



Welcome, Nature Explorers!

We are so excited to have you join us for Camp Zoo! This week, we will be getting outside and learning how to connect with nature! We can't wait for the adventures that lie ahead!

Camp Tips

- Wear clothes you can get messy in!
- Eat a big breakfast!
- Get a good night's sleep!
- Leave toys & electronics at home!
- Label ALL items with your name!
- Apply sunscreen before you arrive!
- Get extra hungry? Bring an extra snack with you! (must be nut-free and carried separately from your lunchbox)

What to Bring

- Camp shirt
- Camp hat
- Camp water bottle with lanyard
- Packed lunch
- Shoes that cover your entire foot (no holes)
- **For Middle School Campers – please wear long pants and sturdy shoes that cover the whole foot!**

Please label everything with your camper's name!

No laces? No problem! We recommend velcro or slip-ons for campers learning to tie their shoes!

Camp Zoo Leadership Team

Camp Supervisors:

Katie Mather-Charles, Yasmine Gaudin

Formal Learning and Engagement Manager:

Leslie Bell

E-mail:

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Camp Zoo Emergency Line:

602.574.2253

Helpful Links

[FAQ](#) | [Camp Policies and Procedures](#) | [Orientation Video](#)

Kindergarten Camp: Let's Care for the Earth!

Kindergarten Camps are half day! Dismissal: 11:45 – Noon

Let's learn more about our home: the earth! This week, we are going explore and discover nature through crafts, games and PLAY!
Learn how our whole community can help take care of the Earth!

Please note there will be NO CAMP on Wednesday, January 1.

Camp Zoo Kindergarten Readiness Checklist

✓ **I can say goodbye!**

Entering a new place can make campers nervous. Talk with your camper about check-in the days leading up to camp! Check out our website to build excitement for camp!

✓ **I am sun safe!**

Please be sure your campers arrive at camp with a hat, water and sunscreen already applied. Campers may bring additional sunscreen, but they must be able to apply it independently.

✓ **I can use the restroom!**

Campers are expected to be able to use the restroom independently. Please practice restroom use, as well as fastening and unfastening clothes.

✓ **I can use my listening ears!**

Zookeepers, Animal Handlers and Camp Zoo Staff provide instructions to ensure safety. Practice following basic directions at home to help your camper prepare! Practice responding when their name is called!

✓ **I can ask for help!**

Communication is key to a successful week of camp! Help empower your camper by practicing how to ask for help!

	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	I can see myself in nature	I can explore nature	I can play in nature	I can help nature
Morning Activities	Kindergarten Camp Orientation!	Where Does the Garbage Go? Learn about the different ways we can recycle and how it helps our earth!	Papago Park Adventure! Color Hunt: Discover the plants, animals and geographic features of Papago Park through colors!	Promise Craft: Learn ways to help the earth and create 3D Art to take Camp home!
Nature Play	Each day, we will connect with the outdoors during Nature Play at our Enchanted Forest!			
Animal Discovery*	Habitat Stations: Explore animals from different habitats around the world!	Adaptation Gallery: Learn about the unique behaviors of wild animals!	Camper's Choice: Exploring Arizona Animals	Conservation Exploration: Learn how animals help our world!
Daily Hike	Arizona Aviary	Arizona Aviary	Plant Discovery Walk in Papago Park!	Children's Trail
Animal Interaction*	Stingray Bay Encounter	Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos	Arizona Animal Discovery	Petting Zoo Encounter!

*We do our best to stick to the planned Animal Discovery and Animal Interaction for each day, but we can never guarantee a specific animal or interaction. It always depends on several factors the day of, including that all animals at the Phoenix Zoo are free to decide what they do in a day!

1/2 Nature Explorers

What do you like to do when you go outside? This week, we are going to explore all the ways we can connect with nature!
We will explore the outdoors, meet animals, craft with natural materials and PLAY!

Please note there will be NO CAMP on Wednesday, January 1.

	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	I can see myself in nature	I can explore nature	I can play in nature	I can help nature
Morning Nature Play	Each morning, we will start the day outside with Nature Play at our Enchanted Forest or Red Barn Playground!			
Morning Activities	<p>Welcome to Camp Zoo: Camp Orientation!</p> <p>Nature Journals: Build your own Nature Journal to use for the week!</p>	<p>Exploration Stations: Explore how behavioral enrichment is created at the Zoo!</p> <p>Game Time: Connect with your group and learn how to work as a team!</p>	<p>Papago Park Adventure!</p> <p>Trash Timeline: Learn ways to Leave No Trace when exploring nature!</p> <p>Seedball Crafting: Help us create a special tool to support native plants!</p>	<p>Promise Craft: Learn ways to help the earth and create a painting to take Camp home!</p> <p>Camp Rally!</p>
Animal Discovery*	Habitat Stations: Explore animals from different habitats around the world!	Adaptation Gallery: Learn about the unique behaviors of wild animals!	Camper's Choice Animal Discovery: Exploring Arizona Animals	Conservation Exploration: Learn how animals help our world!
Daily Hike	Tropics Trail (A)/ Predator Passage (B)	Arizona Aviary	Hole in the Rock	Predator Passage (A)/ Tropics Trail (B)
Animal Interaction: Group A*	Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos	Stingray Bay Encounter!	Arizona Animal Discovery	Meet and Feed: Aldabra tortoises
Animal Interaction: Group B*	Meet and Feed: Aldabra tortoises			Meet and Feed: Chilean flamingos
Afternoon Nature Play	We will end each day with Nature Play at Plaza de Los Ninos!			

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3/4/5 Nature Explorers

How often do you go outside? This week we are going to get messy and explore the great outdoors! We will work together to learn about how we can stay connected to nature and how to be an advocate for the outdoors! We will also learn about behavioral enrichment and animal welfare!

Please note there will be NO CAMP on Wednesday, January 1.

	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Theme	I can see myself in nature	I can explore nature	I can play in nature	I can help nature
Morning Nature Play	Each morning, we will start the day outside with Nature Play at our Enchanted Forest or Red Barn Playground!			
Morning Activities	<p>Welcome to Camp Zoo: Camp Orientation!</p> <p>Nature Journals: Build your own Nature Journal to use for the week!</p>	<p>Exploration Stations: Explore how behavioral enrichment is created at the Zoo!</p> <p>Team-Building Games: Work with your team to solve puzzles!</p>	<p>Papago Park Adventure!</p> <p>Trash Timeline: Learn ways to Leave No Trace when exploring nature!</p> <p>Scavenger Hunt: Learn all about the plants, animals and geographic features of Papago Park!</p>	<p>Where I Stand: Explore nature advocacy and learn ways you can bring Camp Zoo home!</p> <p>Camp Rally!</p>
Animal Discovery*	<p>Habitat Stations: Explore animals from different habitats around the world!</p>	<p>Adaptation Gallery: Learn about the unique behaviors of wild animals!</p>	<p>Camper's Choice Animal Discovery: Exploring Arizona Animals</p>	<p>Conservation Exploration: Learn how animals help our world!</p>
Daily Hike	Arizona Aviary	Arizona Aviary	Hole in the Rock	Predator Passage (A)/ Tropics Trail (B)
Animal Interaction*	<p>Backstage Tour: Get a private tour of the Arthur L. and Elaine V. Johnson Conservation Center!</p>	<p>Meet and Feed: Indu the elephant</p>	<p>Arizona Animal Discovery</p>	<p>Ascend the buttes and meet the Zoo's bighorn sheep!</p>
Afternoon Nature Play	We will end each day with Nature Play at Plaza de Los Ninos!			

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6/7/8 Horse Hands Camp Zoo!

Welcome, campers, to Camp Zoo’s first-ever Horse Hands Camp, designed exclusively for middle school campers. This week we will learn all about horses & horsemanship and discover ways to connect with the great outdoors! We will also learn about different ways we can support conservation! We are thrilled to have you join us!

Camp Tips:

- Wear sturdy shoes that cover the whole foot!
- Wear long pants!
- Eat a big breakfast!
- Get a good night’s sleep!
- Leave electronics at home!
- We will be outside for most of the day—be prepared for the elements!

	Monday	Tuesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning Chores with the Equine Team	A clean horse is a healthy horse! Campers will work closely with the Equine Keepers and learn how to clean the stalls and auto waters. Campers will also help feed the horses in the equine barn!			
Morning Activity	Horsemanship day 1: ✓ Horse Stalls: tools and maintenance ✓ Haltering basics ✓ Lead Ropes and knot tying practice	Horsemanship day 2: ✓ How to lead a horse ✓ Horse anatomy ✓ Saddling your horse ✓ Bridling your horse	ZooTeen Service Project: Help beautify the newly updated pollinator garden!	Advocacy Craft: Learn how to create an “Advocacy ‘Zine” for a conservation ask that you are passionate about
Snack and Lunch	Middle School campers will have a morning and afternoon snack. Light snacks will be provided, but campers can also bring additional nut-free snacks (stored away from their lunch box). Middle school campers will have a private lunch at 11:30 in either one of our rooms or at a scenic location in the Zoo!			
Animal Discovery*	Explore animals from different habitats around the world!	Learn about the unique behaviors of wild animals!	Exploring Arizona Animals	Learn how animals help our world!
Equine Arena!	Practice time: Haltering, knots and grooming your horse	Practice time: Leading, grooming, saddling, mounting and dismounting your horse	Leading, grooming, saddling and our first ride!	Leading, grooming, saddling and riding!

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