



Confirmation | In-Person Summer 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 Contact Info

If you have any questions, are running late, or want to leave a message for an instructor, please email educate@mnzoo.org or call the Education Office at 952.431.9390 or the Box Office at 952.431.9200.

II. Zoo Camp Times

Preschool/Kindergarten Camps (4- and 5-day weeklong):	9 a.m.-12 p.m. or 1-4 p.m.
Preschool/Kindergarten Camps (half day, single-day):	9 a.m.-12 p.m. or 1-4 p.m.
Grades 1-2 Camps (at the Farm) (weeklong):	1-4 p.m.
Grades 1-2 Camps (main campus) (weeklong):	9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Grades 3-4, 5-6, 7-9 and 10-12 Camps (weeklong):	9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.
Llama Drama Camps (single-day):	9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

III. Photo Identification

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

If you are picking up at the Farm location, you will be given a card to place on your dashboard to ensure a faster checkout procedure. We ask that you still have your ID ready for verification.

IV. Sign-In and Sign-Out

The adult dropping off and picking up your child will have to sign your child in and out every day with their instructor. See the next page on *Drop-Off and Pickup Locations* to find out where to park and where 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 your authorized adults and emergency contacts list given to the Zoo during registration, including contact information. Only the authorized adults on your list will be allowed 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. There will be a \$15 transfer fee per camp (Summer Zoo Camp only) every time a transfer is made. 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 campers, including PK/K campers, must be fully toilet-trained.

VIII. Drop-Off and Pickup 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 pickup, depending on the camp you are registered for. For directions for each location, follow this chart.

If you are dropping off a child at a Farm camp and another child at a different drop-off location, we recommend dropping off the Farm camper first. You are welcome to come 5 minutes early to drop off at the farm, so you have time to drop off your other child.

Grade Level	Camp		Drop-off/Pick-Up Location
PK/Kindergarten (weeklong at Farm)	Barnyard Buddies	Farm Discovery	Drive to the Farm & enter off Galaxie Ave
PK/Kindergarten (4- and 5-day weeklong at main campus)	Cartoon Critters Come to Life	Rainforest Adventure	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
	Nature Detectives	Rock a Bye Babies	
	Perfect Predators!	Wild Water Creatures	
PreK half day, single-day camp	Penguin Plunge	Tigurrrs!	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
	Red Panda Extravaganza	Turtle Tales	
	Splashy Sea Lions		
Grades 1-2 (Farm)	Down on the Farm	Farm and Forest	Drive to the Farm & enter off Galaxie Ave
Grades 1-2	Artsy Animal Adventures	Ocean Odyssey	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
	Cretaceous Camp	Zoo Monsters	
Grades 3-4 (Farm)	Farmyard Connection		Drive to the Farm & enter off Galaxie Ave
Grades 3-4	Photo Safari	Wildlife Theater	East Entrance - Main Camp Assembly Area
	Treehouse Adventure	The Z Files	
Grades 5-6 (Farm)	Pizza Pig Out		Drive to the Farm & enter off Galaxie Ave
Grades 5-6	Animal Survival Skills	Ocean Commotion	SES back parking lot
	Fossil Finders	Wildlife Agents	
Grades 7-9	Junior Naturalists	Wildlife Heroes	SES back parking lot
	Marine Matters	Zoo Crew	
Grades 10-12	Marine Biology	Zoology	SES back parking lot
Llama Drama Camps (Grades 1-9)	Llama Drama and Other Quirky Critters		Main South Entrance – Outside the main front doors

IX. Drop-Off and Pickup 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 pickup 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 LETTER/COLOR THAT MATCHES ITS LINE AND POST. PLEASE SEE THE SIGN LEGEND.



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

b. All Farm camps -- Drive to the Farm and enter off Galaxie Ave (Galaxie Gate)

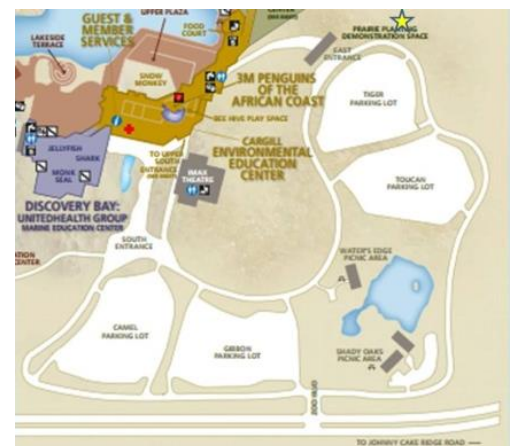
The Wells Fargo Family Farm is located on the west side of the Zoo, along Galaxie Avenue. At the intersection of McAndrews and Galaxie (at the stop light) turn north on Galaxie Avenue and proceed approximately ½ a mile. On the right-hand side of the road will be a white Galaxie Gate sign. The picture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



Sign In/Sign Out: This gate will be opened by the camp instructor approximately 10-15 minutes before and after each camp. 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.

c. 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 (on right) and a Zoo Camp drop-off/pickup sign for grades 5-12. (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 select days, the East Entrance may be open to the general public. This may cause an increase in traffic during some drop-off and pickup 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.**

d. For Llama Drama and Other Quirky Critter Camps - Main South Entrance – outside front entrance doors:

Upon entering the Zoo from McAndrews Road (County Road 38) turn **LEFT** at the stop sign and park in either the Camel Lot or the Gibbon Lot and walk down to the main entrance. Our staff will be outside the doors waiting for all Llama Camp campers to arrive.

e. For Before Care and After Care - Main South Parking Lot, in the former IMAX Theater building:

Upon entering the Zoo from McAndrews Road (County Road 38) turn **LEFT** at the stop sign and park in either the Camel Lot or the Gibbon Lot and walk towards the upper south entrance. Stop at the first door to the former IMAX theater (large building on the right prior to the upper south zoo entrance). Knock on the door and the staff member will let you in.

X. Late Pick-up Fee

If you are late picking up your camper, you will be charged a late fee. The fee is \$20 for every 15 minutes—or a fraction thereof—that you are late after the required pick-up time. Late fees will be charged to your credit card on file.

XI. Snacks (Not Provided) & Food Allergies

Due to the high prevalence of food allergies, Zoo Camp does not provide snacks for campers. However, campers are encouraged to bring two (only one for half-day camps) peanut- and nut-free snacks each day for snack times. 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 peanut-free and nut-free environment at the Zoo as guests often bring their own food items, and nuts are a regular part of our animal diets. Nuts may also be used during animal demonstrations in the classrooms as positive reinforcement. To request potential accommodations, please complete the [Accommodations Request Form](#).

XII. Lunch

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

XIII. Zoo Camp T-shirts

Zoo Camp participants will receive one complimentary camp T-shirt when they arrive on their first day of camp. Zoo Camp T-shirts **MUST** be worn each day of camp. T-shirts serve as camper name tags and enable instructors to keep campers together while walking throughout the Zoo. Extra T-shirts may be available to purchase during their camp at the Zoo for \$20/shirt (only exact cash payment can be accepted).

XIV. Water Bottles and Backpacks

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

XV. Shoes and Dressing for the Weather

All camps 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. Sandals, flip flops, Crocs, and other slip-on shoes are usually not suitable for many of the activities planned during camp.

Farm Camps – We highly recommend that campers wear shoes that can be disinfected and have not come in contact with their own farm animals. Campers in grades 3 and above are also welcome to bring a pair of boots that they can change into when doing chores.

- XVI. Before-care and After-care** (option was available for online registration for weeklong camps taking place June 8-August 14; not offered the week of June 29-July 2) – Drop-off and pickup is at the former IMAX theater near the Upper South entrance. Parent/guardian should come inside the classroom for camper sign-in and sign-out process).
- Before-care runs from 8 a.m. until their camp starts in the morning (full-day campers start going to the East entrance to meet their camp at 9:15 a.m.)
 - After-care runs from their afternoon camp end time until 5 p.m.

- XVII. 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, we will contact you by phone. At that time, you will be asked to provide payment for the camp. If you are not contacted, then a spot did not become available.

- XVIII. Accessibility**
The Minnesota Zoo will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities and/or support needs have an equal opportunity to enjoy all its programs, services, and activities. To request an accommodation, please contact us [as soon as possible after camp registration or a minimum of two weeks prior to your camp]. Submit requests online at <https://mnzoo.org/accessibility/>, call 651.539.6596 (voice) or 1.800.627.3529 (TTY), or email access@mnzoo.org.

- XIX. Health/Illness Policy**
Children should only attend camp if they are able to participate in activities with reasonable comfort. If your child is feeling unwell, we encourage you to keep your child at home. Review our health policy online: <https://mnzoo.org/zoocamp-faq/>

- XX. Medication Policy**
The [Medication Permission Form](#) MUST be completed if your child needs to take any medications during their time at Zoo Camp. The form can be found at <https://mnzoo.org/zoocamp-faq/>. No medications should be taken by children during camp without a form. A new form is needed for each camp that a camper is signed up to attend.

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