

Summer Camp 2012

ZOOFAARI

Camp Zoofari:

Action-packed, day camp where kids learn about the natural world, wildlife conservation, and animals that call the Zoo home.



NEW ONLINE REGISTRATION SYSTEM...

The Zoo has a new online registration system! For instructions and help registering, please read the information below. Remember to review your purchases carefully before making payment as all sales are final.

To receive member benefits such as discounts or priority registration when purchasing tickets to Zoo events or registering for camp, you must log in to our online system. All Zoo members must first retrieve your password for the new online store, even members who have never purchased anything online with the Zoo before. This will ensure your membership account is tied to your User ID for future purchases.


To retrieve your password, go to www.houstonzoo.org/camp. Click on the green "Register Now" button. Click on the phrase "Store Overview & Helpful Hints", located at the top of the page to the right of the Zoo's logo. At the bottom of the screen, there is a link for members to retrieve their password. You may select from the following options:

- Login - I know my User ID and Password
- Help me retrieve my Password
- Store Overview and Helpful Hints Videos

Non-members may purchase items as a guest or create a new User ID during the checkout process.

You will have an opportunity to review the items in your cart before submitting payment. Once you have completed your purchase by submitting payment, a receipt will appear on the screen and a copy will also be sent to you via email. Camps are not ticketed events, so your receipt will not include tickets. Please remember the receipt will be sent to the email account associated with your Zoo membership.

To register for camp, please visit www.houstonzoo.org/camp.

Start: 11/18/2011 6:00 PM
End: 11/19/2011 9:00 AM
 Add to calendar

 [map location](#)

Save the Date!

Use the "Add to Calendar" function on your receipt to add Summer Camp Zoofari dates you purchased to your Outlook.

MEET YOUR CAMP ZOOFARI STAFF



Cancellations and Refunds

All sales are considered final. Patrons who provide a written cancellation notice on or before **May 1st** will receive a 50% refund. No refunds will be issued after this date. See full policy online at www.houstonzoo.org/camp



Your summer break just got wild... Register now for Summer Camp Zoofari 2012.

Our Camp Zoofari staff are committed to the safety, care, and well-being of your child and to your child learning in a fun, encouraging environment. The full-time staff in the Education Department that makes up our camp team have a combined total of 34 years of summer camp experience. In addition to our camp team, the remaining members of our department make up the supporting team who does everything from coordinate our interns, teens, and adult volunteers to helping parents check-in, supervising lunch, and entertaining campers.

Each summer our full-time staff is joined by our seasonal camp teachers who are dedicated and work hard at having fun! These teachers are Zoo staff educators, certified teachers, or upper-level college students. All must pass a criminal background check and our full-time staff are CPR and First Aid certified. Seasonal staff, together with our full-time staff, work together to provide your child with an unforgettable Camp Zoofari experience!

Make the Summer Green - Even Without Rain!

Join the Houston Zoo in going green by being conservation-minded during camp. Save money and packaging on chips, Lunchables, and other items by buying large bags or packages and put smaller servings in

reusable containers. Bring a reusable water bottle for your sports drink or water instead of purchasing individually packaged drinks. We recommend non-dairy drinks for lunch and snacks because heat and dairy products don't mix and can make for upset tummies. And if you're coming to camp with friends or relatives, start a carpool! Be sure to write down the names of all persons authorized to pick up your child on their roster sheet so members of your carpool can pick up your camper.

Questions?

Main Zoo Number: 713-533-6500

Education Office: 713-533-6739

Education Fax: 713-533-6783

Emergency Cell: 713-201-9701

education@houstonzoo.org

No Cell Phone Policy at Camp Zoofari

Camp Zoofari is a high-energy experience filled with fun, interactive activities. We want your child to enjoy their experience connecting to nature and wildlife so we ask you to please refrain from sending your child to camp with a cell phone. If you need to speak with your child during camp hours, please call our Education Office. We will be happy to pull your child out of camp to speak with you.

Should a situation arise at camp in which your child needs to speak with you or you need to be notified of a concern regarding your child such as an illness, we will contact you using the emergency contact information you provided. On Monday morning, please check your child's roster to verify the emergency contact information provided is correct.



NEW camp topics for every age group!

CAMP TOPICS & DESCRIPTIONS

Camps for ages 4-5 are offered as both half-day and full-day camp options. Check the schedule on the next page for more details about camp times and prices.

Ages 4-5

African Forest: Go on an African safari just like Gorilla Tommy. Explore all the wonders of the African Forest while enjoying fun educational games and activities.

Colorful Critters: Take a whirl around the color wheel from blue to brown, square to round, as we uncover the colorful and shapely world of wildlife. Explore colors and shapes as never before!

NEW! Animal Olympics: Get ready to act like an animal! Learn about ways animals move and explore their environment, and discover the gold, silver, and bronze champions of the animal world.

Sense Safari: Explore ways to use the five senses as only the animal kingdom can! Discover how animals use their sense of sight, touch, hearing, smell, and taste to survive in this sense-ational camp.

Ages 6-7

NEW! Adventures in the Rainforest: Enter the depths of the rainforest and discover some of the world's most intriguing creatures. Learn about the many jewels of the rainforest ecosystem, from poison dart frogs to Asian elephants.

NEW! Dino Detectives: They're baaack! Get a daily dose of dinosaurs as you dig into the mysteries of the animal kingdom then and now. Includes a daily visit to the Zoo's Dinosaurs! exhibit.

Explore Africa: Discover the mysteries of the

Koolookamba. Hang out with our chimpanzees, rumble past our crash of rhinos, and come eye to eye with our tower of giraffes. Take this amazing journey that brings the wonders of Africa to you.

NEW! Catch Me If You Can: From soaring eagles to darting bats, racing cheetahs to leaping gazelles, explore the interactions of predator versus prey in this action packed camp.

Ages 8-9

African Adventure: Join us for a summer safari to this incredibly diverse continent. Pack your gear, grab your passport, and explore Africa in search of rainforest, desert, and savannah animals on your week-long expedition.

NEW! Wildlife Unplugged: Ever wonder how to track an animal or spot a bird as it soars above? Learn all that and more as you uncover the wild side of your own backyard.

NEW! Wild Art: Sculpt, draw, paint, and sketch your way through the world of wildlife as you discover your inner artist and the beauty of nature.

Xtreme Animals: Discover the champions of the animal world as you meet some of nature's most extreme species in this camp that explores the gargantuan, the speediest, the bounciest and the unusual.

An overnight at the Zoo on Thursday evening is included in your purchase of Wildlife Photography and Animal Training 101.

Ages 10-12

Wildlife Photography: If you've ever dreamed of having one of your photos grace the cover of a famous wildlife magazine or if you just want to learn how to take photos like the pros this camp is for you. From click to printing, we'll cover it all. You'll be using the latest technology, including iPads and digital cameras. Includes a Thursday night overnight.

NEW! Animal Training 101: Bridge, target and reward your way to mastering the art of training as you learn how to train zoo animals, pets, and even your friends. Includes a Thursday night overnight.

Keeper Camp: Enroll for zookeeper boot camp and learn what it's like to feed, clean, train, and take care of our animals. **Note:** A negative TB test is required for all Keeper Camp participants. Must be within 1 year of camp start date.

Camp Open House

**Monday, May 21 6-8 PM
Brown Education Center**

Pick up t-shirts, drop off immunization records, get answers to questions, and meet Zoo staff. Info about check-in, parking, and other logistics will be reviewed.

Rescheduling Fee

Topic and date changes for Camp Zoofari will be assessed a \$25 fee per camper per change. Patrons must submit a request in writing and changes are subject to availability. See full policy online at www.houstonzoo.org/camp

REGISTRATION DATES & PRICES

Check out the registration schedule and mark your calendars for the must-have camp topics of 2012!

Registration Schedule

Zoo members receive priority registration according to membership level. To register earlier, upgrade your membership.

Asante Society: February 8

Conservator & Sustaining: February 13

Supporting: February 15

Grandparent, Family Plus, Family, & Individual:

February 22

Non-members: February 29

Camp Prices & Times

All camps are Monday-Friday. Half-day camps for ages 4-5 are from 9 am-12 pm or 1-4 pm.

Full-day camps are from 9 am-4 pm.

Half-day camps: \$140

Full-day camps (ages 4-9): \$240

Animal Training 101: \$345

Keeper Camp: \$445

Wildlife Photography: \$445

Note: Camp will not be held the week of July 4.

AGE	TOPIC	6/4	6/11	6/18	6/25	7/9	7/16	7/23	7/30	8/6
4-5	African Forest	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
4-5	African Forest AM/PM	✓				✓				✓
4-5	Colorful Critters	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
4-5	Colorful Critters AM/PM			✓				✓		
4-5	Animal Olympics		✓		✓		✓		✓	
4-5	Animal Olympics AM/PM		✓				✓			
4-5	Sense Safari		✓		✓		✓		✓	
4-5	Sense Safari AM/PM				✓				✓	
6-7	Adventures in the Rainforest	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
6-7	Dino Detectives	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
6-7	Explore Africa		✓		✓		✓		✓	
6-7	Catch Me If You Can		✓		✓		✓		✓	
8-9	African Adventure	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
8-9	Wildlife Unplugged	✓		✓		✓		✓		✓
8-9	Wild Art		✓		✓		✓		✓	
8-9	Xtreme Animals		✓		✓		✓		✓	
10-12	Wildlife Photography		✓				✓		✓	
10-12	Animal Training 101			✓		✓				
10-12	Keeper Camp	✓			✓			✓		✓

FUN INCLUDED



Check out what you get with every camp!

In each week of Summer Camp Zoofari, kids will get to visit The African Forest exhibit, meet a touchable animal, ride the Wildlife Carousel, feed a giraffe, and visit the Dinosaurs exhibit and 4D experience! A Camp Zoofari t-shirt is also provided as part of each camp purchase.

Lion training window demonstration, sea lion show, Wildlife carousel ride, giraffe feeding, and touchable animal experience are all things your camper could do today...makes you wish we had camp for adults, doesn't it?

Many parents ask us what their child will be doing throughout their Camp Zoofari experience. While each camp is written with age appropriate activities in mind, along with a focus on the camp topic, every camp provides your child with a fun, memorable, and engaging Houston Zoo experience.

We've tried to capture a snapshot of a day in the life of Camp Zoofari for your enjoyment. Please remember special activities such as the Wildlife Carousel, giraffe feeding, 4D theatre, etc. will be distributed throughout the week. Keeper chats will vary throughout the week depending on the days and times they are offered by animal care staff. By the end of the week, each camp will have toured the Zoo completely. Every camp has it's own classroom, and children will spend approximately half of the day inside and half of the day outside.

A Day in the Life of Camp Zoofari

9:00-9:15 AM	Greet our friends as everyone arrives!
9:15-9:45 AM	Lesson about big cats using skins, skulls, and other cool animal stuff
9:45-10:00 AM	Game time! Maybe a rousing round of Predator vs. Prey...
10:00-10:15 AM	Snack break
10:15-10:30 AM	Touchable animal experience
10:30-11:30 AM	Zoo tour of lions, tigers, jaguars, and cougars
11:30-12:00 PM	Lunch at Karamu Outpost
12:00-12:30 PM	Zooper Challenge at the Butterfly Stage
12:30-1:00 PM	Story time...If I Were a Lion
1:00-1:30 PM	Craft about a big cat we learned about this morning
1:30-2:00 PM	Big cat training window demonstration
2:00-2:15 PM	Feed the giraffes
2:15-2:30 PM	Ride the Wildlife Carousel
2:30-2:45 PM	Snack break
2:45-3:15 PM	Zoo tour of small cats
3:15-3:45 PM	Game time! Let's play Shrinking Habitat...
3:45-4:00 PM	Hey mom and dad - guess what I did today!



THEY'RE BAAACK!

All campers will visit the Dinosaur exhibit.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Find out about things like waiting lists, sign-in and sign-out procedures, and lunch.

Can I get on a waiting list?

We do not maintain waiting lists for Summer Camp Zoofari. When a cancellation is made for camps, we will make the space available for sale in our online purchasing system after we process the cancellation. As such, we recommend you periodically check the online system to see if the camp in which you are interested becomes available.

Can I stay with my child in camp?

Camp Zoofari is a program designed for children who can remain in a group setting without parental involvement.

May I enroll my child in a camp for an older age group?

No, age requirements are not negotiable and are strictly enforced. Campers must fall within the specified age category on the first day of the camp session they are attending.

How are campers supervised?

Campers are supervised at all times and are escorted on restroom breaks. Teacher to student ratios are 1:10.

My child needs to take medication. How should I arrange for this?

The Houston Zoo is NOT responsible for administering medication to children and does not permit medication (OTC or prescription) at camp with the exception of emergency medications (inhalers, epi-pens, etc.). Please

consult a physician so medication can be administered outside of camp. To ensure a positive experience for all campers, it is **IMPERATIVE** that you notify us of any special needs or medical conditions your child may have. We will accommodate these needs to the best of our ability.

Do you provide snacks?

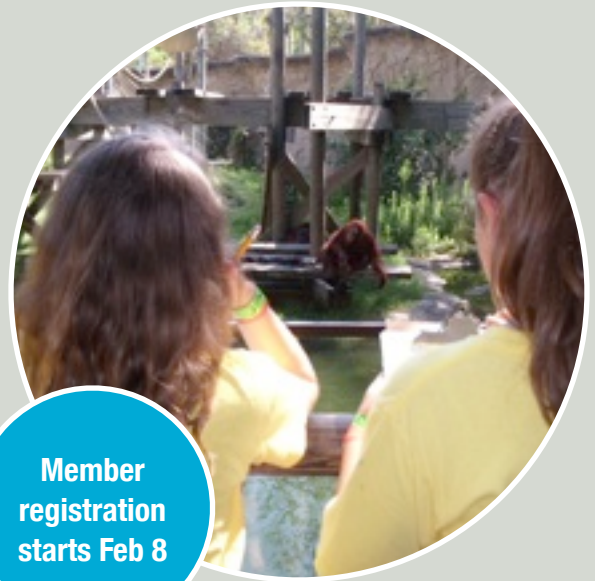
Yes, in the morning and afternoon. Snacks are Goldfish, Chex Mix, graham crackers, and animal crackers. We serve water during snack time. If your child has food allergies, please include this information on the registration form. Alternative snacks will not be provided; however, you may provide a small snack for your own child if you prefer.

What about lunch?

Camp Zoofari is a “high energy” activity, so campers should eat a hearty breakfast before arrival. All full-day campers must bring a lunch. Campers may NOT purchase Zoo lunches. Due to safety concerns, glass containers are prohibited. A microwave will NOT be available for use.

Will my child get to touch Zoo animals or go behind-the-scenes?

We have a variety of mammals, birds, and reptiles that are safe for handling. Campers will get to touch an animal each day. For the safety



Member registration starts Feb 8

of campers and our animals, most behind-the-scenes activity is restricted to the oldest age group.

What are the sign-in and sign-out procedures?

Sign-in and out will take place at Gate 5 for ALL campers. In order to provide a secure environment, you **MUST** sign your child in and out of camp. Photo IDs are required for sign-out and will be checked daily. Gate 5 is located to the left of the Zoo's main entrance. You may park in the main parking lot or the old golf course parking lot across the street. Unauthorized vehicles parking in the handicapped spaces or loading zones in front of Gate 5 may be ticketed. The Houston Zoo is NOT responsible for paying fines received. Gate 5 will be unlocked at 8:45 am and locked again at 9:15 am. If you are late dropping off your child or will be picking up your child early, you need to enter through the main Zoo entrance.

Got to camp late? Need to leave early?

Late arrivals or children departing early disrupts camp and causes staff to be pulled away from programming. Please make every effort to respect the camp schedule. Use the main entrance and check your child in or out with staff in the Brown Education Center (BEC) office.

Trouble with parking?

Please remember the Zoo can be busy during the summer and on holidays so allot extra time, especially for sign-out. Parking is available in the Zoo's main parking lot or across the street in the old golf course parking lot. Paid parking is available in the garage at the corner of Main and Cambridge or you can ride the Metro Rail.

Coming with a friend?

Requests to pair relatives or friends must be made in writing via email **at least 1 week in advance** to the camp start date. Children must be the same age and registered for the same camp. Requests are not guaranteed; no exceptions to class sizes will be made. Roster changes **WILL NOT** be made on Monday morning.

Gate 5 will open at 3:45 pm for sign-out. Please be prompt when picking up your child; he or she will not be allowed to remain in the Zoo without an adult. Campers not picked up by 4:15 pm will be charged a fee of \$1 per minute per child.

All half day camps will enter and exit through Gate 5. It will be unlocked from 11:45 am-12:15 pm for morning camp to sign-out and 12:45-1:15 pm for afternoon camp to sign-in.

How much and how big are the t-shirts?

Each camp purchase includes one t-shirt. Extra t-shirts are \$10 each. Sizes are Youth S (6-8), M (10-12), L (14-16), and Adult S, M, L. If you are unsure of what size to order, please order larger as extras or exchanges are not available.

What are the camp hours?

Full day camps are available for children ages 4-12 and run from 9 am-4 pm. Half day camps are available for children ages 4-5 only and run from 9 am-12 pm and 1-4 pm.

What are the camp rules?

Campers are expected to behave appropriately. Rules are posted in the

classrooms and are reviewed with the campers each morning. In the event a child is disruptive, a time-out may be used. If disruptive behavior continues or is severe, the parent will be called to help find a solution. If improvement is not realized, we will call you and ask you to pick up your child. At our discretion, your child may be allowed to return to camp the following day.

Camp Zoofari rules are as follows:

- Listen and follow instructions
- Participate in camp activities
- Respect others
- Respect property
- Have fun!

Can I bring a backpack?

Yes, cubbies are in each classroom for children to store their backpacks, or other items they don't want to carry in the Zoo.

Do you have before and after care?

No, before and after care is not available.

What if it's my child's birthday?

Due to dietary restrictions of participants, please do not bring snacks (such as cupcakes) for your child's class as we are unable to allow these to be shared with the group.



DON'T FORGET



Camp Zoofari Checklist

The following is required:
Camp Zoofari t-shirt (provided), closed-toe shoes, ID for guardian, and lunch. **We recommend** you apply sunscreen and bug spray before arriving, and bring a hat, water bottle, sunglasses, and disposable or kid-friendly digital camera. We provide water throughout the day and ponchos in inclement weather.