



# San Diego Zoo SUMMER CAMP 2018

Classic Camps, Art Camps, and Teen Camp

## **Dear Parents/Guardians,**

Thank you for choosing San Diego Zoo Summer Camp as part of your summer vacation! Our summer programs offer your camper the opportunity to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills, to build meaningful friendships, and to have up-close animal experiences to help connect them to nature and wildlife conservation. Best of all, they have so much fun doing it—they forget they're learning! Please read the information enclosed so that you and your camper are prepared for a week of fun!

## **IMPORTANT DETAILS TO REMEMBER**

- **Ticket is required on the first day of camp.**
- Pack a light morning snack, a sack lunch, and a reusable water bottle.
- Apply sunscreen beforehand, and bring a hat and/or visor.
- Comfortable walking shoes and clothing required (please no flip-flops).
- Standard backpack is required for snacks/water bottle. No backpacks on wheels.
- Campers are responsible for keeping their valuable items safe, including cameras.
- Art Camps Only: all art supplies are included.
- Photography Camp for Teens: Camera or iPhone/Smartphone is required.

## **FIRST DAY OF CAMP: MONDAY MORNING CHECK-IN PROCESS**

- **A ticket is required on the first day of camp.**
- Camp begins at 9:00am for all grades. Please allow extra time for check-in.
- If you are in Kinder or Little Artists, park your car closest to the “Panda 1” parking lot directional sign. All other camps should park near the “Koala 1” parking lot directional sign. Once you have parked, use the designated Summer Camp crosswalks.
- Walking your camper up for check-in is the only method allowed on Mondays so that you can meet your camper’s counselors, submit your camper’s ticket, and make sure all the necessary paperwork has been completed properly.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR CAMP DROP-OFF and PICK-UP**

- Camp begins at 9:00am for all grades. Please drop off your camper between 8:45am – 9:00am. There is no supervision on the Greeting Grass before 8:45am.
- If you arrive after 9:15am for drop off, you will need to report to the Education Office at the Dickinson Family Center to get your camper connected with their group.
- Camp ends at 3:00pm. Please pick up your camper no later than 3:20pm.
- Any camper left beyond 3:20pm will incur a late fee of \$25 per child. You must park and pick up your child at the Education Office located in the Dickinson Family Center.
- If you need to pick up your camper early, please coordinate ahead of time with your child’s counselor for an exact time that corresponds best with our daily schedule.

## **EXPRESS DROP-OFF and PICK-UP (REFERENCE MAP INCLUDED)**

We **strongly** recommend this option as it is the fastest and most efficient option for dropping off and picking up your camper.

- You must drive in the designated express lane along the Greeting Grass curb as indicated by the arrows on the map included in this packet.
- Included in this packet is the “Camper Express Information Sheet.” Display on your dashboard so staff can easily identify campers and which camp they are attending.
- In the express lane, a camp staff member will come to your car and escort your camper to and from their appropriate location (depending upon drop-off or pick-up).
- To use this service, you must stay in your car. If you need to apply sunscreen to your camper, put on their shoes, or get into your trunk, you must park in a marked spot.

## **PARK and WALK-UP OPTION**



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If you anticipate needing more time for drop off, you can also personally escort your child to and from the Greeting Grass area for camp.

- If you are in Kinder or Little Artists, park your car closest to the “Panda 1” parking lot directional sign. All other camps should park near the “Koala 1” parking lot directional sign. Once you have parked, use the designated Summer Camp crosswalks.
- For your safety, do not cross in between the cars that are in the express lane.

## BUY DAY and SUMMER CAMP T-SHIRT

One day each week campers are provided an opportunity to buy a snack from a Zoo food stand. Purchase of snack items are optional and, if you would prefer, you may send a snack item with your camper instead of purchasing an item. Your camper will receive a “Buy Day” envelope one day prior so that you can plan out what their order will be.

- Write your camper’s name and camp grade on the envelope.
- Exact change is preferred. If that is not possible, please no bills over \$10.
- Indicate the desired item from the list of possible snacks located on the envelope.
- The Buy Day envelope must remain in camper backpacks where it will stay safe.
- Every camper receives a summer camp t-shirt!

## EXTENDED FUN

If your camper is registered Extended Fun, please park your car and walk to the Dickinson Family Center (formerly the Otto Center) to access their classroom. Extended Fun hours are 7:30am – 8:45am and 3:00pm – 5:30pm. If you would like to register your camper for Extended Fun, please call 619-718-3000.

## WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT

Two weeks prior to your camper’s first day, you will receive an reminder email as well as an invitation to complete an emergency waiver form through DocuSign. **The DocuSign waiver must be completed no less than five days prior to your child’s first day of camp, if not, please be prepared to spend a few extra minutes completing a hard-copy paper version on your camper’s first day.**

## GET INVOLVED!

Each camp is assigned a Green Goal for the week. Ask your camper what Green Goal they have for the week. These goals are designed to help campers understand the importance of being “green” and adopting earth friendly habits to help our environment.

## SUMMER CAMP AGREEMENTS FOR A SUCCESSFUL WEEK

We have five agreements we follow at Zoo Summer Camp. These agreements will be talked about the first day of camp and will be referred to often throughout the week. Please review them with your camper. San Diego Zoo reserves the right to dismiss a camper for consistent behavior that makes it difficult or impossible for staff to meet his/her needs and/or the needs of the other campers in the group.

- Listen when others are talking.
- Follow the directions of Zoo Staff.
- Be kind to humans and animals.
- Stay safe and help your friends stay safe.
- Have fun!