



Welcome, Habitat Engineers!

We are thrilled to welcome you this summer. During your week, we will learn all about habitats around the world and how animals can survive and thrive in each habitat. We look forward to a week full of adventure and fun.

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). [Lunches are now available for purchase!](#)
- Two nut-free snacks.
- Fully enclosed shoes (no holes). You may bring shoes for water play.
- **For middle school campers, please bring a change of long pants and wear sturdy shoes that cover the whole foot!**

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

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:

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Special thanks to our sponsors!



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Helpful Links

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

Kindergarten Camp: HOWL Heroes!

Kindergarten Camp now features a **FULL DAY** extension! [Log into your account to add the extension today!](#)

Learn all about animals and what makes them unique! Explore animal diets, behavior patterns, habitats, life cycles and conservation to better understand how to care for and respect animals in the wild. By the end of the week, you'll be ready to HOWL (help out wildlife)!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	All Animals Eat	All Animals Rest	All Animals Have Homes	All Animals Have Life Cycles	I'm a HOWL Hero!
Nature Play	Each day, we will connect with the outdoors during Nature Play at our Red Barn Playground. Campers will eat a snack before they play.				
Morning Exploration Stations	Animal Diets: Learn about carnivores, herbivores, omnivores and insectivores.	Animal Behavior Patterns: Animals can be nocturnal, diurnal and crepuscular.	Animal Homes: Identifying and building homes for animals.	Animal Life Cycles: From butterflies to turtles and everything in between.	Helping Out Wildlife: Learn how to take care of the earth.
Animal Interaction*	Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos	Stingray Bay Encounter	Camel Rides	Goat Painting and Petting Zoo Encounter	Meet and Feed: Aldabra Tortoise
Animal Discovery*	Animal Diets Around the World	Animal Behavior Patterns in the Tropics	Animal Homes in the Desert	Life Cycles in the Grasslands	How We Can Help the Forests
Full-day campers have lunchtime next to our sand cat habitat. Half-day check out is at 11:45 a.m.					
Arts and Crafts	Animal Puppets	Forests at Night	Desert Sunset Tear Art	Caterpillar to Butterfly	Book Building
Snack and story time.					
Extended Learning Lab	Predator or Prey? Skull exploration.	Basics of Food Webs	Habitats Around the World	Tadpole to Frog	Where Does the Garbage Go?

*We do our best to stick to the planned Animal Discovery and interaction for each day, but we can never guarantee a specific animal. 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.

Camp Zoo Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

✓ I can say goodbye!

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 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.

Grades 1 – 2 Camp: Biodiversity Builders

There are many unique habitats around the world, but how do animals live in them? This week, we will explore what animals need to survive and thrive in unique habitats. This will culminate in a final project where they will design and build a model habitat for a wild animal of their choice.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	What is a Habitat?	Traveling the Tropics	Discovering the Desert	Scouting the Savannas	Finding the Forest
Nature Play	Each day, we will connect with the outdoors during Nature Play at our Enchanted Forest.				
<p>Each day, grades 1 – 6 have a joint morning snack time. On Tuesdays, they will get to watch a camp-exclusive special ambassador animal show during snack time.</p>					
Learning Activity	Welcome to Camp Zoo: Go through camp orientation.	The Many Layers: Identify and explore the many layers of the rainforest.	Project Time: Learn “survive and thrive” principles and work in a habitat design studio.	Project Time: Build an animal habitat.	Camp Rally and Habitat Gallery
Group A Animal Interaction*	Meet and Feed: Galápagos tortoise	Goat Grooming and Keeper Chat	Giraffe Encounter	Stingray Bay Encounter	Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos
Group B Animal Interaction*	Goat Grooming and Keeper Chat	Meet and Feed: Galápagos tortoise	Stingray Bay Encounter	Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos	Giraffe Encounter
Learning Lab: Expand on themes through indoor play.	Animal Discovery: On Mondays, enjoy a special extended Animal Discovery for the whole afternoon.	Tropical Tour: See tree frog creations.	Discover the Desert: See rock formations.	Savanna Safari: Imaginative play.	Forest Foragers: Learn animal tracking.
Grades 1 – 6 eat lunch together and play indoor games.					
Animal Discovery*	Campers’ Choice: Habitat Exploration	Surviving and Thriving in the Tropics	Desert Survival Ambassadors	Grassland Animal Observations	Woodland Animal Exploration
Each afternoon, Grades 1 – 6 have a joint afternoon snack time.					
Game Time	Animal Discovery: On Monday, enjoy a special extended Animal Discovery for the whole afternoon.	Spatial Awareness	Movement Exploration	Working With Others	Games

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Grades 3 – 4 Camp: Exhibit Engineers

How does a zoo care for an animal on habitat? This week, we will explore how zoos care for animals and how we plan and design new habitats at the Zoo. This will culminate in a final project where they will design and build a model zoo habitat for a wild animal of their choice.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	What is a Habitat?	Traveling the Tropics	Discovering the Desert	Scouting the Savannas	Finding the Forest
Learning Activity	Welcome to Camp Zoo: Go through camp orientation.	Chameleon Creations	Desert Discovery Day	Intro to Food Webs	Camp Rally
Group A Animal Interaction*	Stingray Bay Encounter	Giraffe Encounter	Backstage Tour: Nutrition Services and Zoolights	Ambassador Animal Resources Tour and Training Demo	Pelican Feeding Demo and Keeper Chat
Group B Animal Interaction*	Pelican Feeding Demo and Keeper Chat	Stingray Bay Encounter		Giraffe Encounter	Ambassador Animal Resources Tour and Training Demo

Each day, grades 1 – 6 have a joint morning snack time. On Tuesdays, they will get to watch a camp-exclusive special ambassador animal show during snack time.

Game Time	Icebreakers	Nature Play	Working With Others	Nature Play	Cooperative Teamwork
Learning Lab: Expand on themes through indoor play!	Exhibit Exploration Stations	Tropical Tour: Take on a rainforest STEM challenge.	Discover the Desert: Identifying Arizona animal tracks and scat.	Savanna Safari: Building food webs	Extra Building Time

Grades 1 – 6 eat lunch together and play indoor games.

Project Time	Project Introduction	Exhibit Design Studio	Exhibit Building Day	Species Label Creation	Habitat Gallery
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Each afternoon, Grades 1 – 6 have a joint afternoon snack time.

Animal Discovery*	Campers' Choice: Habitat Exploration	Tropical Exhibits	Desert Survival Ambassadors	Grassland Animal Observations	Woodland Animal Exploration
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Grades 5 – 6 Camp: Conservation Constructors

What is our relationship with habitats? How can we protect habitats? Learn this week about the ways zoos support local endangered species. This will culminate in a final project where they will design and build a model enclosure for a local endangered species, creating a model of a Camp Zoo Conservation Center.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	Why Do We Need Habitats?	Understanding the Human Impact	Understanding Our Habitat	Becoming an Advocate	Conservation at Home
Animal Interaction*	Stingray Bay Encounter	Meet and Feed: Chutti, the greater one-horned rhinoceros	Morning Hike in the Zoo Backstage Tour: Diversity in the Desert Reptile Exhibits	Morning Hike in the Zoo Backstage Tour: Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Conservation Center	Flamingo Flamingle
Game Time	Icebreakers	Working With Others	Cooperative Teamwork: Part One	Cooperative Teamwork: Part Two	Intro to Low Ropes
Each day, grades 1 – 6 have a joint morning snack time. On Tuesdays, they will get to watch a camp-exclusive special ambassador animal show during snack time.					
Learning Activity	Welcome to Camp Zoo: Go through camp orientation.	Camp Zoo Trash Audit	Desert Discovery Day	Advocacy Posters	Camp Rally
Grades 1 – 6 eat lunch together and play indoor games.					
Animal Discovery*	Campers' Choice: Habitat Exploration	Tropical Conservation	Desert Conservation Ambassadors	Grassland Animal Observations	Woodland Animal Exploration
Each afternoon, Grades 1 – 6 have a joint afternoon snack time.					
Project Time	Conservation Exploration Stations	Conservation Center Blueprint	Conservation Center Building Day	Extra Building Time	Habitat Gallery

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Grades 7 – 9: Horse Hands Camp Zoo

Welcome to Camp Zoo’s Horse Hands Camp, designed exclusively for middle school campers. This week we will learn all about horses and horsemanship, as well as discover how we can connect with and care for the natural world.

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

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 a longer time. Be prepared for the elements!

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	<p>Level One: Intro to horsemanship, horseback riding and conservation exploration. Level Two: Horseback riding, conservation and leadership.</p>				
Equine Arena	<p>We start every day in the equine area, where we will practice haltering, leading, grooming, saddling and riding horses.</p> <p>Level One: Learn how to halter, lead, groom, saddle, bridle, mount, dismount and ride horses. Our first ride will be on Thursday!</p> <p>Level Two: Learn how to tack up, hoof pick and shoe horses. Level two campers will be riding every day. Campers must have completed a level one Horse Hands Camp or class prior to attending!</p>				
Animal Discovery*	Habitat Exploration	Tour the Tropics	Desert Discovery	Graze the Grasslands	Wander the Woodlands
Barn Care	Meishan Pig Behavioral Enrichment Interaction	Tuesday through 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 to help keep the horses cool in the summer.			
Snack and Lunch Time	<p>Please bring two snacks without nuts and a lunch every day. Campers will have access to their lunchbox during snack times.</p> <p>Middle school campers will have a private lunch at 11:30 a.m.</p>				
Learning Activity	<p>Level One: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will explore the basics of horsemanship and horse anatomy, as well as practice basic knot-tying.</p> <p>Level Two: Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday we will dive deeper into learning about how to build relationships with horses, hoof care, riding technique and basic horse aids.</p>			<p>Level One: Local Wild Horses</p> <p>Level Two: Tahki Conservation and Tracking</p>	Prepare a presentation for the Camp Zoo Habitat Gallery.
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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