

zoo trek

ZOO CAREERS

The Zoo's mission is to engage people in the wonders of the living world. But meeting that mission takes more than just zookeepers caring for the animals! With this Zoo Trek you will learn about different jobs at the Zoo and how they are important.

You can access the Zoo's interactive map on a group member's cell phone:
www.marylandzoo.org/interactive-map/

Keep in mind that every day is different at the Zoo. Some animals may be off exhibit during your visit.
Have a great field trip!



conservation educator

FIND IT!

Stop by the Naturalist Lodge. Sometimes there are educators or volunteers in this area. Pay them a visit!

WHAT'S MY JOB?

Zoo educators help visitors of all ages learn how amazing animals are and how we can all help protect them and their habitats. They may teach classes, play learning games, lead tours, or talk to visitors at exhibits. Educators also help write text for signs. Graphic designers then use the text to make the sign attractive and easy to read for visitors.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

4-year degrees

- Biology/ Zoology/ Ecology
- Animal Science
- Environmental Science
- Education
- Psychology

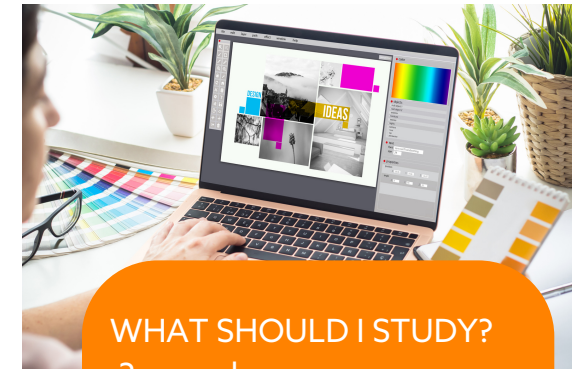
graphic designer

FIND IT!

Check out the signage around Penguin Coast. Find the sign about penguin feathers.

WHAT'S MY JOB?

All the signs, maps, banners, logos, and brochures at the Zoo were created by a graphic designer. These designers use color, word styles, artwork, and photos to communicate messages to visitors.



WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

2-year degree

- Graphic design

4-year degrees

- Graphic design
- Art

Other helpful subjects

- Marketing
- Communications

Keeper

FIND IT!

Look for the door next to the slender-snouted crocodile exhibit. This door leads to an area behind the exhibit where keepers feed and care for the animals that live in this space.

WHAT'S MY JOB?

It's not just about feeding animals and scooping poop! Zoo keepers carefully monitor the well-being of the animals and seek to create experiences for the animals that allow them to use their natural behaviors.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

4-year degrees

- Biology/Zoology
- Animal Science
- Environmental Science
- Psychology

Other training

- Zoo internships

horticulturalist

FIND IT!

Find the okapi yard. Unlike giraffes, who live on open savannas, okapis are found in dense forests.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

2-year degrees

- Horticulture technology
- Landscape design

4-year degrees

- Horticulture
- Biology/botany
- Landscape architecture

WHAT'S MY JOB?

Plants can be just as important as animals at the Zoo. Notice how plants are used to help give the okapi some privacy from visitors. Plants can help create spaces that look and feel like the animals' natural habitats. Horticulturalists take care of the plants at the Zoo, from grasses to trees. They also design gardens that provide plants for some of the animals to eat or play with.

fundraiser

FIND IT!

Look for an "Adopt Me!" sign on grounds. (There are several.)

WHAT'S MY JOB?

The Animal Adoption program helps the Zoo raise money to care for the Zoo's animals and to support programs that help species in the wild. Fundraisers develop ideas like this one to help visitors enjoy their Zoo experience while also raising money to help the Zoo do its important work. Most zoo fundraisers enjoy working with people.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

4-year degrees

- Business/Marketing
- Public relations
- Communications
- Business

veterinary technician

FIND IT!

Find the small "stage" next to the mesh at the Chimp yard. Vet techs can work in an area like this one to draw blood from a chimp or to help perform an exam while remaining safely behind a barrier.

WHAT'S MY JOB?

Vet techs are much like nurses for animals. They help take care of sick or injured animals and also spend a lot of time working in a lab. In the lab, they study samples of blood and even urine and feces (poop!) to monitor the health of the animals.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

2-year degree

- Veterinary technology



safety officer

FIND IT!

Find an AED station. An AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is an important first-aid tool for someone suffering from a sudden heart problem.



WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

Certifications

- First Aid/CPR

2-year degrees

- Public safety
- Security management
- Emergency medical technology

WHAT'S MY JOB?

Safety & Security staff at the Zoo help enforce rules that keep everyone safe. They are also specially trained to help Zoo visitors who become ill or injured during their visit.

retail manager

FIND IT!

Visit the Wild Things Gift Shop near the Main Gate.

WHAT'S MY JOB?

A retail manager decides what items to sell in the store and what price items will be. For a zoo store, a manager might choose to sell only things that were produced without harming the environment or that help raise money to protect wildlife.

WHAT SHOULD I STUDY?

2-year degrees

- Retail sales
- Business/marketing

4-year degrees

- Retail management
- Business/marketing
- Merchandising