

General Camp Information

Classes are divided up by the grade level which children will be entering in the fall. Each class level is labeled with a color. Children entering 1st and 2nd grade have a choice of a full-day (green) or half-day (yellow) camp.

All grade levels, including preschool, will participate in the following experiences during Zoo Camp:

- Silly songs and fun crafts
- Interactive lessons and games
- Tours of parts of or all of the Zoo
- Interaction with zookeepers
- Animal encounters with the Zoo's Animal Ambassadors
- The making and/or watching of a special enrichment for a resident animal or Animal Ambassador

All of the Zoo's classes incorporate California Life Science Standards

Little Peeps: *Preschool*

Each Little Peeps class is two hours long, from 9:30 am to 11:30 am, and is designed for children 3 to 5 years old with a caregiver. Little Peeps class themes are the same for the whole week; simply register for one day per week: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday.

Eye Spy: *June 6th, 7th, 8th or 9th*

A hawk spies a mouse on the ground from high in the air. A tiger spies his prey through the jungle trees. A lion spies her prey from across the savannah. What do you spy with your little eyes?

Hide and Seek: *June 13th, 14th, 15th or 16th*

Many animals here at the Zoo are masters of camouflage. They are hiding, do you think you can find them? Come with us and try your best to seek them all out!

Follow the Tracks: *July 11th, 12th, 13th or 14th*

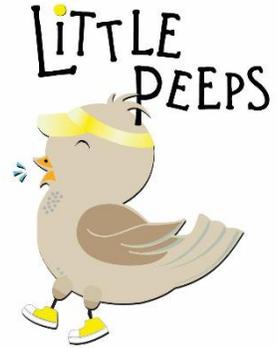
We learn all kinds of things from tracks on the ground. Join us to see what kinds of footprints animals leave behind and maybe even make some tracks yourself!

Predator and Prey: *August 1st, 2nd, 3rd or 4th*

This week we will focus on the predator-prey relationships of animals in the wild. Birds of prey can be fearsome hunters but can also be prey to bigger birds! Predators and prey alike need to be sneaky, good at hiding or fast to run away or catch their prey!

Zoo Detectives: *August 8th, 9th, 10th or 11th*

Come solve a mystery with us! Use your observant eyes, look closely, find some clues and use what we have learned throughout the summer to solve this animal mystery together as Zoo Detectives!



Red: Kindergarten

Each red camp is Monday – Friday, three hours per day from 9 am to 12:00 pm and is designed for students entering Kindergarten in the fall.

Treetop Trek: June 12th-16th

When we picture animals in trees we often think of birds, but so many other creatures live high in the sky! From parrots to pythons, trek with us through the treetops to learn who calls that habitat their home.

Naturally Inspired: June 26th-30th

The natural world is filled with so many beautiful colors, patterns and living things. Campers will take their cues from nature, and even use natural materials while creating unique art all week long!

Storybook Safari: July 17th-21st

Animals have inspired some of our favorite stories over the years. Each day we will read a story together and then visit or meet up close the animals who inspired the story and characters! Our favorite books will come to life right before our eyes!

A Giraffe and a Half: July 24th-28th

Have you ever wondered how tall a giraffe really is, and if they are that tall from the start? Join us this week as we learn all about giraffes and their other hooved relatives—a group of animals called ungulates.

Things with Wings: August 7th-11th

Are birds the only animals with wings? Are all wings covered in feathers? Are all wings used to fly? Find the answers to these questions and more as we learn all about wild winged animals!



Yellow: *First and Second Grade - Half Day*

Each yellow camp is Monday – Friday, three hours a day from 9 am to 12 pm and is designed for students entering 1st or 2nd grade in the fall.

Let's Make Tracks: *19th-23rd* Webbed feet, hooves, toes, and claws! See how different animals use their feet to move or catch food in their habitats. We will see just how much we can learn about an animal just by looking at their feet and the tracks they leave behind.

Rainforest Romp: *June 26th-30th*

Spend the week exploring this fascinating ecosystem. Jump your way through each layer of the rainforest, from the forest floor to the emergent layer, meeting some amazing creatures along the way!

Neat Beaks: *July 10th-14th*

Birds are so diverse; each species is unique with a beak and feet built specifically for what they do and where they live. Join the flock this week to become a junior ornithologist! Learn all you can about our feathered friends!

Subterranean Species: *July 17th-21st*

Take a moment to consider how many species may be living beneath the ground in your backyard right now! From creatures who spend their whole lives underground, to those that just sleep there or dig to find food, this week we will focus on underground animals and what makes them special!

Artful Aardvarks: *July 24th-28th*

The aardvark here at the Zoo makes art everyday with her tail in the sand. Other animals at the Zoo make their own special art! This art based camp will take inspiration from the animals around us in how they move, the tracks they leave, and the colors they wear!

Tall Tales: *July 31st-August 4th*

This week is all about animal myths and legends. We will hear stories and myths about animals and visit the animals they are about. Join us as we discover why those animals inspired such grand stories!

Creative Camouflage: *August 7th-11th*

Come discover which animals use camouflage, and learn what types of camouflage they are using. Not all animals camouflage by blending themselves in; some try to trick their predators by wearing a disguise! Come blend into the Zoo with us!



Green: *First and Second Grade (Full Day)*

Each green camp is Monday – Friday, seven hours a day from 9 am to 4 pm and is designed for students entering 1st or 2nd grade in the fall.

Primate Pals: *June 12th-16th*

No monkeying around here...ok, maybe just a little! Learn all about primates and find out the differences between monkeys and apes once and for all.

Colors of the Wild: *June 19th-23rd*

This art-based camp will focus on the colors all around us in the natural world. We often say that leaves are green, but what about the yellow veins and brown tips? A Red-Tailed Hawk is also brown, white, tan and more. There are so many colors around to inspire us here in the Zoo.

African Adventure: *June 26th-30th*

Lions, giraffes, and hornbills, oh my! You will see all of these animals and more as you embark on a daring adventure and travel through Africa!

Zoo P.I.: *July 10th-14th*

Grab your magnifying glass and a notebook - we have a mystery to solve! Become a Zoological Private Investigator this week! Using your newly acquired animal knowledge, you will decipher clues and use scientific methods to solve daily Zoo mysteries.

Yuckology: *July 17th-21st*

From owl pellets and smelly tamanduas to regurgitating hedgehogs, animals do some weird, fascinating and completely “yucky” stuff. Spend the week with us discovering how being gross can be crucial to survival.

Prides of Predators: *July 31st-August 4th*

Lions live in groups called prides which allow them to hunt and raise their young in groups. Some other animals survive better on their own. This week will focus on why animals live in groups or live solo and how that behavior helps them to survive.

Feeding Frenzy: *August 7th-11th*

What does a bat eat for breakfast or a lion eat for lunch? Take a look at animal diets and learn the difference between a carnivore, herbivore and omnivore. You will even leave camp with a recipe for your pets at home!



Blue: *Third and Fourth Grade*

Each blue camp is Monday – Friday, seven hours a day from 9 am to 4 pm and is designed for students entering 3rd or 4th grade in the fall.

Mission: Madagascar: *June 12th-16th*

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to learn all you can about the faraway land of Madagascar. Learn all about the unique animals, and the people, that call the island home.

Powerful Predators: *June 19th-23rd*

Animals do not wear metal armor or use swords. Instead they have sharp teeth and talons, powerful muscles, and horns or armor built onto their bodies. Come see up close what makes an animal a powerful predator!

Animal Allies: *June 26th-30th*

We are sharing our planet with millions of other animal species so let's be allies and help protect them! This week we will learn all about conservation: saving animals and habitats alike. By the end of the week you will leave with concrete ways to help animals here in California as well as across the globe!

Wild About Art: *July 10th-14th*

Campers will take inspiration from the animals around them as well as classical artists in this art-based camp. Maybe you will paint a cubist giraffe, a pop art frog, or use pointalism to create a flamingo. We are excited to see what you create!

Turtle-Mania: *July 17th-21st*

Learn to be a keeper of turtles and tortoises in this animal husbandry class. You will learn all you can about these cool creatures in this in-depth class. From feeding to bathing them, to even training these animals alongside zookeepers, this will be a week to remember!

Wild Rivals: *July 24th-28th*

Animals in the wild are always competing: for territory, food, mates and even competing amongst their own groups for status. Join us this week to study animal competition and maybe even compete a bit yourselves.

Splash Bash: *July 31st-August 4th*

During the summer, we humans love to splash and play in the water. Come and learn about otters and turtles who also love the water. Then head over to see the Fennec Foxes who hardly need any water to survive, and learn how that is even possible! Join us for everything water-related this week!

Super Spies: *August 7th-11th*

Jaguars are masters of hiding, lions stalk their prey silently and sneakily and burrowing owls steal burrows from other creatures. Learn about these animals and more as we dive into the world of animal spies and thieves. You may even get the chance to try your hand at some spy techniques yourselves!



Purple: *Fifth and Sixth Grade*

Each purple camp is Monday – Friday, seven hours a day from 9 am to 4 pm and is designed for students entering 5th or 6th grade in the fall.

It's Showtime: *June 19th-23rd*

Take center stage! Campers work with our Interpretive Center Zookeepers every day and learn how to handle the Zoo's Animal Ambassadors. During the week, the campers will create and practice a live animal show that will be performed at 3 pm on Friday. What will they think up this year?

Ancient Ancestors: *June 26th-30th*

The Sabertooth Tiger may not be alive on Earth today, but we can learn about that species by studying other feline species who are. We have lost animal ancestors due to natural extinction in the past. Dive into that subject this week as we learn about them through studying their relatives who are alive today.

Earth 911: *July 10th-14th*

The habitats for many of the amazing animals at the Zoo are in danger. Take on the role of an Earth Doctor and research what we can do to conserve the Earth's resources at home and around the world. Discover what it takes to care for endangered animals at the Zoo and to protect them in the wild.

Wildlife Passport: *July 17th-21st*

Journey with us around the world this week as we learn about diverse creatures from all around the planet! In just five days here at the Zoo we will learn about animals, habitats and people from all over the globe!

Zoo Careers: *July 24th-28th*

If you want to work in a career with or supporting animals when you grow up, this is the week for you! Campers will spend the week learning about what kind of careers are out there for animal lovers and what they need to do to get there in the future. This class will get a chance to talk to a variety of professionals from here at the Zoo as well as other organizations throughout Sacramento.

In Living Color: *July 31st-August 4th*

This art-based camp will allow campers to explore their creative side. Camp teachers will plan projects and teach arts skills for campers to apply to animal projects throughout the week. Spend time sketching around the Zoo, studying animals up-close and bringing the Zoo to life through art.



Silver: *Seventh, Eighth and Ninth Grade*

These in-depth classes are designed for 7th through 9th graders who are ready for the next level of camp experience at the Zoo! We offer single day Veterinarian career classes (9 am-12 pm) with hands-on experiences, five-day camps (9 am- 4 pm), and a three-day class (9 am- 4 pm) ending in an overnight camp-out at the Zoo!

Animal Behavior 101: *June 19th-23rd*

Why do animals do what they do? Campers will take time this week to observe, research and learn what animal behavior means and how it helps us conserve animal species.

Biology 101: *July 10th-14th*

Biology is the beginning of your studies if you are looking for an animal-based career. From similar bone structures to animal classification, your camper will leave with some of the fundamental knowledge needed to work with animals.

Zoo Quest: Mad Science: *July 26th-29th*

This week we will do all kinds of exciting scientific experiments and figure out why and how they work! Join us as we hypothesize, test and analyze! This class will be a hands-on demonstration of how fun science can be!

Tag-Alongs:

Vet Tag-Along: *June 29th & August 10th*

Imagine what it takes to care for a toothy tiger or slimy salamander. How do you X-ray a duck's foot or give a shot to a turtle hiding in his shell? Zoo veterinarians have one of the toughest jobs around. Visit the Zoo's animal hospital and meet the vets that care for many animal species.

