

**“A WALK on the WILDSIDE”
SUMMER ZOO CAMP
2010**

THE FIRST DAY

Please bring your child to the **Corporate Pavilion Gate** of the Zoo where a counselor will meet you. Please wait with your child to check-in and complete any necessary information.

MORNING DROP OFF

After the first day, bring your child to the **Zoo’s Main Entrance**. If you have paid for AM extended care, you will need to drop your child off **after 7:30** each morning. **DO NOT** drop off campers earlier than this, as a staff member will not be present. Campers that are not enrolled in AM extended care will need to arrive between 8:50-9:00 each morning. If you arrive late please escort your child to the Zoo Office.

AFTERNOON PICK-UP

Each afternoon you will need to pick up your child at the **Zoo’s Main Entrance** at the scheduled time. If you have paid for PM extended care you will need to pick you child **up before 5:30**. Counselors will begin calling emergency contacts at 5:35. We ask that you please pick up your child at the appointed time, as a late fee of \$5.00 will be charged. The late fee must be paid before your child can attend camp the following day. Anyone picking up a child must be listed on the pick up list, present a valid picture ID and sign the child out. Please Note: There will be **NO** exceptions to this rule!!

CLOTHING

On the first day of camp, each camper will receive a camp T-shirt. Additional shirts may be purchased for \$10. We do a lot of walking, so campers should wear comfortable shoes. For you child’s safety, we require **closed-toed shoes** such as tennis shoes or hiking boots. Please remember that children will be active throughout the day, and should wear comfortable clothing. On Friday, we may play water games and camper’s clothing may become wet. You may want to send spare clothing with your camper or bring spare clothing at pick up.

SHOPPING

On Friday, we will take campers who wish to purchase souvenirs to the Zoo Gift Shop. If you send money with your child, please place it in an envelope with the child’s name and the amount of money enclosed, and give it to the camp counselor on Friday morning.

SNACKS

Half-day campers will receive morning snacks with full-day campers receiving morning and afternoon snacks.

LUNCH

Campers **WILL BE** responsible for their own lunch. They are welcome to bring a sack lunch from home or purchase lunch at the Flaming Flamingo Café. A menu is attached for your convenience. Please note that check or credit cards are not accepted for lunch.

PERSONAL BELONGINGS

Please be sure to label all personal items with your child’s name. We can not be responsible for lost, damaged, or stolen items. Please leave all cell phones, toys, radios, video games, etc. at home. If brought, these items will be kept in Education Curator’s office until the end of the day. Cameras are permitted; however we suggest an inexpensive or disposable one. We encourage campers to wear a hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, insect repellent and bring a water bottle daily.

WEATHER

Summer will bring sunshine, heat, and rain. Please dress your child appropriately for the weather. Activities will take place in sunny areas, shaded areas, and in air-conditioned buildings, and will occur rain or shine.

GROUPS & ACTIVITIES

Camp will include a variety of activities including arts and crafts, zoo walks, animal encounters, education programs, keeper talks, and games. Camp programs include age-appropriate educational activities. Groups are arranged by age.

BEHAVIOR MANAGEMENT / EXPECTATIONS

The zoo has a fair and effective behavior management strategy to insure a fun and educational camp. We do not want one child's inappropriate behavior to infringe upon other children's camp experience. Most of the time, children are eager to participate in the camp activities and respect each other. Please review the expectations and consequences with your child before his/her first day of camp.

Expectations

- Respect Counselors and Assistant Counselors (no crude, rude, or derogatory language permitted)
- Respect other campers, staff, animals, and property
- Participate in activities with a positive attitude
- Follow staff instructions and use manners
- Play safely at all times

Consequences

- First offence: First verbal warning
- Second offence: Verbal warning; Isolated from group for 10 min
- Third offence: Meet with Education Curator
- Fourth offence: Education Curator calls parents
- Fifth offence: Education Curator call parents, & child must go home

PARENTAL SUPPORT

Zoo camp is fun and educational, but learning improves with parental support. We welcome all questions, concerns, and suggestions. At the end of the week, we will send a survey home with your camper. Please fill out this survey and return it to the zoo. This helps us improve camps and determine what activities and camps we will have next year.

THANKS!

We believe the Louisiana Purchase Gardens & Zoo offers a unique setting for education and enjoyment during the summer. We appreciate having your child at camp. If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Kimberly Walker at (318) 329-3308 or by emailing kim.bachus@ci.monroe.la.us.

Kimberly Bachus Walker
Education Curator
329-3308