GREETINGS TO YOU FROM AUSTIN ZOO!

Thank you for choosing Austin Zoo as a trusted summer camp destination. We are proud to provide you and your child memorable and life-changing experiences. As the only Zoological Association of America accredited zoo in the Austin area, we take seriously this opportunity to connect you and your children with the natural world. Your camper will participate in animal encounters, zoo-based science activities, crafts, active games and keeper chats. To ensure everyone has a good time during camp, campers are grouped by age; a professional educator and naturalist leads each group and instructor to camper ratios are intentionally kept low. Come join us this summer for a roaring good time!

The official camp day will begin at 9:30AM and run until 4PM Monday through Friday. Each camp registration will include a free Zoo Camp t-shirt. Additional shirts are available for purchase for $10.00 each.

CAMP SCHEDULE AND PRICING
Monday through Friday
9:30 AM - 4:00 PM
Members: $350 per week
Early Bird Registration: $365 per week
General Registration: $400 per week
Additional Camp Shirts: $10 each

RESERVATIONS INSTRUCTIONS
• Member registration will open on January 30, 2023. Early bird registration will open February 6, 2023 and close at the end of the day of February 28, 2023. General registration will begin on March 1, 2023.
• Reservations must be made online. Please visit the website www.austinzoo.org/education-programs.
• Please include your credit card information when making your reservation online. If you need to make payment via another method, email education@austinzoo.org. Please note that your spot will not be held until payment has been processed.
• Each child will receive a camp T-shirt with each week’s tuition. To increase group awareness, we encourage campers to wear their official camp t-shirt all week. Additional t-shirts can be purchased for $10 each. Please indicate shirt size on your registration form.
• Each camp is $350 for zoo members. If you are not yet a zoo member and would like to receive a discounted price of $365 per camp, please be sure to register during our early bird registration timeframe! Starting March 1, general registration will be $400 per week for non-members.
• Once payment has been processed, you will receive an email confirmation with details about the camp. Please make sure that you enter your email correctly on the registration form so that we can confirm your reservation.
• If you have specific camp questions, please call the Education Department at (512) 288-1490, Ext. 107 or email education@austinzoo.org.

CANCELLATION, CHANGE & REFUND POLICIES
To receive a full refund, less a $40 cancellation fee per camp, cancellations must be made two weeks prior to the start of the camp. Cancellations made less than two weeks before the start of the camp will not be refunded. All cancellations must be given in writing or by email. No refunds will be given due to inclement weather. Registration is non-refundable if space is available. Austin Zoo reserves the right to separate or combine camps.

CAMP DESCRIPTIONS
Zoolympics
Ages 6-8
June 5th - 9th, June 12th - 16th, June 19th - 23rd
Calling all Zoolympians! We are holding our annual Zoolympics right here at the Austin Zoo. Don’t miss out on your opportunity to witness these amazing feats of nature. Campers will compete in fun activities, all while learning about animals with extreme adaptations that make them true Zoolympians!

Backyard Biologists
Ages 7-9
June 26th - 30th, July 3rd - 7th, July 10th - 14th
Texas is a HUGE state! It’s so big that scientists have found that there are SEVEN different natural regions across the Lone Star state. These natural regions have their own characteristics and their own diverse wildlife. In this camp, campers will go on an adventure to each of these regions. They will learn all about the different animals and plants they might find there and what they can do to protect them. By the end of week, they will all be real Backyard Biologists deep in the heart of Texas!

Warriors for Wildlife
Ages 9-12
July 17th - 21st, July 24th - 28th
Calling all Warriors for Wildlife! There are forces threatening our animals, our ecosystems – our ENTIRE planet, and we need YOUR help! In this weeklong journey, campers will explore different areas around the world, learning about conservation issues and how they can lend a hand. Through activities and encounters, campers will become great Warriors for Wildlife!

If I Built a Zoo
Ages 7 - 11
July 31st - August 4th, August 7th - 11th
Calling all future zookeepers! Do you know what it takes to run a zoo? Join us as we explore the Austin Zoo to learn all about why zoos are so important, what it’s like to work at a zoo, and how to design your own zoo!
SUMMER CAMP FAQS

When does registration begin?
Zoo member registration will begin on January 30, 2023, early bird registration for non-members will open on February 6, 2023 and will close at the end of the day on February 28, 2023. General registration for non-members will begin on March 1, 2023.

How do I register online?
Visit the website www.austinzoo.org/education-programs, and click on the summer camp registration link. From this link you will be able to fill out the registration and health forms. You will then be taken to a PayPal link for online payment. You may also enter your credit card information for payment if you do not have a Paypal account.

What happens if a camp is full?
If a camp is full, you will be contacted by the Education Department and placed on a waiting list. When Austin Zoo receives a cancellation, the available space will be offered to the first person on the waiting list.

Do you make age exceptions for siblings or friends to be in the same group?
In an effort to be consistent and to maintain age appropriate social-emotional and academic experiences, we do not make age exceptions. If you have an ADA accommodation, please contact the Education Department at 512-288-1490 Ext. 107 or education@austinzoo.org.

How do I change my registration to a different week of camp?
To change your registration, you can call the education staff at 512-288-1490 Ext. 107 or email us at education@austinzoo.org.

How large are the camp groups?
The maximum camp size is 20 campers to ensure every camper has the opportunity to participate in all activities.

What does my camper need to bring to camp?
It is very hot in Central Texas during the summer, so it is important that every camper brings a water bottle and wears sunscreen and bug repellent. The Austin Zoo summer camp does not provide lunch or snacks, so parents should make sure campers bring a filling lunch and one or two snacks to eat throughout the day. Campers should not bring electronics, phones or toys. Our goal is to focus on nature, and not worry about losing or damaging important possessions.

What does my camper need to wear to camp?
Campers MUST wear closed-toe shoes to protect their feet while walking the natural pathways at the zoo. Hats are strongly recommended, and clothes should be comfortable. We highly recommend wearing the official Austin Zoo Camp t-shirt to camp each day.

What does a typical day at Zoo Camp look like?
10:00AM – Zoo walk
10:30AM – Ambassador animal
11:00AM – Science activity and making enrichment
12:00PM – Lunch, animal games, and free play
1:00PM – Ambassador animal
1:30PM – Animal themed craft time
2:00PM – Animal games and delivering enrichment
3:00PM – Keeper talk
3:30PM – Free play and crafting time
4:00PM – Pack up and get ready for home

CHECK OUT THESE PROGRAMS, TOO!

Birthday Parties
Austin Zoo is a great location for birthday parties for all ages! Austin Zoo birthday parties can be held in our Picnic Grove or in one of our three venues: Peacock Barn, Primate Pavilion or indoors in the Events Pavilion. Put your own party together or choose one of our party packages that includes an animal experience, feed, invitations and more. Call (512) 288-1490 for more information or to reserve!

Scout Workshops
Austin Zoo offers workshops for both Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts! Check out our website to see which topics we cover, or call us at (512) 288-1490, Ext. 107 or email us at education@austinzoo.org to design a special program for your group.

Homeschool Programs
The Homeschool Nature Series features hands-on environmental science classes and in-depth labs designed specifically for homeschooling families. Check our website for the schedule.

Annual Events
Austin Zoo hosts family friendly annual events such as Homeschool Day, Earth Day, and Boo at the Zoo! Check back regularly for more information on these unique family fun times!

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How much time do campers spend with the animals and behind-the-scenes?
Spending time with animals is the heart of the Zoo Camp experience! Throughout the week, campers will assist zookeepers by creating enrichment items or prepping a diet. At least once a day, and sometimes more often, campers get to see up-close or touch an education ambassador animal. Barring extreme weather, campers will tour zoo grounds for 2 - 4 hours a day.

Have more questions?
Email us at education@austinzoo.org or call at 512-288-1490 Ext. 107, and the education staff can answer any other questions.

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