

CALENDAR ADVISORY

For immediate release | January 28, 2016
Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Alissa Wolken
206.548.2550 | woodlandparkzoo@zoo.org

How will you spend your summer break?

Woodland Park Zoo offers camps for kids throughout the summer

WHAT: School's out for summer! While it may seem like a long ways off, summer is just around the corner. Get ready for the extended break from school by registering for a week (or two!) of summer camp. Woodland Park Zoo invites kids ages 3-14 to connect with nature over the summer, learning about their ecological footprint and discovering pathways to conservation through one of the zoo's award-winning summer camp programs.

WHEN: Summer camps are offered weekly from **Monday, June 27 to Friday, September 2**. Registration for summer camps begins **Monday, February 1**.

WHERE: All summer camp programs are held on Woodland Park Zoo grounds.

INFO: The zoo offers a variety of curricular-based camps that blend learning and fun. Kids ages 3-14 can attend camp at Woodland Park Zoo participating in the following camp programs:

KINDER CAMP: For children ages 3-5 years, Kinder Camp is an exciting blend of games, activities and chances to see zoo animals while limiting the distance traveled to accommodate little legs; sessions are offered on either the North or the South end of the zoo. Each day, campers explore the zoo with a different theme focus such as colors, numbers, families and more! Kinder Camp activities were created to support the Washington State Early Learning and Development Benchmarks. Half day and full day sessions are available.

ZOOPER DAY CAMP: Children ages 4-9, half day and full day sessions are available. This year's curriculum includes:

- 1.) Animal Olympics: Compare the athletic feats of wild animals to those of humans competing in the Olympics. Learn about teamwork, competition and specialization (whether among animals or human athletes).
- 2.) Kingdom of Animals: There are so many animals on this planet, how do scientists keep track of them all? Delve into the organization of the animal kingdom while practicing classification skills on animals around the zoo.

DISCOVERIES DAY CAMP: Children ages 5-7, Discoveries Day Camp is offered in partnership with Seattle Children's Theatre Drama School; it expresses natural science through creative drama. Discoveries Day Camp is taught by instructor teams with theater and environmental education expertise. Registration for Discoveries Day Camp is through [Seattle Children's Theatre](http://www.seattlechildrenstheatre.org) and begins **Monday, February 8**. The camp features two curricula:

- 1.) Magizooology: Embark on adventures to feed dragons, keep disappearing creatures in their exhibits, and build a new home for a baby chimera at our magical zoo.
- 2.) I Spy: As a secret agent, you will use your detective skills to track down a culprit and solve a mystery of the animal kingdom!



ZOO UNIVERSITY: In Zoo University (Zoo U), 10 to 14 year olds study more advanced subjects while playing topic-based games and making new friends at the zoo. This year's curriculum includes:

- 1.) Living With Wildlife: Wild animals don't just live in exotic far-off lands, we have wild animals right here in our backyards. Learn how to be good neighbors to wildlife, whether they are wolves, bears, birds or raccoons, and how the decisions we make every day affect wildlife near and far.
- 2.) Animal Management: What does it really take to provide for the animals in a zoo? How does a zoo decide which animals to keep and where to put them? Join us to take a closer look at how this process happens at our zoo.

Registration for all camps (except Discoveries Day Camp, see above) begins Monday, February 1. Parents can register their interested camper(s) [online](#) or download the summer camps registration [form](#) and submit it by mail, fax or in person. All zoo camps offer an extended day option upon registering.

Payments for all camps must be made in full at the time of registration. A scholarship fund is available to provide financial aid to qualified families. To apply for a scholarship, please complete the [scholarship application](#) form and a registration form for the program they wish to attend. There are a limited number of scholarships available. The deadline to apply for a Summer Scholarship is **Friday, April 1**.

For the safety of the animals and participants, students will not have direct contact with the zoo's animals. Children are assigned to age-appropriate groups. The zoo cannot accommodate all "group with" requests. For additional information about summer camps, visit: zoo.org/summercamps.

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, award-winning Woodland Park Zoo is famed for pioneering naturalistic exhibits and setting international standards for zoos in animal care, conservation and education programs. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats through more than 40 field projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. By inspiring people to care and act, Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. For more information, visit www.zoo.org.

###