants. Social distancing and masking may be required during programming. Registration opens annually in July. Max Capacity 16. Minimum 10.

All Homeschool programs must be confirmed and paid for prior to the start of classes in September. Any cancellations due to weather or other circumstances will be announced by Zoo email by 3:00pm the day prior and rescheduled. No program payments shall be refunded once programs begin in September (except for limited extenuating circumstances).

Full information, including schedule, class topics, and pricing:



Use the camera on your cell phone or tablet to scan the QR code or visit <https://www.birminghamzoo.com/education/schools-groups/homeschool-classes/>

WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

ZOOTEACH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES FOR TEACHERS & INFORMAL EDUCATORS

Please check our <https://www.birminghamzoo.com/education/teachers-resources/zoteach/> for dates and more details or contact the Education department at education@birminghamzoo.com.

Fall 2022 | 9AM-12PM | Project Learning Tree

Fall 2022 | 9AM-3PM | TIES: Evolution for Educators

Spring 2023 | 9AM-12PM | Extending Citizen Science Month in the Classroom

Spring 2023 | 10AM-4PM | Alabama Water Watch Certifications

TEACHER'S NIGHT AT THE ZOO

Fall 2022

Enjoy a night out at the Zoo designed just for educators! This one of a kind evening will feature animal experiences, examples of new and improved program opportunities, keeper chats, door prizes and more! CEU credit available. Food and drinks provided. For more information please contact education@birminghamzoo.com or call 205.397.3864.

NEW! COLLEGE AND CAREER COLLAB. DAY AT THE ZOO

Spring 2023 | 10:00AM-2:00PM

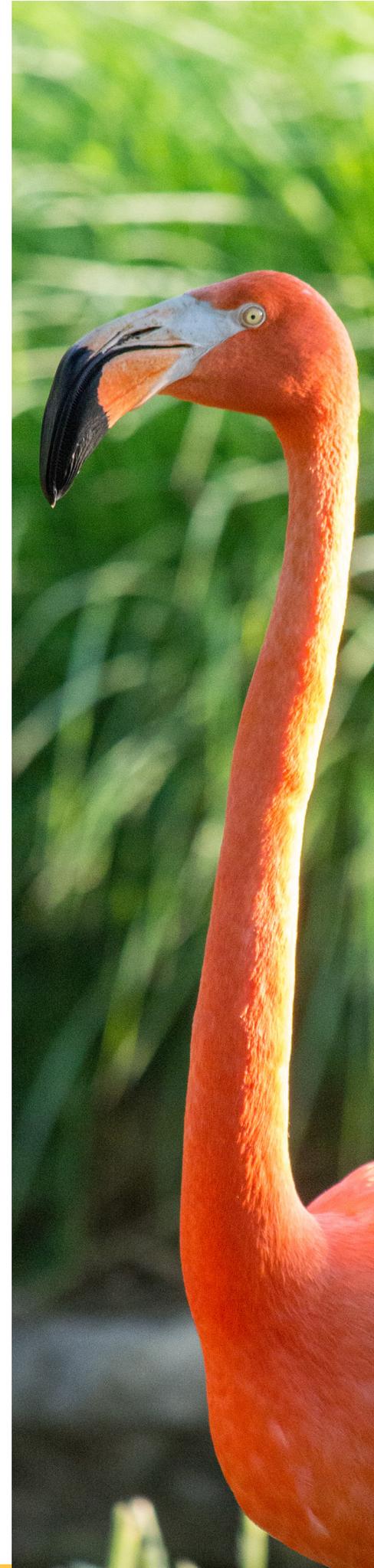
Do you have what it takes to work at the Zoo or in a STEM career? Join us and find out at this unique event to meet a variety of Zoo and STEM professionals and test out some skills. What does it take to ensure the Zoo is ready to open, the animals are well cared for, and our guests are safe to have a great experience? How can you plan for future success through classes, internships, and specialized degrees? All of this and more will be answered throughout the day at designated stations featuring Zoo staff and community partners and universities.

Recommended for middle and high school students

ANNUAL ZOO BIOBLITZ

Spring 2023 | 9:00AM-4:00PM

Join local scientists and experts for a day of real-world scientific exploration in the woods, streams, and skies. Learn about the vital conservation work happening across the state and right at your Birmingham Zoo, and how you can get involved.





VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

Can't make it to the zoo? We'll come to your classroom virtually! All virtual classes are held via Zoom and include pre/post materials and a Zoom FAQ to help you set up!

The Zoo offers two different types of virtual programs to best meet the needs of your class. Choose from:

Digital Discovery Programs

Studio-based programs led live by a Zoo educator, may include ambassador animal presentations

30 - 60 Min | Max group size: 150+

- Up to 25 students - \$125
- 26-150 students - \$250
- 150+ students - \$400

Digital Field Trips

Guided tour-style programs of a Zoo exhibit, may include habitat chats, biofacts, and student challenges

45 - 60 Min | Max group size: 150+

- Up to 25 students - \$125
- 26-150 students - \$250
- 150+ students - \$400

Any requested customization to programs will incur an additional \$100 charge. Digital Programs must be confirmed and paid a minimum of 2-weeks in advance of program dates.

Scholarships are available for Title I schools for digital programs!
Use the camera on your cell phone or tablet to scan the QR codes
or visit <https://bit.ly/DiscoveryScholarship> or
<https://bit.ly/DigitalFieldScholarship>



Digital Discovery
Scholarship Form



Digital Field Trip
Scholarship Form

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

DIGITAL DISCOVERY PROGRAMS

ZOO CAREERS | 30 min

During this program, your students will learn about the diverse careers it takes to run a zoo from animal care staff to special event coordinators! They will have an opportunity to meet a zookeeper and one of our ambassador animals, hear their story, and ask any questions they may have. Students will also receive a digital file containing the career biographies of 15 staff members from across the zoo.

Recommended for any age

IT'S ALIVE | 30 min

Students will learn what makes something a living thing including needing food, water, and shelter in order to survive. Students will then work together or independently to classify living and non-living things. Students will meet one of our ambassador animals.

Recommended for K-2nd grade

SCIENCE K.3

CREATURE COPYCAT | 30 min

Students will learn about some of the amazing tools that plants and animals use to survive, as well as some real-world inventions that have been created with nature inspiration. Students will then have a chance to design their own creation taking clues from nature! Students will meet one of our ambassador animals.

Recommended for K-2nd grade

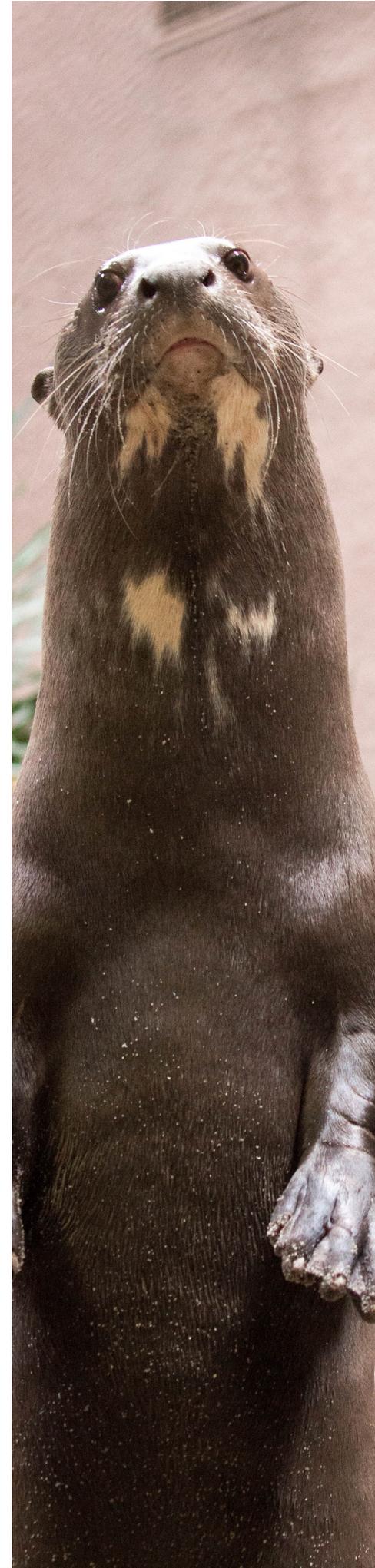
SCIENCE 1.5

SURVIVAL SWAP | 30-45 min

Ever wonder what makes a great survivor of the arctic or a forest? Students will explore what makes a bird a bird in each of these places, and test out how adaptations would hold up in a new environment! Students will meet one of our ambassador animals.

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 3.8/3.10/3.11/4.9





VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

SUPER SENSES | 45 min

Have you ever wondered if you can see as well as an owl or hear like an elephant? After learning about the five senses all living things use to process the world around them, students will investigate a variety of animal senses. Learn which Zoo residents have super senses and compare their abilities to their own. Students will meet one of our ambassador animals.

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 4.11

CASE FOR CONSERVATION | 45 min

Students will learn about conservation and its growing role in our world. Students will learn about human impacts and how stereotypes and misinformation impacts animal care and protection through case stories in conservation, including current challenges and success stories. We will also discuss what young people today can do to care for the world around them and introduce your students to one of our ambassador animals who definitely busts some myths!

Recommended for 6th-8th grade

SCIENCE 6.15

ROLE OF GENETICS IN A MODERN ZOO | 45 min

Tired of using Mendel's peas to talk about genetics? Let our trained educators explain how zoos and aquariums use genetics to maintain healthy populations in human care. Students will then be presented with an activity: if they were in charge of making the next breeding recommendation for a species with a dominant disease allele, which two animals would they recommend if they could view their genotypes? Students will have access to exclusive behind the scenes footage and keeper chats on this issue.

Recommended for 6th-8th grade

SCIENCE 7.12/7.18

CHANGING WORLD, CHANGING SPECIES | 45-60 min

Our world is always changing, and all living things must adapt to survive. Recently, human impacts have begun influencing physical and/ or behavioral changes in certain animal populations. Students will discuss species that are quickly adapting to the changes in our modern world, species that may not be adapting quickly enough, and what they can do to help.

Recommended for 9th-12th grade

BIOLOGY 14/ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 4/6

VIRTUAL PROGRAMMING

DIGITAL FIELD TRIPS

REPTILES TOUR

What makes something living or nonliving? How do reptiles differ in how they use water, eat, have young, respond to their environment, and grow? How do some reptiles play incredibly important roles for their animal neighbors, like providing shelter, water, or dispersing seeds? Learn the answer to all these questions and more on this guided tour of our favorite reptile habitats at the Zoo!

Recommended for K-2nd grade.

Science K.3/ 2.6/ 3.5

PRIMATES/SOUTH AMERICA TOUR

Ever wonder what makes a great survivor of the rainforest? Join our Zoo Educators as they take you through the primates and South America building to visit some of our favorite animals who have some awesome adaptations that help them thrive in the jungle above all other places in the world!

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade.

Science 3.8/ 3.10/ 3.11/ 4.9

TRAILS OF AFRICA TOUR

How are people impacting resources, ecosystems, and populations and how do animals respond to change or competition? Come along as we explore and learn from elephants, giraffe, giant tortoises, lions, and more in this tour of the Trails of Africa.

Recommended for 6th-8th grade.

Science 7.6/ 7.7

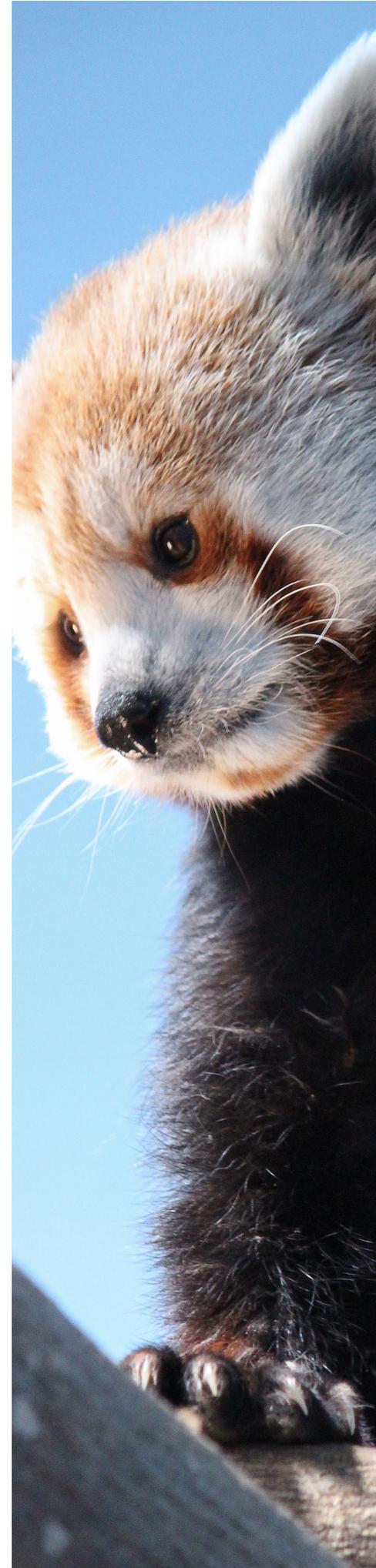
ALABAMA WILDS AND BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR

Ecosystems are incredibly dynamic, and those found in Alabama are one of a kind! Explore the Alabama Wilds, go ponding with an expert, and pop in to visit the Zoo's hidden pollinator haven as you learn first-hand how diverse ecosystems equate to healthy and beneficial ecosystems right in our own backyard.

Recommended for 9th-12th grade.

HS Environmental Science 17a/ 11

HS. Biology 8





OFF-SITE PROGRAMS

The Zoo to You programs aim to inspire passion to conserve the natural world through up-close encounters with the Birmingham Zoo's ambassador animals. All Zoo to You programs are conducted in-person at your location by our professional staff and include live animals. Programs may be booked up to 50 miles from the Zoo, with a 3 hour round-trip time limit.

30 - 45 Min | Max group size: 25*

*Up to four programs may be booked back-to-back per visit as time allows

One program - \$200

Two programs - \$325

Three programs - \$425

Four programs - \$525

Any requested customization to programs will incur an additional \$100 charge. Off-site programs must be confirmed a minimum of 2-weeks in advance of program dates. Payment may be provided in advance or via check upon arrival at your location.

The Birmingham Zoo's Education Department will waive payment and attend up to three Career Fairs for Title 1 Birmingham City Schools each calendar year. These requests are first come, first serve and based on availability of the Zoo's Education staff. Requests must be made at least 4 weeks in advance. We cannot accommodate requests between March 15 and May 31.

OFF-SITE PROGRAMS

ZOO TO YOU

REPTILIAN REPUTATIONS TO FASCINATION

Snakes, dinosaurs, and cool monsters-galore! We will dispel common myths and stereotypes, talk about the adaptations crucial to reptiles over the ages, and turn fear to fascination.

Recommended for K-2nd grade

SCIENCE K.3/ 1.7

SECRETS OF THE ZOO

Ever heard of a super needy bird, what a cockroach could teach people, or how a snake smells with its mouth? Come and explore the hidden skills, features, and internal processes of animals up-close! You will never believe all the secrets our animals are hiding, and how much we can learn about ourselves, thanks to them!

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 4.9/4.10/4.11

CHOMP, CHOMP, OH MY!

Alligator or tiny snail— You'd be surprised who has the more vicious way to eat! Come on a journey where you will learn and see just who tops the food chain, who has the wildest way to eat, and what animals play important roles in the ecosystem, just by chowing down!

Recommended for 3rd-5th grade

SCIENCE 5.11

CHANGING WORLD, CHANGING SPECIES

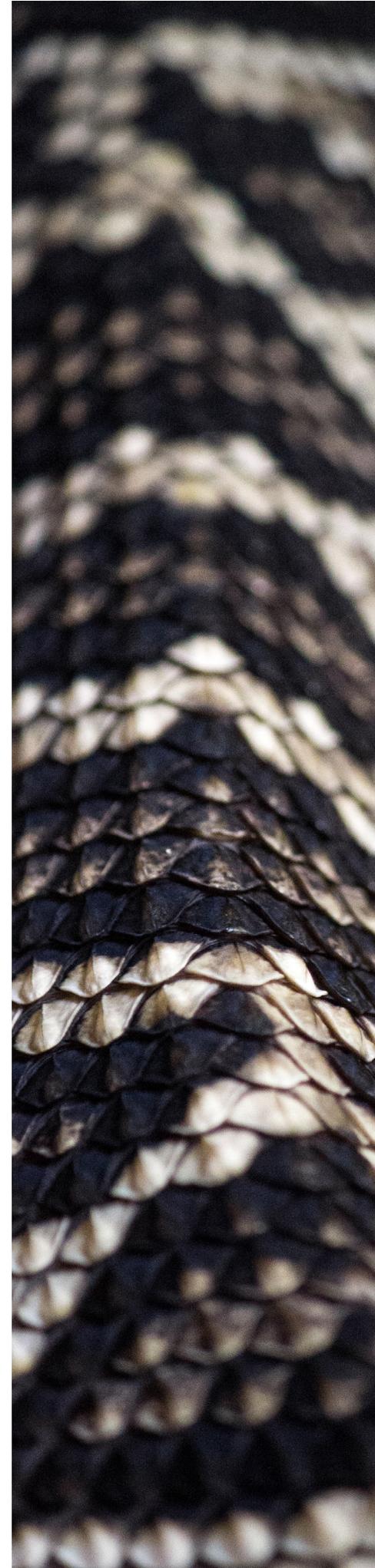
Our world is always changing, and all living things must adapt to survive. Recently, human impacts have begun influencing physical and/or behavioral changes in certain animal populations. Students will explore species that may or may not be adapting quickly enough to the changes in our modern world and what they can do to help.

Recommended for 6th-12th grade

SCIENCE 6.15/7.7/7.8/7.9/7.18

HS ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE 4/6

HS BIOLOGY 14



FIELD TRIP FAQ'S

SCHEDULING

How far in advance should I make my reservations? Education programs, activities and Zoo lunches are limited, so please book your trip at least 14 days in advance. Farther in advance is recommended for visits in April and May. Reservations are made by filling out the Group Reservation Request Form in the Visitor Info section of the Zoo's website.

What is the minimum number of people to be considered a group? You need at least 15 people to be considered a group. We do make exceptions for special needs groups.

What do we do if it rains on the day of our visit? The Zoo is open rain or shine. In the event that there is inclement weather on the morning of your visit, or if inclement weather is forecasted, we are more than happy to reschedule your group for a later date.

How long should we plan to stay? To walk and visit most habitats takes approximately 2 hours. Please note this does not include lunch, activities or educational programs.

Are there classes available to supplement our field trip? Refer to the "On-site Programs" section of this guide for a list of education programs.

PLANNING FOR LUNCH

Option 1 - Pre-order lunch through our restaurant. Group meals provide a selection of pre-made lunches that can be pre-ordered and picked up at a designated time. Submission must be made no later than 7 days before your trip. Final lunch numbers are due 72 hours before your trip, due to a limited availability of group lunch times. Lunch instructions will be provided in confirmation e-mail. *Pre-ordered lunches are recommended for elementary aged children only.*

Option 2 - Bring your lunch and eat inside the Zoo. Groups are welcome to bring pre-packed lunches to the zoo. Groups may gather on Henley Park lawn and eat picnic style on the grass. Any seating at tables is strictly first come, first served. Groups may not eat packed lunches at restaurant seating inside or outside of Nourish 205 or Wild Burger restaurants as these are reserved for those purchasing lunch from the restaurants. Groups may bring their coolers into the zoo upon entry in the morning. Birmingham Zoo does not have a designated area for cooler storage, but coolers may be stored in a location of the group's choosing that is out of pathways, not obstructive to foot traffic, and in an area accessible to the public. Birmingham Zoo staff may not store nor be responsible for group lunches.

Option 3 - Bring your lunch and eat outside the Zoo. The Birmingham Zoo has one picnic area available on a first come, first served basis. If your group would prefer to bring your lunch, you may leave your coolers on the bus or in vehicles until your group gathers to eat. Our covered pavilion and playground are located on the far end of the parking lot near the exit. Groups are permitted to exit the zoo to eat lunch and re-enter the Zoo to finish their trip exited.

Option 4 – Purchase lunch from Zoo restaurants. Groups may choose to purchase lunch from Nourish 205 or Wild Burger restaurant on the day of their visit. As these lunches are not preordered, they will not be discounted. Groups must wait in line, order from the menu, and pay regular price. Menus are available to view on the Zoo’s website under the Visitor Info section.

DAY OF EXPECTATIONS

What do we do when we arrive?*

If the trip has been pre-paid and everyone already has their wristbands on, buses may drive to the main Zoo entrance to drop off students and they may proceed inside. Afterward, buses must leave the main parking lot and turn left to park in the gravel lot.

If the trip has not been pre-paid or if the group does not yet have their wristbands, buses may drop off the group in the grassy field near the pavilion. The lead teacher in charge of payment must go alone to membership office or a membership booth to make a payment and/or receive wristbands. Students must remain in the grassy area until they have been wristbanded and are ready to enter the Zoo.

***Please note, drop-off procedures may change seasonally. Please review your confirmation email for the most up to date instructions for check-in and drop-off. Any questions, concerns, or service needs for Groups may be addressed at the membership office or membership booth.**

Where do I pick up my pre-ordered lunches? If you pre-ordered lunch, it may be picked up Wild Burger restaurant across from the elephant habitat at your scheduled time. As a public facility with an unpredictable number of visitors, we are not able to take reservations for tables. Tables are first come, first served.

Some of my parent chaperones have memberships. Where do they enter? Parents with memberships may bypass the ticket booth line and enter directly at the entry gate.

A parent decided to accompany our class at the last minute. Will they get the group rate? Unfortunately, no. If the parents are not included in the school’s payment, they will not be able to take advantage of the group rate. Those parents will need to go to the main Zoo entrance to purchase a regular price admission ticket and enter there. These parents may also choose to purchase tickets online, but will still have to enter through the main front entrance.

If I bought too many wristbands or a child/parent couldn’t make it can I get a refund? Please visit the Groups tab on the Birmingham Zoo’s website for the refund policy.

A parent arrives after our group has already entered the Zoo. Can the Zoo staff assist them in finding us? Unfortunately, no. We are unable to track your group once you have entered the Zoo. Please make certain that parents and chaperones have a means of contacting you in case they need to find your location inside the Zoo on the day of your trip.

WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO?

JANE H. BROCK RESEARCH CABIN

The Jane H. Brock Research Cabin is back open and newly designed with one-of-a-kind interactive exhibits for iconic and vitally important species- the gopher tortoise and the Eastern indigo snake. You can spot this new location on our guided Field Experience or Virtual REPTILES TOUR. Gopher tortoises are a keystone species within Alabama, and specifically, the longleaf pine forests of the southern part of the state. Their burrows provide refuge for around 350 different species! The Eastern indigo snake is the largest native snake in North America. Recent re-introduction programs have brought this species back from the brink of extinction. Be sure to stop by on your next visit to Alabama Wilds!

NEW ANIMAL - BLACK RHINO

The Birmingham Zoo has added a new species to our animal family - black rhino! In spring 2021, the Zoo's southern white rhinos made an important move to to a private habitat in the southern U.S. with a larger herd. The decision was made in partnership with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) as part of the White Rhino Species Survival Plan (SSP).

The Zoo is now home to two black rhinos, male Moyo and female Kesi. Black rhinos are an AZA SAFE: Saving Animals from Extinction Species. AZA SAFE is a cooperative conservation program that focuses the collective expertise within AZA-accredited zoos and aquariums and leverages our audiences to save species.



Birmingham Zoo
2630 Cahaba Road
Birmingham, AL 35233
www.birminghamzoo.com

