



Confirmation | Zoo Camp

Thank you for enrolling your child in Zoo Camp! This document contains important logistical, wayfinding, and procedural information about the Zoo Camp program. Please review this information prior to arriving for Zoo Camp as it will help ensure a successful and enjoyable experience for all.

I. Camp Phone Number

If you have any questions, are running late, or want to leave a message for an instructor, please call the Education Office at 952.431.9390.

II. Zoo Camp Times

Toddler Time:	9:40-10:30 a.m. OR 11:00-11:50 a.m.
Single-Day (PK/K):	9:30 a.m.-Noon OR 1:00-3:30 p.m.
Morning Camps (PK/K):	9:30 a.m.-Noon
Afternoon Camps (PK/K):	1:00-3:30 p.m.
Farm Camps (Grades 1-9):	8:00 a.m.-Noon OR 1:00-5:00 p.m.
Morning Camps (Grades 1-12):	9:00 a.m.-Noon
Afternoon Camps (Grades 1-12):	1:00-4:00 p.m.
Full-Day Camps:	9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Horse Camps (Grades 1-2):	9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. OR 1:30-4:30 p.m.
Horse Camps (Grades 3-12):	9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Llama Camps (Grades 1-12):	9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
AuSM Camps:	8:30-11:30 a.m. OR 1:30-4:30 p.m.

III. Photo Identification

The adult picking up your child MUST show photo identification every day to their instructor.

IV. Sign-In and Sign-Out

The adult dropping off and picking up your child will have to sign him/her in and out every day with their instructor. See the next page on *Drop-Off and Pick-Up Locations* to find out where to park and where to go to meet the instructor to sign your child in and out.

V. Authorized Adults

On the first day of camp, the adult dropping off your child will be asked to approve and make any changes to the authorized adults and emergency contacts list given to the Zoo during registration, including contact information. Only the authorized adults on your list will be able to pick up your child.

VI. Cancellation and Refund Policy

Cancellations made more than two weeks prior to the program will receive a refund of 75% of the program fee. No refunds will be made less than two weeks prior to the program. A transfer to a similar program may be possible if requested at least one week prior to the program. No transfers are allowed within one week of the program start date. Refunds will not be issued for no-shows for any camp program regardless of cause. To cancel or request a transfer, contact the Zoo Education Department at educate@mnzoo.org or 952.431.9390.

VII. Restroom Policy

All week-long campers, including PK/K campers, must be fully toilet trained. Instructors are not allowed in restrooms with campers, and can't leave their class unsupervised.

VIII. Drop-Off and Pick-Up Locations

Please allow extra time to find your way on the first day of camp as there are multiple locations at the Zoo for Zoo Camp drop-off and pick-up, depending on the camp you are registered for. ONLY Toddler Time and Before/After Care enters through the Zoo's main entrance. Directions for each location follow on the next two pages.

Grade Level	Camp		Drop-off/Pick-Up Location
Toddler Time (attend with adult)	All Toddler Time camps		Zoo's Main Entrance (Lower South)
PK/Kindergarten: Farm (week-long)	Barnyard Buddies		Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
PK/Kindergarten (week-long)	I Spy Surprise Jammin' in the Jungle Naturally Nature	Rainforest Explorers Where the Wild Things Live Wild Water Creatures	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
PK/Kindergarten: Farm (single day)	Cluck with the Chickens Counting Sheep Goofy Goats	Horsin' Around Mooin' Around Pigs on Parade	Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
PK/Kindergarten (single day)	All other single day (other than the Farm camps listed above)		East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
Grades 1-2 (Farm/Horses)	Down on the Farm	Wild About Horses	Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
Grades 1-2 (Llama)	Crazy About Llamas		Education Event Center (EEC)
Grades 1-2	Dinosaurs Rule! Disguises & Surprises Musical World Safari Ocean Odyssey	When I Grow Up Who Done It? Zoo Explorers Zoo Monsters	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
Grades 3-4 (Farm/Horses)	Farmyard Connection	Wild About Horses	Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
Grades 3-4 (Llama)	Crazy About Llamas		Education Event Center (EEC)
Grades 3-4	All the Zoo's a Stage! Dino Diggers Marine Mysteries Navigating Nature	Photo Safari S.E.A. Camp Tree House Adventure	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
Grades 5-6 (Farm/Horses)	Pizza Pig Out	Wild About Horses	Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
Grades 5-6 (Llama)	Crazy About Llamas		Education Event Center (EEC)
Grades 5-6	The Climate Challenge Girls Rule! Minnesota Mania!	Ocean Commotion Survival Training Wildlife Agents	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
Grades 7-9 (Horses)	Wild About Horses		Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
Grades 7-9 (Farm/Llama)	Farm Crew	Crazy About Llamas	Education Event Center (EEC)
Grades 7-9	Wildlife Field Science Wildlife Heroes	Zoo Crew Zoo Design	School of Environmental Studies - Back Door #5
Grades 10-12 (Horses)	Wild About Horses		Drive to the Farm & enter off of Galaxie Ave
Grades 10-12 (Llama)	Crazy About Llamas		Education Event Center (EEC)
Grades 10-12	Marine Biology 101 Photography for Wildlife	Zoology 101	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
AuSM Camps - Ages 8-11	Ocean Odyssey		East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
AuSM Camps - Ages 12-15	Wildlife Agents		East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
AuSM Camps - Ages 16-19	Wildlife Heroes		School of Environmental Studies - Back Door #5
Before Care/After Care (pre-registration required)	Any week-long Camp		Zoo's Main Entrance (Lower South)

IX. Drop-Off and Pick-Up Directions

a. East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area

Upon entering the Zoo from McAndrews Road (County Road 38) turn **RIGHT** at the stop sign and follow the signs for Zoo Camp. Park in the Toucan Lot as the drop-off and pick-up location is located at the white tents in the area between the two East parking lots (Toucan and Tiger). This area is marked with a star on the map to the right.



PLEASE WAIT IN THE APPROPRIATE CAMP LINE, NOT AT A TABLE, AS THIS IS A SAFETY ISSUE. EACH CAMP IS ASSIGNED A COLOR THAT MATCHES ITS LINE AND POST. CAMP COLORS ARE FOUND ON THE SIGN LEGEND NEAR THE SAFETY CONES.

Note: On Thursday and Friday, the East Entrance may be open to the general public. This may cause an increase in traffic during some drop off and pick up times. Please identify yourself as a Zoo Camp participant to any Zoo staff directing traffic.

b. Zoo's Main Entrance (Lower South) – For Toddler Time and Before/After Care ONLY

Upon entering the Zoo from McAndrews Road (County Road 38) turn **LEFT** at the stop sign, and park in the Camel or Gibbon Lot. Please identify yourself as a Zoo Camp participant if any Zoo staff are directing traffic to another entrance. Walk to the main entrance down the path past the bison and wolf statues (keep to the left). The cashier will direct you where to go. This area is marked with a star on the map to the right.



Note: This is the Zoo's main entrance so it may be busy when you arrive.

c. Education Event Center (EEC)—All Llama camps and Farm Crew

Upon entering the Zoo from McAndrews Road (County Road 38) turn **LEFT** at the stop sign. If any Zoo staff are directing traffic to another entrance, please tell them you are going to the EEC. Follow the road all the way around until you come to an area with a number of buildings. The EEC will be on your **LEFT** next to a large chain link fence. You can park in the Camel Lot or find a space in the small EEC Lot. This area is marked with a star on the map to the right.



Note: This is near the Zoo's main entrance so it may be busy when you arrive.

d. Drive to the Farm and enter off of Galaxie Ave (Galaxie Gate)—All Farm camps (except Farm Crew)

The Wells Fargo Family Farm is located on the west side of the Zoo, along Galaxie Avenue. At the intersection of McAndrews and Galaxie (at the stop light) turn north on Galaxie Avenue and proceed approximately ½ of a mile. On the right hand side of the road will be a white Galaxie Gate sign. The sign to the right is the sign you will see when you enter. Turn right into the driveway and up to the stop sign/painted line.



Sign In/Sign Out: This gate will be opened by the camp instructor approximately 10 minutes before and after each class. Once the gate is opened, the instructor will direct you where to drop off your child. Please remain in your car at all times as there is no public parking lot at this gate.

e. School of Environmental Studies – Door # 5:

Upon entering the Zoo from McAndrews Road (County Road 38) turn **RIGHT** at the stop sign and follow the road all the way around until you see a large chain link gate and a Zoo Camp sign. (If you see a barricade that says pedestrians only past this point, please carefully drive around that). Take a **RIGHT** to go through this gate, then another **RIGHT**, and park in the back parking lot of SES. This area is roughly marked with a star on the map to the right.



Note: On Thursday and Friday, the East Entrance may be open to the general public. This may cause an increase in traffic during some drop off and pick up times. Please identify yourself as a Zoo Camp participant to any Zoo staff directing traffic. **This may also result in a barricade being placed in the road along your path. Just drive around it and continue to SES.**

X. Snacks (Not Provided) & Food Allergies

Campers are encouraged to bring their own nut-free snack each day as we will still offer snack time. Please avoid peanut butter, granola bars, or baked goods with peanuts, trail mix, Nutella, or any Nutella-based items. “Soy nut” butter and sunflower seed butter are great alternatives to peanut butter.

We cannot guarantee a nut-free environment at the Zoo as guests often bring their own food items containing nuts, and nuts are a regular part of our animal diets. Nuts may also be used during animal demonstrations in the classrooms as positive reinforcement. Please disclose all participant food allergies during registration. To discuss concerns or potential accommodations, please contact educate@mnzoo.org or call 952.431.9390.

XI. Lunch

Any child who will be in camp all day needs to bring a lunch with them daily. Please provide a nut-free lunch. Refrigeration of lunches is not provided. Please consider bringing their lunch and water in reusable containers to avoid excess waste. Campers will not be allowed to purchase lunches from the Zoo’s food court.

XII. Zoo Camp T-shirts

All week-long Zoo Camp participants receive one t-shirt free with their registration. Campers will receive their t-shirts on Monday, and campers enrolled in both a morning and afternoon week-long camp will receive two shirts. T-shirt sizes must be specified during registration. Extra t-shirts may be pre-ordered at a cost of \$12 per shirt. No exchanges are available.

For the safety of all campers, Zoo Camp t-shirts **MUST** be worn each day of camp for week-long campers (shirts are optional for single day campers). T-shirts serve as camper nametags and enable instructors to keep campers together while walking throughout the Zoo. Shirts will be distributed on the first day of camp. On subsequent days, campers who arrive without their Zoo Camp shirt will be given one to wear for the day, and may be charged the extra t-shirt fee.

T-shirts for single day campers or extra t-shirts are optional and if you want a shirt, it must be pre-ordered during your online registration for \$12 per shirt. Child and adult sizes are available. Those interested in purchasing shirts that were not pre-ordered during your registration may be able to do so based on availability.

XIII. Water Bottles and Backpacks

Please have your child bring a backpack and water bottle (reusable if possible to avoid waste) with their name written on them. The water bottle will be used on walks throughout the Zoo, and instructors will send home projects and notes in the backpacks.

XIV. Shoes and Dressing for the Weather

All classes spend time outside each day, so please dress for the weather (rain gear is encouraged during wet weather). We recommend no umbrellas as they can be a distraction and a safety issue. We also recommend closed-toe shoes. Camps spend a good part of each day outside and walking, and may also go behind scenes. Sandals, flip flops, and other slip on shoes are usually not suitable for many of the activities planned during camp.

Notes:

- a. **Horse Camps** – Campers are required to wear long pants and close-toed shoes.
- b. **Llama Camps** – We highly recommend close-toed shoes.
- c. **Farm Camps** – We highly recommend that campers wear shoes/boots that can be disinfected and have not come in contact with their own farm animals.
- d. **S.E.A. Camp** - Campers will participate in activities that will expose them to water and are strongly encouraged to wear comfortable shoes that can get wet and bring an extra change of clothes, a towel, and a plastic bag for their wet clothes each day of camp.
- e. **Photography for Wildlife** (grades 10-12) – Campers are encouraged to bring their own devices (camera, phone, tablet, etc.) to take pictures each day of camp. They will be taking photographs and uploading them to the Minnesota Zoo’s account on a photo sharing site. Participants will be asked to sign a waiver on the first day of camp that gives the Minnesota Zoo permission to use any photos and content they choose to upload. Credit will be given when possible.

XV. Before and After Care Supervision

Before and After Care is for week-long camps only, and pre-registration is preferred, so we can plan and staff appropriately.

Drop-off and pick-up for Before and After Care take place at the **Zoo’s Main Entrance (Lower South)**. Please park in the Gibbon or Camel parking lot and walk your child to the main entrance to sign them in or out.

b. Before Care runs from 8:00 a.m. until your camp starts and is \$35 for the week

If you arrive for Before Care 15 minutes or less prior to your camp start time, please follow the drop-off instructions for your specific camp as the Before Care group would have already left for the drop-off area to meet with the rest of the campers.

c. After Care runs from the time camp ends until 6:00 p.m. and is \$45 for the week

When you arrive at the main entrance check in at the Guest Services desk and let them know you are here to pick up your child from our Zoo Camp After Care program. If your child is being picked up at the end of the camp time instead, please see the instructions for the pick-up location. Please allow a transition time of 15-20 minutes after the camp end time before your child will be ready to be picked up from after care.

NOTE: The Minnesota Zoo closes at 6 p.m. in the summertime, so please pick up your child no later than 6 p.m. Traffic and road construction is common, so please plan accordingly and plan to arrive a few minutes prior to our closing. Late fees will apply - **\$5 for every 5 minutes of being late.**

XVI. Waitlist

When you registered online, if your first choice camp was full, you had the option of being added to the waitlist for that camp. If a spot opens up, we will contact you by phone. At that time you will be asked to provide payment for the class. If you are not contacted then a spot did not become available.

Thank you again for registering for Zoo Camp! If you have any questions, please email educate@mnzoo.org or call 952.431.9390.

Sincerely,

Kristie Nord | Education Community Programs Scheduler | educate@mnzoo.org