

# Parent Information Packet





# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP PARENT INFORMATION PACKET

#### Dear Parent and/or Guardian,

Thank you for allowing your camper to attend Zoofari Summer Camp at the Montgomery Zoo. It is our joy and pleasure to provide your camper with a wildlife adventure like none other.

At Zoofari Summer Camp, we plan to provide your camper with an experience that will be fun, exciting, and also educational. Each day we will adventure through a different theme with discovery stations, investigations, scavenger hunts, keeper talks, and animal presentations.

In this packet, you have received a list of camp requirements, camp release form, disciplinary code, list of daily activities, and lunch schedule. Please go over this information with your camper so they are aware of the daily activities and camp expectations. This should help answer some of your questions about our camp.

Let me remind you, that many of our activities will be held outside. Please dress your camper appropriately for the daily temperatures, and make sure to bring a water bottle. Also, if your camper has any special dietary needs, please make us aware. If it is best for you to provide the appropriate food and snacks for your camper, please feel free to do so.

Again, welcome to Zoofari Summer Camp! We are looking forward to a wonderful summer at the Montgomery Zoo. If we can be of any assistance, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Danielle Crowe
Education Curator
O (334) 625-4909 L

O (334) 625-4909 | M (334) 354-6034

dcrowe@montgomeryal.gov

MAYOR Steven L. Reed

ZOO DIRECTOR Marcia Woodard

2301 Coliseum Parkway Montgomery, AL 36110

(334) 625-4900 FAX (334) 625-4916

montgomeryzoo.com

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# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP PARENT INFORMATION PACKET

Please see the Zoofari Summer Camp release form that is included in your packet. We ask that you and your camper go over this form, sign it, and return it to the Education Department at check-in at the first day of camp. We must have this release form before your child can enter camp. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

• Drop off and pick up will be at the Front Gate of the Montgomery Zoo. A zoo representative will meet your child during these times:



Drop-off times: 8am - 8:30 am Pick up times: 4:30 pm - 5 pm

• We do offer extended care for those who may need to drop off earlier or pick up later for an additional \$25 per week. If you need to register for this service, please contact our camp director at 334-625-4909 or dcrowe@ montgomeryal.gov prior to the start of your camp week. A zoo representative will meet your child during these times for extended care:

Extended Care

Drop-off times: 7:30 am - 8 am Pick up times: 5 pm - 5:30 pm

- stShould you need to drop off later than 8:30 am or pick up earlier than 4:30 pm, please inform our camp director.st
- You will be given two ID cards to pick up your camper each day. The card must be displayed on the dashboard of your car. The second card can be given to a spouse or friend who may be picking up your child. More cards can be requested before camp begins. We will not release your child to a person without a card.
- A lunch menu has been provided for each day of camp (page 6 of this document). Lunch is at 12pm (noon) daily. If your camper will not eat the lunch provided for the day or has dietary restrictions, you may want to send an alternate lunch. Snacks and drinks will be provided daily (one AM and one PM), but you may send an alternate snack as well.
- Please send a water bottle labeled with your child's name with your camper every day. If they don't have one, we will provide cups for them to use. We always have a cooler of fresh cool water. Please talk to your camper about drinking lots of water during the day. It is important to stay hydrated throughout the day!
- Tennis shoes are required for all campers. We do a lot of walking and spend time on the playground. Flip flops, sandals, and crocs tend to be hard to walk in and a safety hazard for children on the playground.
- Please dress your child accordingly for the weather. Summers in Montgomery can be very hot and sometimes wet. We often need raincoats, and potentially a change of clothes should we get caught in a rainstorm. Please feel free to send these items in a backpack to be kept in our classroom should we need them at any point during the day.
- Gift Shop day will be on the last day (Friday) of the camp week. Your camper will be given an opportunity to go to both gift shops (Front Gate Main Admissions and the Mann Wildlife Learning Museum). This is the only day that they will need money. Adult counselors are willing to hold money for the campers. If you would like us to hold your camper's money, please place it in an envelope and label it with the camper's name. We can only replace money if we are the ones that lost it.

### ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP RELEASE STATEMENTS

Medication Waiver: I understand that camp staff will hold my child's medication in a safe location. Camp staff is not responsible for reminding my child when to take medication, nor will they administer it to my child. It is my responsibility as Parent/Guardian to inform my child of proper dosage and release the Montgomery Zoo from any and all claims resulting from my child bringing medication to camp.

**Authorization of Treatment:** I hereby give my permission to the medical personnel selected by the camp director to order treatment and necessary



transportation for my child in case of emergency. In the event I cannot be reached in an emergency, I hereby give my permission to the physician to secure and administer treatment to my child.

**Release Statement:** I acknowledge that there are natural hazards associated with camp programs and related activities. I understand that this is an active camp and that many of the activities will take place outdoors on zoo grounds. I hereby affirm that my child is in good health and physically capable of performing the required activities of the camp. I hereby release and forever discharge the Montgomery Zoo from all claim of liability for any damages or injuries which may be sustained while my child is at camp.

**Photo Release:** I give my consent, to the Montgomery Zoo and the Montgomery Area Zoological Society, without compensation to me or the youth/applicant on this form to use any photographs or videotape taken of the youth/applicant on these form in future promotional or marketing materials of Montgomery Zoo.

Parent/Guardian signature	Date	Camp dates attending

**Zoofari Camp Disciplinary Policy:** Zoofari Camp is meant to be a fun, educational, and recreational activity. For the benefit of all campers, it is important that children behave appropriately within the summer camps. If it becomes necessary to take disciplinary action against a camper, the steps are outlined below.

**1st incident:** The camper will receive a verbal warning and an explanation as to why their behavior is inappropriate (whenever possible this will be done away from other campers).

**2nd incident:** Staff will determine an appropriate consequence for the camper's action. For example, the camper may receive a time out or exclusion from participating in an activity. The camper's parent/guardian will be notified of their behavior when they arrive to pick up the child.

**3rd incident:** The camper will be excused from camp without a tuition refund.

The Zoofari Camp Director and Zoo Director reserve the right to ban any child from zoo camp following a first incident in cases of serious behavior problems.

# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP CODE OF CONDUCT AGREEMENT

#### **Camper Code of Conduct**

In order to maintain a safe, peaceful, and positive Zoofari Camp environment, we require parents/guardians and campers to read and comprehend the importance of abiding by the following code of conduct.



I will follow the camp schedule. I will bring only necessary items to camp (no weapons, no electronic items, no valuables, etc.) I will respect counselors, directors, other campers, and animals by following all proper behavior procedures. This includes, but is not limited to: foul language, name calling, bullying, teasing, and/or fighting. I will follow all safety rules set forth by the camp staff.

Parent/Guardian signature	Date
Camper signature	Date

**Parents and/or Guardian:** We ask that you and your camper go over this form, sign it, and return it to the Education Department at check-in at the first day of camp. We must have this release form before your child can enter camp. *Thank you for your attention to this matter.* 

# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP LUNCH MENU

Lunch is served at the Overlook Cafe at 12pm daily. If your camper will not eat the lunch provided for the day, please send an alternate lunch with them. Snacks will be provided twice daily (mid-morning & mid-afternoon). You may send an alternate and/ or extra snack as well.



Please see the daily menu below.

Monday: Hot dog with chips, Tummy Yummy juice, slushie

Tuesday: Grilled cheese with chips, Tummy Yummy juice, slushie

Wednesday: Chicken fingers with fries, Tummy Yummy juice, slushie

Thursday: Hamburger with fries, Tummy Yummy juice, slushie

Friday: Cheese pizza with chips, Tummy Yummy juice, slushie

# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP MONDAY ACTIVITES

#### Adventure Theme of the Day: Pirate Adventure

#### Intro to camp

- -- Intro to each other and counselors
- -- Name tags, shirts, rules, camp expectations

#### **Choose Your Own Adventure Scavenger Hunt**

- -- lead by Zooteens and Docents
- -- campers will be given two scenarios from which to choose to create an adventure through the Zoo

#### **Animal Ambassador presentations**

- -- all participants will have an opportunity to meet the following animals up close:
- 1) Spec, white-fronted Amazon parrot
- 2) Redd, military macaw
- 3) Spud, rhinoceros iguana
- 4) Serget, emperor scorpion
- 5) Chelsea, Patagonian cavy (mara)

#### **Keeper talks**

- -- Bengal Tiger
- -- Cheetah

#### **STEAM Activities**

- -- Pirate themed STEAM Activity Stations
- -- Miscellaneous craft time

#### **Extra outside activities**

- -- Game/Conversation time
- -- Train, sky lift
- -- Playground

#### Food / beverages

- -- AM and PM snack with drink (rest & socialization time)
- -- Noon lunch with drink



# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP TUESDAY ACTIVITES

#### Adventure Theme of the Day: Forest Trek

#### **Choose Your Own Adventure Scavenger Hunt**

- -- lead by Zooteens and Docents
- -- campers will be given two scenarios from which to choose to create an adventure through the Zoo

#### **Animal Ambassador presentations**

- -- all participants will have an opportunity to meet the following animals up close:
  - 1) Albus, turkey
  - 2) Oso, kinkajou
  - 3) Ember, crested gecko
  - 4) Donald, Daisy, Huey, Luey, & Duey, dart frogs
  - 5) Homer, ball python

#### **Keeper talks**

- -- North American Hoof Stock
- -- Maned Wolves & Giant Anteater

#### **STEAM Activities**

- -- Worm Composting Activity led by EATSouth (will not be available the week of June 10)
- -- Forest themed STEAM Activity Stations
- -- Miscellaneous craft time

#### **Extra outside activities**

- -- Game/Conversation time
- -- Train, sky lift
- -- Playground

#### Food / beverages

- -- AM and PM snack with drink (rest & socialization time)
- -- Noon lunch with drink



# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP WEDNESDAY ACTIVITES

#### Adventure Theme of the Day: Space Journey

#### **Choose Your Own Adventure Scavenger Hunt**

- -- lead by Zooteens and Docents
- -- campers will be given two scenarios from which to choose to create an adventure through the Zoo

#### **Animal Ambassador presentations**

- -- all participants will have an opportunity to meet the following animals up close:
  - 1) Tammy, Loretta, & Conway, sugar gliders
  - 2) Gunner, red-tailed hawk
  - 3) Lyra, turkey vulture
  - 4) Toby, chinchilla
  - 5) Dezzy, desrt kingsnake

#### **Keeper talks**

- -- Siamang
- -- Cougar

#### **STEAM Activities**

- -- Space themed STEAM Activity Stations
- -- Miscellaneous craft time

#### **Extra outside activities**

- -- Game/Conversation time
- -- Train, sky lift
- -- Playground

#### Food / beverages

- -- AM and PM snack with drink (rest & socialization time)
- -- Noon lunch with drink



# ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP THURSDAY ACTIVITES

#### Adventure Theme of the Day: Ocean Voyage

#### **Choose Your Own Adventure Scavenger Hunt**

- -- lead by Zooteens and Docents
- -- campers will be given two scenarios from which to choose to create an adventure through the Zoo

#### **Animal Ambassador presentations**

- -- all participants will have an opportunity to meet the following animals up close:
  - 1) Desoto, gopher tortoise
  - 2) Madagascar hissing cockroaches
  - 3) Styx, uromastyx
  - 4) Bandit, pueblan milksnake
  - 5) Ike, bettong

#### **Keeper talks**

- -- Waters of the World
- -- Africa Savanna

#### **STEAM Activities**

- -- Ocean themed STEAM Activity Stations
- -- Miscellaneous craft time

#### **Extra outside activities**

- -- Game/Conversation time
- -- Train, sky lift
- -- Playground

#### Food / beverages

- -- AM and PM snack with drink (rest & socialization time)
- -- Noon lunch with drink



## ZOOFARI SUMMER CAMP FRIDAY ACTIVITES

#### Adventure Theme of the Day: Safari Fun

#### **Choose Your Own Adventure Scavenger Hunt**

- -- lead by Zooteens and Docents
- campers will be given two scenarios from which to choose to create an adventure through the Museum in dark with flashlights

#### **Animal Ambassador presentations**

- -- all participants will have an opportunity to meet the following animals up close:
  - 1) Wendy, African serval cat
  - 2) Anala, Australian dingo
  - 3) Ma Cherie, red river hog
  - 4) Neema, black-throated monitor lizard

#### **Keeper talks**

- -- Elephant
- -- Chimpanzee

#### **STEAM Activities**

- -- Safari themed STEAM Activity Stations
- -- Miscellaneous craft time

#### **Extra outside activities**

- -- Game/Conversation time
- -- Train, sky lift
- -- Playground

#### Food / beverages

- -- AM and PM snack with drink (rest & socialization time)
- -- Noon lunch with drink

