



Welcome, Zoo Creatives!

We are so excited to have you join us for Camp Zoo! This week, you will get to learn all about jobs at the Zoo, and how our work helps animals locally and around the world! We can't wait for the adventures that lie ahead!

Camp Tips

- Wear clothes you can get messy in!
- Eat a big breakfast!
- Get a good night's sleep!
- Leave toys & electronics at home!
- Label ALL items with your name!
- Apply sunscreen before you arrive!

What to Bring

- Camp shirt
- Camp hat
- Camp water bottle with lanyard
- Packed lunch (grades 1 – 8)
- **Two snacks**
- Fully enclosed shoes (no holes)—you may bring shoes for water play
- Washcloth and spray bottle to help stay cool while out in the Zoo
- **For middle school campers – bring long pants and wear sturdy shoes that cover the whole foot!**

Camp Zoo no longer provides snacks. Please bring two peanut-free snacks in your camper's lunchbox for the morning and afternoon. Campers will have access to their lunchbox during snack time!

Please label everything with your camper's name!

No laces? No problem! We recommend velcro or slip-ons for campers learning to tie their shoes!

Camp Zoo Leadership Team

Camp Supervisors:

Katie Mather-Charles, Yasmine Gaudin

Formal Learning and Engagement Manager:

Leslie Bell

Camp Programs Assistant:

Makenzie Taylor

E-mail:

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Camp Zoo Emergency Line:

602.574.2253

Helpful Links

[FAQ](#) | [Camp Policies and Procedures](#) | [Orientation Video](#)

Kindergarten Camp – Who’s Who in the Zoo?

All Kindergarten Camps are Half-Day: 8 – 11:45 a.m.

This week, we are going to meet some special helpers in the Zoo, exploring different jobs and how they help animals. As we learn throughout the week, we will create a book all about jobs at the Zoo that you will be able to take home!

Camp Zoo Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

✓ **I can say goodbye!**

Entering a new place can make campers nervous. Talk with your camper about check in the days leading up to camp! Check out our website to build excitement for camp!

✓ **I am sun safe!**

Please be sure your campers arrive at camp with a hat, water and sunscreen already applied. Campers may bring additional sunscreen, but they must be able to apply it independently.

✓ **I can use the restroom!**

Campers are expected to be able to use the restroom independently. Please practice restroom use, as well as fastening and unfastening clothes.

✓ **I can use my listening ears!**

Zookeepers, Animal Handlers and Camp Zoo Staff provide instructions to ensure safety. Practice following basic directions at home to help your camper prepare! Practice responding when their name is called!

✓ **I can ask for help!**

Communication is key to a successful week of camp! Help empower your camper by practicing how to ask for help!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	Zookeepers take care of the Zoo	Veterinarians keep the Zoo healthy	Horticulture makes the Zoo bloom	Conservation helps animals in need	Educators connect people to Zoos
Daily Activity	Kinder Camp Orientation!	Exploration Stations: Learn and explore the day in the life of a zoo veterinarian!	Exploration Stations: Learn and explore a day in the life of a horticulturalist!	Exploration Stations: Learn and explore a day in the life of a conservation expert!	Exploration Stations: Learn and explore a day in the life of a zoo educator!
Morning Nature Play	Each day, we will connect with the outdoors during Nature Play at our Enchanted Forest!				
Animal Interaction*	Stingray Bay Encounter!	Meet and Feed: Galápagos tortoise	Petting Zoo Encounter: Painting with goats!	Monkey Village Encounter!	Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos
Animal Discovery*	Zookeeper 101: Learn about the role of a zookeeper through meeting different ambassador animals.	Unique Animal Observations: Zoo veterinarians have all kinds of patients! Through observation we will discover ways animals are unique!	Friends of Plants: How do plants and animals live together? Discover how the horticulture team cares for the whole Zoo!	Animal Conservationists: Explore animals who play a special role in conservation.	Animal Jobs: Educators have many jobs! Discover the ways animals play unique roles in their ecosystems!

*We do our best to stick to the planned Animal Discovery and Animal Interaction for each day, but we can never guarantee a specific animal or interaction. It always depends on several factors the day of, including that all animals at the Phoenix Zoo are free to decide what they do in a day!

1/2 Camp – The Zoo and Me!

Have you ever wondered what it's like to work at the Zoo? This week, you can try each one out! Explore a day in the life of a different job each day! This will culminate in a final project where we will get creative and make a mixed media self-portrait!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	Zookeepers take care of the Zoo	Veterinarians keep the Zoo healthy	Horticulture makes the Zoo bloom	Conservation helps animals in need	Educators connect people to Zoos
Morning Nature Play	Each day, we will connect with the outdoors during Nature Play at our Enchanted Forest!				
Morning Activities	Welcome to Camp Zoo: Camp Orientation!	Skull ID: Learn how to identify an animal just by looking at their skull!	Project Time: Self-portrait exploration	Project Time: Self-portrait art studio	Camp Rally! Art Gallery at the end of the day!
Group A Animal Interaction*	Meet and Feed: The birds of the Arizona Aviary!	Goat Baths and Petting Zoo Encounters!	Meet and Feed: Galapagos tortoises	Stingray Bay Encounter!	Giraffe Deck Encounter!
Group B Animal Interaction*	Meet and Feed: Galápagos tortoises	Stingray Bay Encounter!	Giraffe Deck Encounter!	Goat Baths and Petting Zoo Encounters!	Meet and Feed: The birds of the Arizona Aviary!
Learning Lab	On Mondays, we do a special extended animal discovery for the whole afternoon!	Day in the Life of a Vet: Explore x-rays, animal care and the world of animal care through play!	Day in the Life of a Horticulturist: Plant seeds, explore life cycles and dig into the world of horticulture through play!	Day in the Life of a Conservation Expert: Identify endangered species, track animals and discover the world of conservation through play!	Day in the Life of a Zoo Educator: Time for the kids to become the teachers! Learn all about the world of zoo education through play!
Animal Discovery*	Zookeeper 101: Learn about the role of a zookeeper through meeting different ambassador animals.	Unique Animal Observations: Zoo veterinarians have all kinds of patients! Through observation we will discover ways animals are unique!	Friends of Plants: How do plants and animals live together? Discover how the horticulture team cares for the whole Zoo!	Animal Conservationists: Explore animals who play a special role in conservation.	Animal Jobs: Animals have many jobs! Discover the ways animals play unique roles in their ecosystems!
Game Time	On Mondays, we do a special extended Animal Discovery for the whole afternoon!	Dog Chases It's Tail: Learn to work as a team and move as one!	Invasive Species Tag: Learn all about invasive species through this energetic game!	Black-Footed Ferret Bootcamp Relay: Discover the skills a black-footed ferret needs to survive in the wild!	Parachute: Celebrate a week of learning and friendship with this classic game!

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3/4 Camp – The Zoo’s MVP’s!

There’s more to animal care than meets the eye! This week, we are going to explore how each job at the Zoo helps the animals that live here! The week will culminate in a final project where we will create a brand-new animal and develop a care guide for your original species!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	Zookeepers take care of the Zoo	Veterinarians keep the Zoo healthy	Horticulture makes the Zoo bloom	Conservation helps animals in need	Educators connect people to Zoos
Group A Animal Interaction*	Backstage Tour: Explore Ambassador Animal Resources and watch an animal training demonstration!	Stingray Bay Encounter!		Giraffe Deck Encounter!	Meet and Feed: Galápagos tortoises
Group B Animal Interaction*	Stingray Bay Encounter!	Giraffe Deck Encounter!	Backstage Tour: Explore Nutrition Services and ZooLights!	Meet and Feed: Galápagos tortoises	Backstage Tour: Explore Ambassador Animal Resources and watch an animal training demonstration!
Game Time	Mingle: Get moving and meet the campers in your group!	Bird’s Nest: Strategize with your team to be the nest with the most eggs!	Where’s My Chicken? Work as a team to achieve a shared goal!	Blindfold Pickup: Trust your partners as they help you gather items!	Maze Game: Work as a team to solve the maze puzzle!
Learning Activity	Welcome to Camp Zoo: Camp Orientation!	Veterinarian Case Studies: Explore hands-on different forms of animal care!	Horticulture Day! Explore the world of horticulture and the role of plant life in zoos.	Animal Tracking 101: When conservationists release animals into the wild, how do they monitor them?	Camp Rally! + Extra Project Preparation Time
Animal Discovery*	Zookeeper 101: Learn about the role of a zookeeper through meeting different ambassador animals.	Unique Animal Observations: Zoo veterinarians have all kinds of patients! Through observation we will discover ways animals are unique!	Friends of Plants: How do plants and animals live together? Discover how the horticulture team cares for the whole Zoo!	Animal Conservationists: Explore animals who play a special role in conservation.	Animal Jobs: Animals have many jobs! Discover the ways animals play unique roles in their ecosystems!
Project Time	The Zoo’s MVPs: Discover the Jobs of the Zoo!	New Species Design Studio: Develop your new species!	Create Your Critter: Use mixed media to create a model of what your new animal looks like!	Animal Care Guide: If your new animal lived in a zoo, how would we need to take care of it?	Art Gallery: Present your animal to your peers, staff and family!

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5/6 Camp – Conservation is Everywhere!

There are many different jobs at the Zoo, but they all have one thing in common: conservation! This week, we will explore conservation projects around the world and learn how we can advocate for nature! The week will culminate in a final project where we will get into groups and design a game to raise awareness for an endangered species!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	Zookeepers take care of the Zoo	Veterinarians keep the Zoo healthy	Horticulture makes the Zoo bloom	Conservation helps animals in need	Educators connect people to Zoos
Animal Interaction*	Giraffe Deck Encounter!	Meet and Feed: Chutti, the greater one-horned Rhino	Backstage Tour: Get a private tour of the Diversity in the Desert Reptile Exhibit!	Backstage Tour: Get a private tour of the Zoo's Conservation Center!	Stingray Bay Encounter!
Game Time	Where's My Chicken? Work as a team to achieve a shared goal!	Blindfold Pickup: Trust your partners as they help you gather items.	Maze Game: Work as a team to solve the maze puzzle!	Magic Carpet Ride: There's more to this puzzle than meets the eye.	Prepare for Camp Rally!
Learning Activity	Welcome to Camp Zoo: Camp Orientation!	Conservation Case Study: Bat tracking in the rainforest	Horticulture Day! Explore the world of horticulture and the role of plant life in zoos.	Conservation Case Study: Yellow-spotted river turtle releases	Where I Stand: Discuss conservation in our community and learn how to take camp home!
Animal Discovery*	Zookeeper 101: Learn about the role of a zookeeper through meeting different ambassador animals.	Unique Animal Observations: Zoo veterinarians have all kinds of patients! Through observation we will discover ways animals are unique!	Friends of Plants: How do plants and animals live together? Discover how the horticulture team cares for the whole Zoo!	Animal Conservationists: Explore animals who play a special role in conservation.	Animal Jobs: Animals have many jobs! Discover the ways animals play unique roles in their ecosystems!
Project Time	The Conservation Game: Experience the impacts of conservation through a giant board game!	Finding Your Cause: Work with your group to pick an endangered species to explore!	Boardgame Building: Create a game to advocate for your species!	Game Testing: Work with other groups to test out your games!	Art Gallery: Present your game to your peers, staff and family!

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7/8 Horse Hands Camp Zoo!

Welcome to Camp Zoo’s first-ever Horse Hands Camp, designed exclusively for middle school campers. This week we will learn all about horses & horsemanship and discover how we can connect with and care for the natural world. We are thrilled you are joining us!

Camp Tips:

- Wear sturdy shoes that cover the whole foot.
- Bring long pants (there will be time to change to avoid heat).
- Eat a big breakfast!
- Get a good night's sleep!
- Leave electronics at home!
- We will be outside for longer time— be prepared for the elements!

All level 1 campers are eligible to sign up for our level 2 camp! Reserve your spot today!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	Week 1: Intro to horsemanship, horseback riding and conservation exploration Week 2: Horseback riding, conservation and leadership				
Equine Arena	<p>We start every day in the equine area, where we will practice haltering, leading, grooming, saddling and riding horses.</p> <p>Week 1: Learn how to halter, lead, groom, saddle, bridle, mount/dismount and ride horses. Our first ride will be on Thursday!</p> <p>Week 2: Learn how to tack up, hoof pick and shoe horses. Level 2 campers will be riding every day! Campers must have completed a Level 1 Horse Hands Camp or Class prior to attending!</p>				
Animal Discovery*	Zookeeper 101: Learn about the role of a zookeeper through meeting different ambassador animals.	Unique Animal Observations: Zoo veterinarians have all kinds of patients! Through observation we will discover ways animals are unique!	Friends of Plants: How do plants and animals live together? Discover how the horticulture team cares for the whole Zoo!	Animal Conservationists: Explore animals who play a special role in conservation.	Animal Jobs: Animals have many jobs! Discover the ways animals play unique roles in their ecosystems!
Barn Care	Group bonding at Stingray Bay!	Tuesday – Friday, we will work closely with keepers to help maintain the barn and take daily care of the horses. We will feed the horses, clean the stalls and give the horses baths! We will also make behavioral enrichment for the horses to help keep them cool in the summer!			
Snack and Lunch Time	Please bring two snacks and a lunch every day! Campers will have access to their lunchbox during snack times. Middle School Camp will have a private lunch at 11:30 a.m.				
Learning Activity	<p>Week 1: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will explore the basics of horsemanship and horse anatomy, as well as practicing basic knot-tying.</p> <p>Week 2: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will diver deeper into learning about how to build relationships with horses, hoof care, riding technique and basic horse aids.</p>			<p>Week 1: Horses in the Wild: Learn how to help protect local wild horses.</p> <p>Week 2: Human-Wildlife Conflict: Explore the ways humans interact with wildlife, and determine how different species are impacted by human behavior.</p>	<p>Week 1: Learn how to create an “Advocacy ‘Zine” for a conservation ask that you are passionate about.</p> <p>Week 2: Let’s take time to reflect on what we’ve learned, and create our own personal leadership pledge!</p>
Low Ropes	Each day, we engage in games known as “Low Ropes.” While the games do not always require ropes, all games explore teamwork, collaborative problem solving, perseverance and trust. On day one, we collaborate on group expectations, and work together to build a resilient team by the end of the week.				

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Meet the Team



Aiyana

Favorite Animal: Ducks

Fun Fact: I once rescued a baby hummingbird.



Andie

Favorite Animal: Cow

Fun Fact: I have my own photography business!



Mariah

Favorite Animal: Giraffe

Fun Fact: I LOVE pineapples and baking!



Katherine

Favorite Animal: Otters

Fun Fact: I have four animal themed tattoos :)



Meghan

Favorite Animal: Sharks

Fun Fact: I was born in Hawaii!



Ben

Favorite Animal: Meerkat

Fun Fact: I have a children's book written about me. My brother illustrated it, and I digitally painted it, but we did not write it.



Mariana

Favorite Animal: Anna's hummingbird

Fun Fact: I worked studying animal diversity and water quality on an island!



Abby

Favorite Animal: Penguin

Fun Fact: I love to make crafts, recently have taken up scrapbooking but I love to make jewelry as well.



Carsten

Favorite Animal: Hippopotamus

Fun Fact: I have heterochromia (two different colored eyes).



Rebekah

Favorite Animal: White-nosed coati

Fun Fact: I recently adopted a baby bearded dragon named Ozzie!



ZB

Favorite Animal: Elephants

Fun Fact: I am an artist and a certified beekeeper that is fatally allergic to bee stings.



Sophie

Favorite Animal: Tasmanian devils

Fun Fact: I ride motorcycles and I'm fairly good at battleship.



Heidi

Favorite Animal: Shoebill stork

Fun Fact: I have an extensive Pokémon collection at home.



Chris

Favorite Animal: Amur leopard

Fun Fact: I played soccer for 10 years.



Kami

Favorite Animal: Whale shark

Fun Fact: I have the same birthday as Disneyland!

Meet the Team



Elisia

Favorite Animal: Axolotl

Fun Fact: I used to have two pet axolotls!



Kaitlin

Favorite Animal: Penguin

Fun Fact: I am president of the NAU Equestrian Club!



Ronnie

Favorite Animal: Manta ray

Fun Fact: I have a twin sister!



Catherine

Favorite Animal: Badgers

Fun Fact: I love to sing and have a pet snake.



Yasmine

Favorite Animal: Pigs

Fun Fact: I love to hike with my dog, Lucy!



Makenzie

Favorite Animal: Manatee

Fun Fact: My cat's name is Motor Oil, and he is a menace!



Leslie

Favorite Animal: Red panda

Fun Fact: I love to go hiking in the Superstition mountains!



Katie

Favorite Animal: Octopus

Fun Fact: I know a ton of fun camp games!



Emma



Celeste

Ayden

Favorite Animal: Tiger Shark

Fun Fact: Both my parents attended Camp Zoo when they were kids, and I attended Camp Zoo K-6th grade.

Tessa

Favorite Animal: Elephant

Fun Fact: I have been to many American National Parks, and even a few African Game Preserves.

Will

Favorite Animal: Bearded dragon

Fun Fact: I love playing table tennis.

Bill

Favorite Animal: African lion

Fun Fact: Avid Hiker/Climber

Angélica

Favorite Animal: Turkey vultures

Fun Fact: I am a photographer.

Kaylee

Favorite Animal: Reptiles

Fun Fact: I have two frogs and two cats!

Angela

Favorite Animal: Sloth

Fun Fact: I've visited 10+ countries!

Chennady

Favorite Animal: Jaguar

Fun Fact: I love hiking and off-roading in my free time.