



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 the choice of a full-day (green) or half-day (yellow) camp. The orange group is a mixed age camp, please read specific descriptions carefully.

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

- Silly songs and fun crafts
- Interactive lessons and games
- Partial or full zoo tours
- Interaction with zookeepers
- Animal encounters with the zoo's animal ambassadors
- The making and/or watching of a special enrichment for a resident animal

SACRAMENTO ZOO

Little Peeps: *Preschool*

Each Little Peeps class is two hours long, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m., 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.

Hearing: *June 4, 5, 6 or 7*

Do you hear the sounds of the zoo? Hoots, roars, and ribbits? Join us to learn all about the sounds animals make, and about some animals with super hearing!

Touch: *June 11, 12, 13 or 14*

Some animals are scaly, and some are soft. This week we will explore those textures together and see what other textures animals are covered in here at the zoo.

Sight: *July 9, 10, 11 or 12*

Do you think you could read a magazine from across a football field? Do you know which animal can do that? Come on over to the zoo to see for yourself!

Smell: *July 16, 17, 18 or 19*

Have you ever smelled a stinky skunk or a hedgehog with smelly gunk on its back? Animals use scent and smell in different ways than we do. Come and explore with us, noses first!

Taste: *July 30, 31, August 1 or 2*

What is your favorite food? Some parrots like nuts, bats like bananas, and lions like meat! Join us to learn how what an animal eats affects their life, and what it is called when an animal eats meat, plants, fruit, or even a little bit of everything!



SACRAMENTO ZOO

Red: Kindergarten

Each red camp is Monday – Friday, three hours per day from 9 a.m. to noon and is designed for students entering Kindergarten in the fall.

Naturally Inspired: June 10-14

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!

Things with Wings: June 24-28

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 this week as we learn all about wild winged animals!

Storybook Safari: July 15-19

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

Mad About Mammals: July 22-26

We are mad about mammals here at the zoo! From lions to otters to hedgehogs, oh my! Join us to learn what makes a mammal a mammal, and why they are so great!

Nature's Nursery: August 5-9

Do baby animals look the same as their parents or do they start even cuter? Campers will learn about how animals change as they grow or go through a metamorphosis, how they stay safe in the wild, and so much more!



SACRAMENTO ZOO

Yellow: *1st and 2nd Grade (half-day)*

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

Meerkat Mayhem: *June 17-21*

Have you seen the new meerkats at the zoo? This week campers will go nose to nose with the meerkats at their new exhibit. We will learn all about meerkats and the animals who live near them on the African savanna.

Art Gone Wild: *June 24-28*

Have you ever painted with pine needles or made a lion out of leaves? Join us for a full week of animal-inspired art created in unconventional ways!

Subterranean Species: *July 8-12*

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!

Creative Camouflage: *July 15-19*

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

Amazing Australia!: *July 22-26*

Let's go down under to learn all about the amazing animals native to Australia! Hop along as we learn about kangaroos, emu, wallabies, and even those underwater in the Great Barrier Reef!

Let's Make Tracks: *July 29-August 2*

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 by looking only at their feet and the tracks they leave behind.

Neat Beaks: *August 5-9*

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!



SACRAMENTO ZOO

Green: 1st and 2nd Grade (full-day)

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

Prides of Predators: June 10-14

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.

Colors of the Wild: June 17-21

This art-based camp will focus on the colors all around us in the natural world. We often think of green leaves, but what about the yellow veins or purple and red leaves in fall? A red-tailed hawk is also brown, white, tan and more. There are so many colors around to inspire us here in the zoo!

Yuckolgy: June 24-28

From owl pellets and smelly skunks 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.

Bulky Beasts: July 8-12

This camp will be big fun! From tigers to giraffes to zebras, some of the animals here at the zoo are huge! Why would you want to be big if you were an animal? We will learn how their body size affects their life, diet, and more.

African Adventure: July 15-19

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 here at the zoo! This class will feature curriculum and a partnership with The Wild Nature Institute, one of the Sacramento Zoo’s conservation partners working in Africa to save species!

Zoo Detectives: July 29-August 2

Grab your magnifying glass and a notebook - we have a mystery to solve! Become a zoo detective this week! Using your newly acquired animal knowledge, you will decipher clues to solve daily zoo mysteries.

Feeding Frenzy: August 5-9

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!



SACRAMENTO ZOO

Blue: *3rd and 4th grade*

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

Animal Allies: *June 10-14*

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 Rivals: *June 17-21*

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

Super Spies: *June 24-28*

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!

Turtle-Mania: *July 8-12*

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. The week will end with a camper-led animal encounter for friends and family!

Splash Bash: *July 15-19*

During the summer, we humans love to splash and play in the water. Come and learn about otters, turtles and other animals who love the water. Then visit some animals who hardly need any water to survive, and learn how that is even possible. Join us for everything water-related this week!

Powerful Predators: *July 22-26*

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!

Mission Madagascar: *July 29-Aug 2*

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.

In Living Color: *August 5-9*

Blue, green, black and white – animals come in a wide variety of colors and patterns. Campers will observe the animals at the zoo and some prints by artists like Matisse and Kandinsky as they look for inspiration for their own unique works of art.

SACRAMENTO ZOO

Purple: 5th and 6th Grade

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

It's Showtime!: June 17-21

Take center stage! Campers will 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 p.m. on Friday. What will they think up this year?

Zoo Careers: June 24-28

If you are interested 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 professionals from the community.

Wild About Art: July 8-12

This art focused week allows campers to let their inner artists run free! We will experiment with a variety of art techniques, take inspiration from the world around us and create beautiful works of art! Join us this week and you may even surprise yourself with what you are capable of when you allow yourself to go wild about art!

Earth 911: July 15-19

The habitats for many of the amazing animals on our planet 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. Observe endangered animals here at the zoo and learn how we can work to protect them in the wild!

Jr. Zoologist: July 22-26

Start to learn the basics of zoology this week of camp by looking at animal groups, animal evolution, adaptations and more! Campers will also take on the role of a young research scientist and perform some of the same animal observations and studies as our zookeepers. Meet a few of these animal experts and discover what it takes to become a great zoologist.

Mad Science!: July 29-August 2

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!



SACRAMENTO ZOO

Silver: *7th, 8th and 9th 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 a.m. to noon.) with hands-on experiences as well as traditional five-day camps (9 a.m.- 4 p.m.).

Wild Design: *June 17-21*

How does natural design impact our world today? Find the answer to this and so much more by investigating biomimicry: the imitation of natural systems to solve human problems. Campers will see examples of this all around as well as brainstorm new ways to implement biomimicry into our world.

Animal Behavior 101: *July 8-12*

Why do animals do what they do? Campers will take time this week to observe, research and learn what animal behavior means and how that knowledge can help us each day working with animals at the zoo and in the wild!

Exhibit Design: *July 22-26*

You have watched the animals at the zoo, but have you watched how they interact with their exhibits? Campers will take a closer look at exhibits here at the zoo, study animals' natural history and behavior, and work together to design their dream exhibits! It may not be as easy as it sounds though; don't forget about measurements, drainage, dens, enrichment, and feeders for your animal residents!

Vet Tag-Along: *June 25 & 27 (9 a.m. to 12 p.m.)*

Imagine what it takes to give medication to a lion or train a chimp to be x-rayed! How do you check out a slithering snake or give a shot to a turtle hiding in his shell? Zoo veterinarians have one of the toughest jobs around. Visit the zoo's veterinary hospital, meet one of our vets that care for animals here at the zoo, and learn from them all that goes into the job!

Vet Tag-Alongs will be close to identical each day. You may only register for one day.



SACRAMENTO ZOO

Orange: 1st – 6th Grades

These specialty classes are designed for mixed grade level classes focusing on one specific theme all week! Classes are half-days (9 a.m.- noon) These classes are more focused on the curriculum and projects and will not always include a stage-show or ride during their camp week. These classes do include an up-close animal encounter and an animal enrichment. Read each description closely for the age groups included in each class. Grade levels listed are the grades campers would be entering in the fall.



Drawing and Painting for 1st-3rd graders: June 3-7

Calling all artists! Campers this week will learn from an art specialist about many different techniques for drawing and painting animals and the natural world. We will try out these new techniques and create exciting projects inspired by animals here at the zoo!

Wild Slime for 1st-3rd graders: June 10-14

Ooey and gooey is the theme this week! Each day campers will create their own slime, Gak or other sensory play item based around an animal lesson each day. Try out new recipes, add fun toys and more! Come and play at the zoo!

3-D Art for 4th-6th graders: June 17-21

This camp week is an introduction to 3-D art with an art specialist here at the zoo. Try your hand at clay, sculpture, textured art, and more this week and maybe find a new favorite medium!