



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PARENTS, ARE YOUR KIDS READY FOR A WILD SUMMER?

Registration opens March 1 for summer camp at The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

BALTIMORE, MD - Now *you* can drive *your* children wild this summer - sign them up for Summer Camp at the Zoo! Campers experience a unique, week-long day camp that allows them to explore the natural world of animals and their habitats, right here at the Zoo! Each camp is conducted by a Zoo Educator assisted by two adult camp counselors, with each session limited to 20 campers.

At the Zoo, campers will spend a lot of time walking around the Zoo, with opportunities to brush goats, feed giraffes, and ride camels. Campers should be prepared to spend a significant amount of time outside in various weather conditions.

There are three camp experiences for difference age groups. “*Zoo Detectives Camp*” is for rising second graders. Each morning campers will be greeted by a message from one of our Zoo team members with a “Zoo Mystery” to solve. Campers will then explore the Zoo, play games, and engage their senses to solve the mystery. Along the way campers will have opportunities to experience interactive exhibits such as spinning turtle shells, wobbly lily pads, fast slides, and riding camels; meet Maryland Zoo Animal Ambassadors; and learn about nature and how to protect animals and their habitats. Due to the young age of the campers, children in the Zoo Detectives Camp will not go behind the scenes with any animals. The *Zoo Detectives Camp* for 2nd graders is offered from August 10-14.

Students entering grades 3 through 5 can take “*Action for Animals,*” and learn what part they can play in helping to protect animals. Participants experience a unique day camp that allows them to explore the role the Zoo and other conservation organizations play in protecting animals species throughout the world, and how each of us can help. Campers in this age group will have the opportunity to go behind-the-scenes and ask questions to the zoo keepers who provide the day-to-day care for the Zoo’s animals. This camp experience runs July 6–10, July 13–17, and July 27–31.

Those children entering 6th through 8th grades can participate in our “*Working for Wildlife*” Camp. If your child is wondering what part he or she can play in helping to protect Earth’s amazing species, this camp is for them. Participants will explore both the role the Zoo and other conservation organizations play in protecting animal species throughout the world, and how each of us can help! Similar to “*Action for Animals,*” though geared toward a slightly older audience of camper, this camp gives children the opportunity to go behind-the-scenes and talk directly with the zoo keepers. This camp runs July 20–24, and August 3–7.

Zoo Camp runs Monday through Friday, from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm. The one-week summer camps cost \$410 per child; Zoo members receive a discounted rate of \$345. Sign up with a friend and

receive a 10% discount. To download the Zoo Camp brochure and application, please visit our website at <http://www.marylandzoo.org/edzoocation/summer-camp/>.

About The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore

Founded in 1876, The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore is the third oldest zoo in the United States and is internationally known for its contributions in conservation and research. More than 1,500 animals are represented in the Zoo's varied natural habitat exhibits such as *Penguin Coast*, Polar Bear Watch, the Maryland Wilderness, African Journey and the award-winning Children's Zoo. Situated in Druid Hill Park near downtown Baltimore, the Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums. For more information, visit www.marylandzoo.org.

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