



Classic Camp & Art Camps Important Information

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Please read the important information below so we are all prepared for a week of fun. We thank you for choosing the San Diego Zoo's Summer Camp as part of your child's summer vacation. Our program offers children opportunities to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills, cooperation, and have up-close encounters with animals that connect kids to wildlife and conservation. Best of all, they have so much fun doing it—they forget they're learning!

WHAT TO BRING

- Ticket - Tickets are required day one of camp.
- Light Morning Snack - Not too much! Snack breaks are 15 minutes long.
- Reusable Water Bottle - It's really important to keep kids hydrated. We provide water during breaks.
- Packed Lunch - NO buying lunch at the Zoo. NO sharing with siblings or friends. Make it easy for them to carry--inside a backpack is the best option.
- Sun Gear - Be sun smart! Remember sunscreen, hats, or visors.
- Comfortable Shoes & Play Clothes - No flip flop sandals or ill-fitting shoes.
- Light Jacket/Sweater - Mornings can be cool and a light cover-up is suggested.
- Cameras (Optional) - They're great for capturing moments, but easily get left behind. It is your camper's responsibility to keep it safe.

Please label your camper's items with their name or with an address label as they can easily get left behind!

WHAT NOT TO BRING

- Backpack on Wheels - These have caused injury to campers and are NOT allowed.
- Toys - They may get lost and will distract the campers.

BUY DAY

What is Buy Day?

Due to popular demand, one day each week (see schedule below) campers will be allowed to buy a snack from a Zoo snack stand. Items are priced between \$5 and \$10. Purchase of snack items are optional. You may send a snack item with your camper(s) instead of purchasing an item.

We will give your camper a "Buy Day Envelope" the day before their scheduled Buy Day.

- Please put no more than \$10 in the envelope.
- Don't forget to write your camper's name, grade and ask him/her to leave it in their bag or backpack. This helps to reduce the chance of lost money.

Buy Day Schedule by Grade-Level:

Cub Camp - Thursday

Kindergarten - Tuesday

1st Grade - Thursday

2nd Grade - Thursday

3rd Grade - Wednesday

4th Grade - Wednesday

5th Grade - Tuesday

6th-8th Grade - Friday

Little Artist - Friday

Adventures in Art - Friday

Note: If you wish to buy more souvenirs, please plan on shopping with your camper after camp in the Zoo's main gift shops. If you are not a Zoo member, go to any ticket window to get a shopping pass (credit-card deposit required) that allows you admission to the gift shops located near the Zoo exit.

DROP OFF

Camp starts at 9:00am for all grades-
Please drop off between 8:45-8:55!

*There is no supervision on the Greeting Grass before 8:45.

Monday Mornings ONLY

- Please park your car and walk your child to the Greeting Grass so you can meet your child's teachers. This is the only method of drop off allowed on the first day of camp.
- You MUST use the designated camp crosswalks.
- Don't forget your camper's ticket!
- Allow extra time for check-in on the first day of camp.
- Find the appropriate grade at the Greeting Grass area, located at the west side of the main parking lot (indicated on the map).

Tuesday through Friday Mornings

➤ **OPTION #1: Express Drop Off** A camp staff member will come to your car in the express lane and escort your camper(s) to their appropriate grade.

**We strongly encourage this option!*

Rules for using this service:

- You MUST drive into the designated express lane along the Greeting Grass curb as indicated by the arrows on the map.
- You MUST stay in your car to use this service! If you need to apply sunscreen to your camper(s), put on their shoes, open the back hatch, etc., you will need to park in a legal, marked spot to do so.

➤ **OPTION #2: Park & Escort Your Child** You can personally escort your child to the Greeting Grass. If you know you will need to get out of your car for any reason, you must park in a designated parking space.

Rules for using this service:

- You MUST use the designated cone crosswalks and follow the instructions that are given to you by our camp safety officers.
- Do NOT cross in between the cars that are lined up in the express lane.

If you arrive late, you MUST come to the Education office in the Otto Center and our office staff will take your camper(s) to their class. Please be on time, we don't want your campers missing out on the fun!

PICK UP

Camp ends at 3:00pm for all grades-
Please pick up between 3:00-3:30!

*Any campers left beyond this time will incur a late fee of \$22 per camper. You will need to park and pick them up in the Extended Day classroom in the Otto Center.

Monday through Friday Afternoons

OPTION #1: Express Drop Off A camp staff member will come to your car in the express lane and bring your camper to your car, including buckling them in.

**We strongly encourage this option!*

Rules for using this service:

- You **MUST** stay in your car to use this service!
- You **MUST** have the pick up form on your dashboard with your camper(s) name(s) (including carpools), their grade level and the name of that grade's program.
- You **MUST** follow the arrows on the map or the signs in the parking lot to get in the pick up line.
- Please continue to move forward in the line as directed by a safety officer or when you see a gap in the line, especially if you have a camper who will need help with seatbelts. Your patience and cooperation is essential to the success and efficiency of this system.

OPTION #2: Park & Walk Up You must park and walk to the Greeting Grass to pick up your child.

NOTE: Finding parking at this time during the summer is very difficult. There are also many more guests at this time using the sidewalk near the Greeting Grass and this area, as well as our crosswalks, can become very congested.

Rules for using this service:

- You **MUST** use the designated cone crosswalks and follow the instructions that are given to you by our camp safety officers.
- Do **NOT** cross in between cars lined up in the Express Lane.

If you know ahead of time that you will need to pick up your camper(s) while camp is in session, please coordinate with your child's teacher at least one day prior to your special pickup request. He/she will be able to tell you an exact time that you can pick up your camper in the Education office that will correspond with our daily camp schedule.

If there is an emergency and you need to reach your camper while camp is in session (9:00-3:00), please contact us at (619) 557-3963.

EXTENDED DAY

If you registered for our Extended Day option before or after camp, please park your car and drop off/pick up your camper(s) in the Extended Day classroom in the Otto Center anytime during the following hours:

- **Extended Day Morning Hours: 7:30am-8:45am**
- **Extended Day Afternoon Hours: 3:20pm-5:30pm**

*After 5:30, there is a late fee of \$22 per camper

If you need to get ahold of your camper during Extended Day hours, please contact us at (619) 231-1515 x4122 for the comfort of your camper(s).



WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT

Two weeks prior to your child's start date of camp you will receive an email reminding you of the date(s), time(s), and camp(s) you reserved. Shortly after that email you will receive an invitation to complete a waiver through DocuSign. It's very simple to do and it must be completed no later than 3 days prior to camp beginning.

BRING THE FUN HOME!

You can become involved in your child's Zoo Summer Camp Adventure through family activities in the evening. Every child will be given a home-connector at the end of each day. These are fun discussions and projects for the whole family to do. The home-connectors may reinforce a concept we've covered, or prepare your child for something coming up. We encourage your participation!

Since Zoo Camp is not a parent participation program, parents are not able to tag along in camp. You are welcome to visit the Zoo during your camper's day at Zoo Camp by purchasing an admission ticket or using your membership card. For family fun, check out our parent participation programs such as KinderTots or KinderNights. Additional information on these programs is available online: www.SanDiegoZoo.org under Special Experiences>Education Programs.

If you have any questions about summer camp, please do not hesitate to contact us at (619) 557-3963!

SAN DIEGO ZOO SUMMER CAMP

Pickup Form

Camper Name	Grade/Program Name Example: "4 th /5 th Grade - Animal Bodybuilders"