



Minnesota Zoo Education Programs Behavior Policy and Waiver for Child Programs

The Minnesota Zoo educators hope to make this program experience one that your child will enjoy and remember for a lifetime. Our goal is to create an environment that is enjoyable, safe and supportive. Our educators are able to accomplish this goal by providing an environment that promotes physical safety, emotional well-being, educational opportunities and fun. We also feel everyone shares in the responsibility of making this program a great experience; every person plays a critical role by agreeing to respect others.

Sometimes, despite everyone's best efforts, children will misbehave. Our educators can easily handle most of these situations, but there may be times when we need to include the parent/guardian for disciplinary purposes. In hopes of eliminating these situations from occurring and ensuring that everyone truly understands what is considered appropriate behavior, the Minnesota Zoo has instituted a behavior policy.

Please read the policy, indicating that both you and your child understand what type of behavior is expected during the program and what the consequences will be if a child chooses to partake in inappropriate behavior. We appreciate your trust and support. Together we can make this program a wonderful experience for your child.

If you have any questions, please call: Tyler Ahnemann, Community Programs Supervisor at 952-431-9226.

Expectations

1. Follow the instructor's directions including paying attention and listening when someone else is speaking and always stay with the group.
2. Remember to treat others as you would like to be treated. Keep your hands, feet and other objects to yourself.
3. Always talk to your instructor if you have a question or a problem during the program. We won't be able to help you if you don't speak up.

Failure to follow these expectations will result in an unsafe or unenjoyable atmosphere for you and others in the program. Should that happen, the following consequences will occur:

Consequences

Depending on the severity of the situation or if the behavior persists, one or more of the following consequences will occur:

1. Instructors will discuss the behavior with the child.
2. The child will be given a "time out" or will not be allowed to participate in a subsequent activity.
3. Instructors will discuss the behavior with the parent/guardian.
4. In severe cases, the child will be sent home immediately and/or told that he/she will not be allowed to return the following day.

Note: There are no refunds when a child's own behavior requires he/she be sent home.