

Summer Safari Camp Listing 2024

Summer Safari Camps are week-long experiences featuring fun live animals, games, activities and crafts.

- Each camper receives 2 t-shirts, water bottle and daily snack.
- Camps run 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., unless otherwise noted.
- Before and after camp care is available for an additional fee. Before Camp is \$30 per week (runs 8AM-9AM) and After Camp is \$50 per week (runs 3PM-5PM).
- Camp is a Drop-off program

Refund Policy: Refund requests must be submitted via email to Nicole.martin@toledo zoo.org. Requests received before May 31 are eligible for 100% refund. After May 31, requests will receive a 50% refund.

Half Day Camps for 4-5 year olds:

\$150 members \$175 non-members

Camps run 9:00am-Noon

Animal Babies

From Cubs to Calves, learn all about the newest residents of the Zoo and how they grow up.

- Session 1: June 3-7
- Session 2: July 8-12

Hide and Seek

Ready, set, go! Get ready for a zoo adventure that explores the world of animal trickery. Whether the animals need to hide or seek they have all kinds of tricks to stay alive and thrive in the wild. We'll explore camouflaged animals, mimicking animals and danger colored animals.

- Session 1: June 24-28
- Session 2: July 29- August 2

Move It Move It

Fly, swim, climb and hop along with animals. Discover all the ways animals move around their world.

- Session 1: June 17-21
- Session 2: July 22-26

Splash Bash!

Get your goggles ready and dive into this fun camp about underwater animals. This camp will be visiting the Splash Pad (day dependent on weather).

- Session 1: June 10-14
- Session 2: July 15-19
- Session 3: August 5-9

Camps for 6-10 year olds:

\$250 members \$300 non-members

Camps run 9:00am-3:00pm

Africa Safari

Grab your gear and join us on a Safari to discover cheetahs, hippos, gorillas, and all of the amazing animals that call Africa home!

- Session 1: June 3-7
- Session 2: June 17-21
- Session 3: August 5-9

Rainforest Rangers

Calling all Rainforest Rangers! Join us on a mission to learn all about rainforests around the world and what you can do to help them!

- Session 1: June 3-7
- Session 2: June 24-28
- Session 3: July 15-19

Animal Giants

From Elephants to Crocodiles, discover all the colossal critters that call the Zoo home

- Session 1: June 3-7
- Session 2: June 24-28
- Session 3: July 22-26

Survivor: Zoo Edition

Do you think you have what it takes to face some of nature's toughest challenges? Work together to overcome obstacles and discover how the zoo animals tough it out in some of the harshest habitats around the globe!

- Session 1: June 10-14
- Session 2: July 8-12
- Session 3: July 29-August 2

Monkeying Around

Join in on all the monkey fun in this camp. Learn about the many species of primates, along with some other tree-dwelling friends.

- Session 1: June 10-14
- Session 2: July 15-19
- Session 3: July 29-August 2

Wilderness Explorers

Follow the footprints, search for scat, and listen for calls in this camp all about the clues animals leave behind. Earn "badges" as you discover tracks from your own back yard to all over the world.

- Session 1: June 10-14
- Session 2: July 22-26
- Session 3: July 29-August 2

Zoo Olympics

Go for the gold in this camp all about the athletes of the animal world!

- Session 1: June 17-21
- Session 2: July 15-19
- Session 3: August 5-9

Wildlife Warriors

Why does a skunk spray? A rattlesnake rattle? Or a turtle have a shell? Learn the answers to all these questions and more in this exciting camp all about animal defenses.

- Session 1: June 17-21
- Session 2: July 8-12
- Session 3: August 5-9

Radical Reptiles

Slither, scoot, or crawl into this camp to learn all about the Zoo's scaly creatures.

- Session 1: June 24-28
- Session 2: July 8-12
- Session 3: July 22-26

Camps for 8-12 year olds:

\$250 members \$300 non-members

Camps run 9:00am-3:00pm

Animal Behavior

Animals have behaviors for everything from finding food to interacting with each other! Keeping animals happy and healthy at the Zoo is a full-time job. See how our staff creates enrichment, trains the animals for health check-ups, and designs exhibits for natural behaviors of the animals.

- Session 1: June 3-7
- Session 2: June 24-28
- Session 3: July 22-26

Master Builder

Do you have what it takes to earn the title of Master Builder? Discover what goes into building and designing animal exhibits at the zoo, and then put your skills to the test by creating an animal exhibit of your very own!

- Session 1: June 10-14
- Session 2: July 8-12
- Session 3: July 29-August 2

Wild Artist

Let's create wild art! Grab your paintbrushes and markers and get ready to make your own animal artwork to exhibit at the end of the week art show.

- Session 1: June 17-21
- Session 2: July 15-19
- Session 3: August 5-9

Camps for 10-15 year olds:

\$350 members \$400 non-members

Camps run 9:00am-3:00pm

Saving Species

Zoos help animals all around the world, but especially right around our home area of Ohio. Dive into the cool conservation projects the Zoo staff has worked on including turtles, snakes, butterflies and more. Join our Conservation staff out in the field trapping, measuring and tagging turtles. As an added bonus, some of the days will include fishing. Anglers play an important role in helping to preserve our natural areas. Fishing poles and bait will be provided.

**This camp goes off-grounds to Cedar Point National Wildlife Refuge and multiple Toledo Metroparks. An Itinerary will be provided.*

- Session 1: June 17-21
- Session 2: July 8-12

Bird Camp

*Do you love birds? Join our resident ornithologist in this camp all about our feathered friends! Go on morning bird walks through the park, learn what our bird keepers do, and visit some of the area's best birding spots. Use the tools of the trade to help identify birds from knowing their features to learning their songs. *This camp goes off-grounds. An Itinerary will be provided.*

- Session 1: June 3-7
- Session 2: July 29-August 2

Junior Zookeeper

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a zookeeper? Find out all the basics of Zoo keeping and how our keepers take care of animals every day. You will get the chance to clean exhibits and prepare diets—even go behind the scenes! Each Section will include at least 2 behind the scenes experiences, 2 exhibit cleaning experiences and one keeper talk.

Below are just a few of the experiences each topic offers. Section A and B will have different activities.

Section A

Behind-the-Scenes Tours: Reptile House, Penguins
Exhibit Cleaning Experience: Elephant Exhibit, Barnyard

Section B

Behind-the-Scenes Tours: Vet Hospital, Africa Barn/Ostrich
Exhibit Cleaning Experience: Rhino, Bears

Both Section A and B will run every week of the summer

- June 3-7
- June 10-14
- June 17-21
- June 24-28
- July 8-12
- July 15-19
- July 22-26
- July 29-August 2
- August 5-9

Leaders of the Pack

Challenge yourself in this camp all about being a leader! Check out what it takes to be one of our Zoo Teens and how our education department inspires visitors. Try our Aerial adventure course and create your very own video for a zoo animal. Campers will spend the night in one of our buildings! Camp runs 9:00am-3:00pm (M, T, F) Overnight Adventure (W 6pm- Th 10am)

- Session 1: June 10-14
- Session 2: June 24-28
- Session 3: July 22-26

Frequently Asked Questions

Who are the Camp Teachers?

- Camp Teachers are 18 years old or older. They have been background checked by the Zoo.
- Many of our teachers are school teachers during the year or are in the education field.

What if there is bad weather?

- Camp runs rain or shine. Please send your child with appropriate clothing.
- The Zoo has severe weather shelters.

Can I get a refund?

- A full refund will be given prior to May 31.
- After May 31, your camper may be able to be moved to a new week depending on availability or a 50% refund can be given.

Can I switch weeks?

- Your camper can switch weeks if there are spots available without penalty.

What will my child be doing all day?

- Your camper will be visiting Zoo exhibits, playing games associated with the topic, seeing live animal demos and often doing a craft.

Sample Full Day (6-10 yr) Camp Schedule	
Time	Activity
8:45-9:15	Check In

9:15-12:00	Lesson & Activity/Game
	Animal Demo/Snack
	Exhibit Visit
	Game or Activity
12:00-1:00	Lunch
1:00-2:45	Craft/ Animal Demo
	Lesson & Activity
	Exhibit Visit
	Game/Activity
2:45-3:00	Check Out

- Specialty and Experience camps have custom schedules that are described in their listings.

What if I need to pick up early or drop off late?

- If you need to pick up early or drop off late you will need to arrange this with camp management. If you are able to do this prior, that is preferred.
- If you need to drop off late, please bring your camper to the Visitor Services Lobby. They will radio camp to get your child to the proper location.

Is there a waitlist?

- If there is a camp that is full that you would like your child to attend, we do keep waitlists.
- The waitlist is maintained by Lisa Runyan. You can contact her at ext. 2042 or at lisa.runyan@toledo zoo.org

What if my child has allergies?

- Please let us know your child’s allergies in the registration.
- We have various snacks that can accommodate most food allergies, but campers with food allergies can bring their own snack
- Camp teachers can carry EpiPens. Full-time Zoo staff are trained on how to use them along with the Zoo’s medic on grounds.
- Camp does allow peanut butter for camper lunches.
- The Zoo cannot guarantee allergy free locations. Many of the animals at the Zoo eat peanuts, peanut butter, eggs, and hay.

Is the staff First Aid/CPR Certified?/What if my child has an emergency at Zoo Camp?

- Full time staff across the Zoo are both First Aid and CPR certified. Camp teachers are not, but camp management is.
- The Zoo has a medic on grounds every day of summer camp.

What if my child needs accommodations?

- Zoo camp has two inclusion specialists that work to help campers with accessibility.
- You must contact the Camp manager prior to registration to make sure camp is a good fit and that we are aware of the accommodations needed.

Camper Rules

Toledo Zoo Summer Safari Camp has FIVE rules.

1. Listen and Follow Directions
2. Respect each other and the camp teachers
3. Respect Zoo Property and the Animals
4. Participate in all camp activities
5. Have Fun!

Camper Behavior Expectations and Management

A violation of the rules above will result in consequences. These violations can include hitting other campers, being disruptive, running away from teachers, using inappropriate language, etc. These consequences will take the following steps (depending on the seriousness of the violation):

- Step 1: Verbal Warning
- Step 2: Cool Down with Camp Manager
- Step 3: Time out with Camp Manager and Phone Call to Parent
- Step 4: Sent Home for the Day
- Step 5: If all of these steps are gone through a second day, the child may be asked to not attend camp for the rest of the week.

Fighting, hitting, bullying, biting, theft, and destruction of property may result in immediate dismissal from camp.

Immediate Dismissal

- Intentional Violence of any kind (Physical such as punching and kicking with full awareness, emotional or verbal abuse/violence) is not tolerated at Toledo Zoo Summer Safari Camp.
- Jumping in exhibits, throwing objects at animals and/or hitting animals will result in immediate dismissal
- Weapons and drugs are not permitted on Zoo property and will result in immediate dismissal.

- Our Staff reserves the right to immediately dismiss a camper whose behavior endangers the safety of themselves or others including animals, thereby bypassing some of the disciplinary steps listed above.

Camper Health and Sickness

- Please do not send your child to camp sick.
- If your child will miss most of the week due to an illness, we can look to move your camper to another week of camp.
- Some children may not feel well at camp or have minor injury and request to go home. Camp management will talk to the child first and have them take a break from the group. We may call the parent to discuss the situation. It may then be determined that your child stay at camp or if the situation is more serious we may request someone come pick up the camper.
- A child must be picked up if they have an injury that will require medical attention, vomit, and/or have a fever.

Accessibility

Everyone benefits when children of all abilities play and learn together!

Inclusion Specialists:

- The Zoo has Inclusion Specialists that work with children in their camp group. These specialists can help with minor accommodations and the main goal is to help children participate fully in camp.
- Successful Campers will be able to participate in activities with groups of 10-15 campers.
- Camp staff will communicate with parents on successes and challenges from each day and discuss strategies for success.
- The Zoo is limited in these resources and may not be able to provide individual support for all needs.

Campers that Zoo Camps cannot Successfully Support:

- Campers that an inclusion model will not work i.e. are unable to be in the group for much of the day
- Have aggressive behaviors with adults or peers, self-injure, or cannot follow Zoo rules
- Have impulse control challenges that prevent them from being safe in a large, open public setting

Campers that require an outside Aid:

- Campers have been allowed at camp with an Aid that they have brought to camp.

- This needs to be arranged PRIOR to registration.