



Parents' Guide 2018

2018 Summer Day Camp Dates and Rates

Full-day camp	\$175 members/\$200 nonmembers	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Half-day camp	\$125 members/\$145 nonmembers	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Before camp care	\$25	begins at 7:30 AM
After camp care	\$25	ends at 6:00 PM

During the holiday week of **July 2 – July 6**, a special four-day camp will be offered at a discounted price. This holiday camp will provide campers with a unique opportunity to learn about enrichment and how the Zoo helps create stimulating and challenging environments, objects, and activities for its animals. Register for **Session 5!**

Full-day camp	\$140 members/\$160 nonmembers	9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Half-day camp	\$100 members/\$115 nonmembers	9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

For ages 5-10, we offer **three camps** on alternating weeks, so kids can spend more than one session at Summer Day Camp! All three camps will explore the Zoo, but each week will focus on a new theme.

For ages 11-12, our **Wildlife Biology** program allows older campers to explore the Zoo and Brookside Reservation while learning about the importance of observation and exploration.

For ages 13-14, our **Counselor-In-Training** leadership camp allows participants to develop their leadership skills by working alongside our staff, partnering up with our teen “Zoo Crew” volunteers, and participating in team building and challenge activities!

Goals and Objectives

We want your child to have a great time while learning about animals.

Summer Day Camp at Cleveland Metroparks Zoo supports the organizational mission to create compelling experiences that connect people with wildlife and inspire personal responsibility for conserving the natural world. All Conservation Education programs are designed to help foster respect for, connections with, and appreciation of wildlife and coexisting human cultures.

Activities

The Summer Day Camp program is designed to provide campers with a variety of wildlife and conservation themed activities in a safe, nurturing, and fun atmosphere. The camper's day is a balance of active and quiet activities suitable to the age and abilities of the campers in the group. Campers will have the opportunity to participate in individual, small, and large group activities. The activity schedule will remain flexible to allow camp counselors to maximize those times when Zoo animals are visible and most active.

Program activities may include, but are not limited to:

- Tours of Zoo exhibits
- Up-close encounters with small education animals (snakes, birds, small mammals, etc.)
- Arts and crafts
- Games and nature activities that reinforce the concepts taught that day
- Animal shows
- Conservation field work

Activity schedules for the week will vary depending on age level; therefore children in different age groups may not have identical schedules.

Animal Contact: Campers will have opportunities for up-close encounters with small education animals. Touching of these animals may or may not be permitted. For the safety of all, direct contact with exhibit animals is not possible. All exhibit animal care, including feeding and cleaning, is done by professionally trained zoo keepers.

SHARING TIME: Parents/guardians are invited to join us at camp between 3:00-4:00pm on Friday afternoons to share in what the campers have learned and to meet your camper's new friends. Sharing Time begins promptly at 3:00pm. Parents who plan to attend should meet at the camp gate between 2:45-2:55pm and wait to be escorted to camp by Summer Day Camp staff.

Registration/Admissions Policy

Pre-registration is required for full-day and half-day campers, as well as before and after camp care. Payment in full is due at the time of registration and registrations are processed on a first come, first served basis. Online registration is available at clevelandmetroparks.com/zoo. Only complete registrations, which must include both the registration form and medical release form, will be processed. In the event that you need to change sessions or make cancellations, all requests must be received in writing to the following address:

Summer Day Camp
Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
3900 Wildlife Way
Cleveland, OH 44109
or fax to 216.661.3312

The following charges will be incurred for changes and cancellations:

- \$10 for session date changes more than 2 weeks from scheduled program date
- \$20 for session date changes within 2 weeks of scheduled program date
- \$20 for cancellations more than 2 weeks from scheduled program date
- 50% refund for cancellations within 2 weeks of scheduled program date

No refunds will be issued for no-shows or after the start date of the session for which you are registered. Refund processing takes 4-6 weeks.

In order to ensure that all campers receive age-appropriate opportunities, campers are grouped by their age as of June 4, 2018, into the following categories:

- 5-6 year olds
- 7-8 year olds
- 9-10 year olds
- 11-12 year olds
- 13-14 year olds

Counselor to camper ratio for the 5-6 year old grouping is 1 counselor for every 6 campers. The ratio for all other groupings is 1 counselor for every 10 campers.

Exceptions will not be made to the above categories. There will be occasions throughout the day when siblings and friends from different age groups will be participating in activities together.

As classes may fill quickly, the Zoo cannot guarantee that your child and friend of the same age group will be placed together. If registering online, please indicate with whom you would prefer your child to be placed. If registering through the mail, please send registration materials and payment for both children in the same envelope.

Camp Schedule and Topics

During the holiday week of **July 2 – July 6**, a special four-day camp will be offered at a discounted price. This holiday camp will provide campers with a unique opportunity to learn about enrichment and how the Zoo helps create stimulating and challenging environments, objects, and activities for its animals. Register for **Session 5!**

2018 Camp Topics for Each Session

Session	Week of	Ages 5-6	Ages 7-8	Ages 9-10	Ages 11-12	Ages 13-14
1	June 4-8	Animal Coverings	Animal Groups	Classification	Wildlife Biology	No Camp
2	June 11-15	Basic Needs	Life Cycles	ZSI: Food Webs	No Camp	Counselor in Training
3	June 18-22	Conservation	Conservation	Conservation	Conservation	No Camp
4	June 25-29	Animal Coverings	Animal Groups	Classification	Wildlife Biology	Counselor in Training
5	July 2-3 & 5-6	Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment	Enrichment	No Camp
6	July 9-13	Basic Needs	Life Cycles	ZSI: Food Webs	No Camp	Counselor in Training
7	July 16-20	Conservation	Conservation	Conservation	Conservation	No Camp
8	July 23-27	Animal Coverings	Animal Groups	Classification	No Camp	Counselor in Training
9	July 30 - August 3	Basic Needs	Life Cycles	ZSI: Food Webs	Wildlife Biology	Counselor in Training
10	August 6-10	Conservation	Conservation	Conservation	No Camp	No Camp

Lunch Guidelines

Full-day campers are responsible for bringing their own lunch and beverage (no glass containers, please). A reusable lunch bag will be provided for each camper on the first day and labeled with their name. We request that you please use this lunch bag throughout the week. Campers WILL NOT be permitted to purchase food from any restaurant or food stand while participating in camp.

Half-day campers do not need to bring a lunch, as they leave camp prior to lunch time.

The Zoo will provide a mid-morning snack for all campers and a mid-afternoon snack for full-day campers. Examples of snacks that may be served include: Animal Crackers, Teddy Grahams, and String Cheese. Due to the severe nut allergies of an increasing number of children, the Zoo will not serve snacks containing nuts, nut products, or peanut butter.

For other dietary needs, please contact the camp office at 216.635.3391 prior to your session regarding snack substitutions for your camper.

Map

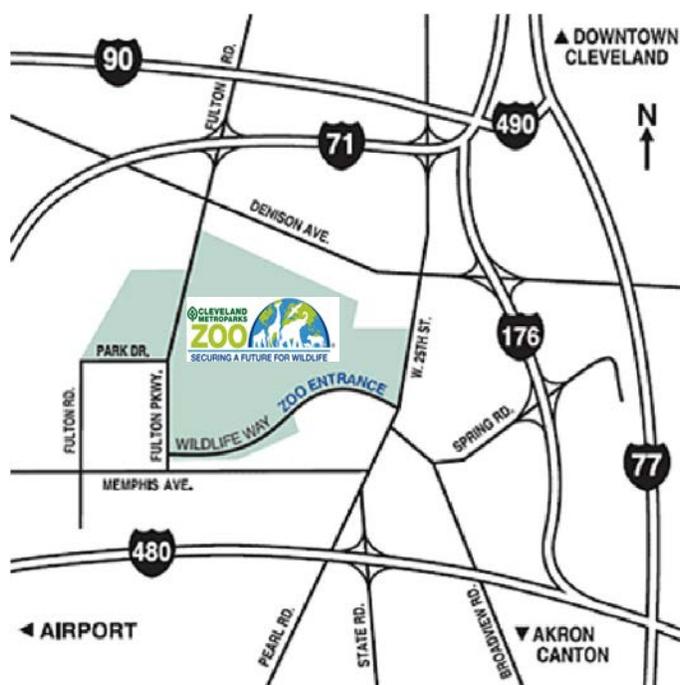
From I-71: Exit at West 25th Street and follow the Zoo signs. The Zoo is approximately one mile from the I-71 exit.

From I-90: Take I-71 South, exit at West 25th Street and follow the Zoo signs.

From I-480: The Zoo is approximately two miles from the I-480 exit. Exit State Road (north) to Pearl Road. Follow Pearl Rd to Memphis Ave. Take a left on Memphis Ave. Take Memphis Ave to Fulton Pkwy and turn right onto Fulton Pkwy. Follow Fulton Pkwy and make a right onto Wildlife Way.

From I-80 (Ohio Turnpike): Zoo accessed from two exits. Take Exit 173/11 to I-77 North, to I-480 West to State Road (north) to Pearl Road. Follow Pearl Rd to Memphis Ave. Take a left on Memphis Ave. Take Memphis Ave to Fulton Pkwy and turn right onto Fulton Pkwy. Follow Fulton Pkwy and make a right onto Wildlife Way. Or, take Exit 161/10 to I-71 North to the West 25th Street exit then follow Zoo signs.

From Akron: Follow I-77 (north) to I-480 (west), exit at State Road (north) to Pearl Road. Follow Pearl Rd to Memphis Ave. Take a left on Memphis Ave. Take Memphis Ave to Fulton Pkwy and turn right onto Fulton Pkwy. Follow Fulton Pkwy and make a right onto Wildlife Way.



Arrival/Departure Procedures

Arrivals: Before Care arrival time is 7:30-8:30am. Full-day and half-day arrival time is 8:30-9:00am.

Departures: Half-day camp departure time is 12:30pm. Full-day camp departure time is 4:00pm.
After Care departure time is 4:15-6:00pm.

For your child's safety, please follow these procedures when picking up and dropping off:

- Follow the drive back to the Rhino Lot and park your car. *Parking your car, instead of idling in line, saves gas and reduces car emissions, making Day Camp a greener place to be!*
- Walk your camper to the registration table. Registration tables will be arranged according to camper's age.
- Have your camper's ID number, lunch, and any necessary medications with you at this time.
- Summer Day Camp staff will meet you at the registration table. Here you will not only finalize any paperwork and ask any questions you may have, but you will also be given the opportunity to meet your child's camp counselor on that very first morning!
- When picking up, park your car in the Rhino Lot* and proceed to the appropriate pick-up table. (Remember that tables are arranged according to age)
- **Bring your camper ID number with you.** Without this camper ID number we **cannot** release your child. *NOTE: If you are car pooling, be sure to have the ID numbers of each camper you intend to pick up.*
- Once we verify each ID number, camp staff will escort your camper(s) to you.
- These procedures have been established for the safety of your children. Please be patient.
- Traffic may be VERY HEAVY on Free Mondays. Please take this into consideration and allow for extra time.

MONDAY PICK-UP DURING THE MONTH OF JUNE:

In an effort to avoid "Free Monday" traffic backups, **ALL CAMPERS (BOTH HALF AND FULL-DAY)** attending a camp week in June will be picked up each Monday (**MONDAYS ONLY**) at Brookside Reservation, located on John Nagy Blvd off of Ridge Rd. See the included map for directions to this location. *Tuesday through Friday, pick-up will be as normal in the Rhino Lot of the Zoo.*

Late Fees: Any fees for late pick-up will be charged to your account. Late fees of \$5 for every 15 minute interval or part thereof will be assessed for:

- half-day campers not picked up by 12:46pm
- full-day campers not picked up by 4:16pm
- after care campers not picked up by 6:01pm

If your camper is going to be absent, please call the Zoo Education office at 216.635.3391 to notify our staff.

Discipline Policy

To provide for the safe enjoyment of all campers, Summer Day Camp counselors will not allow inappropriate behaviors. Examples of inappropriate behaviors include:

- Bullying
- Mistreating animals
- Name-calling
- Talking back
- Fighting
- Stealing
- Disobeying instructions or safety rules
- Swearing
- Deliberate property damage
- Disobeying safety regulations
- Breaking another camper's skin

Should a camper misbehave, counselors will work with the child to make sure that they are aware of the unacceptability of their actions and to jointly agree to a solution to prevent any further offenses. Depending on the severity of the offense, camp staff may need to progressively work through the following consequences:

- Time out
- Phone call to parents
- Parent meeting
- Possible suspension

While the discipline policy will be reviewed with all campers on their first morning at camp, please discuss this policy with your camper before that time. Summer Day Camp staff believes that your understanding of these expectations, and your support of them, is integral to your camper's positive experience.

Thank you for helping to make this year's Summer Day Camp a success for your child and fellow campers.

Do's and Don'ts

- **DO** send your child in comfortable shoes and clothing appropriate for the day's weather. Activities will take place rain or shine and campers will do a lot of walking. Counselors purposely avoid use of the Zoo trams throughout the summer, as crowds and lines get very long and can cut into the number of activities we can complete in a camp day. Umbrellas and raincoats are acceptable; however your child is responsible for carrying those items throughout the day.
- **DON'T** send your child with money to spend in the food or gift shops. Campers will not be visiting these areas.
- **DO** remember to send your child with sunscreen and insect repellent if necessary. The Zoo cannot provide these items. Medical Forms are required if you would like staff to apply these items.
- **DO** remember to have your child wear their Summer Day Camp t-shirt each and every day of camp. The Zoo can be a crowded place and identical t-shirts are the easiest way to help counselors keep the group together.
- **DON'T** send your camper with cell phones, video games, or radio/CD/tape players. Backpacks and water bottles are acceptable; however your child is responsible for carrying those items throughout the day.

Participant Health Records

All campers must have a completed Emergency Medical Release form on file at the Zoo before they will be allowed to participate in any camp activities. This form is not considered complete without a parent or guardian signature and date in Part I, Refusal to Consent, or Part II, Consent Granted.

Campers needing any form of medication during the day must have a completed Parent/Guardian Request for Administration of Medication form on file at the Zoo before they will be allowed to take any medications, including:

- Prescription medication
- Nonprescription medication
- Topical product (sunscreen, insect repellent)
- Food supplement

This form is not considered complete without a parent or guardian signature and date.

All medications will be kept in a secure location during the course of Summer Day Camp and will be administered at the appropriate times by trained staff. All medications must be clearly labeled with the camper's name and in their original packaging. Refrigeration is available if required.

Illness/Emergency Medical Procedures

In the best interest of your camper, as well as the other campers and the staff, please do not send your camper to Summer Day Camp when they are ill or show symptoms of a communicable disease. Please contact the office if you know that your camper will be absent.

Our camp follows the Ohio Department of Health “Communicable Disease Chart” in that if there is a concern that a child may have a communicable disease, the parent/guardian will be notified that an early pick-up will be required. Some symptoms of communicable diseases are: diarrhea, severe coughing, difficult or rapid breathing, yellowish skin/eyes, conjunctivitis, temperature of 100° or higher coupled with other symptoms, untreated infected skin patches, unusual spots/rashes, sore throat/difficulty swallowing, vomiting, lice, scabies. A staff member will remain with the camper until he/she is picked up.

In case of emergency, staff from the Zoo’s First Aid office will be dispatched to the camper’s location to assess the situation. Camp counselors will call the camper’s emergency contact numbers if it is deemed that treatment or transport is necessary.

