

# SUMMER SAFARI

What is your child doing this summer? Why not spend an exciting summer learning at the Zoo? Summer Safari is just the place for your little one. Each day includes fun-filled activities such as puppet shows, games, stories, crafts, sing-a-longs and tours. Each child will receive a certificate of completion, rewards and mementos for participating. Summer Safari classes have been especially designed to stimulate learning and encourage conservation. Let your kids have fun while enhancing their skills.

Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided most class days. Parents with children having special dietary needs are encouraged to contact the Education Department to set up a plan. The minimum age level for the week-long camps is 7, while the minimum is 4 for the two-day, 3-hour classes. The minimum age level for a Starlight Sleepover is 7.

There are morning and afternoon options for classes. Each class runs for two consecutive mornings or afternoons. Camps run all day, Monday thru Thursday with the Starlight Sleepover on Friday. Choose by topic, date and grade level. Parents can and are encouraged to join campers for the Starlight Safari Sleepover only. Make it a family event. Parents and siblings can sign up too for a discounted price of \$20 each.

Cost for each  
2-Day Class  
**\$50 \$60**

members non-members

Cost for Family Starlight  
Sleepover: **\$35**

**4TH CLASS/CAMP FREE!**

## JUNE

### Pre - K and Kinder

<b>Animal Tails 603111</b> June 3 and 4 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Long ones ... short ones ... they all have a good use. Let's search the Zoo for different animal tails.	<b>Feathered Friends 610111</b> June 10 and 11 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They are able to take flight, but not all with feathers fly.	<b>Animal Coats 617111</b> June 17 and 18 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn why a hippo has thick skin and why a chinchilla is fluffy.	<b>Rainforest Animals 624111</b> June 24 and 25 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Discover what kind of animals live in each level of the rainforest.
<b>Sharks and Rays 603121</b> June 3 and 4 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sharks and rays are some of the ocean's most fascinating animals. Come to the Zoo for a special encounter with these interesting creatures.	<b>If I Ran The Zoo 610121</b> June 10 and 11 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn about what goes on at the Zoo and get to see many interesting animals.	<b>Butterfly Biography 617121</b> June 17 and 18 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. See the life cycle of a butterfly first hand and learn about the purpose of these beautiful insects.	<b>Giant Reptiles 624121</b> June 24 and 25 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come meet giants like the Komodo dragon, the Orinoco crocodile, and the Galapagos tortoise.
<b>Gliders and Jumpers 605111</b> June 5 and 6 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn all about Australia's marsupial gliders and jumpers.	<b>Turtles &amp; Tortoises 612111</b> June 12 and 13 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It's all in the shell. Make your own turtle shell, as you learn all about these creatures.	<b>Classy Critters 619111</b> June 19 and 20 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn about the classes of animals and what makes them distinct from each other.	<b>Dino Safari 626111</b> June 26 and 27 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Walk back in time to discover a world ruled by giants. Come learn about these prehistoric creatures.
<b>Dino Safari 605121</b> June 5 and 6 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Walk back in time to discover a world ruled by giants. Come learn all you can about these prehistoric creatures.	<b>River Giants 612121</b> June 12 and 13 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Lurking among the plants in the water is a master hunter ready to pounce and devour unsuspecting fish. See it at the Zoo.	<b>Leaping Lemurs 619121</b> June 19 and 20 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Lemurs are good at climbing trees, are loud and live at the Zoo. Come get a closer look.	<b>Snakes &amp; Lizards 626121</b> June 26 and 27 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come learn the difference between snakes and lizards, while getting the chance to meet some up close.

## JULY

<b>The Secret World of Ants 701111</b> July 1 and 2 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Not all ants are the same. Learn about ants and their role in the environment.	<b>Animal Babies 708121</b> July 8 and 9 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. What's a baby gorilla called? Learn how Zoo mothers take care of their babies. Meet some of the cutest animals at the Zoo.	<b>Hello Birdie 717111</b> July 17 and 18 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It's the feathers, the eggs and all about birds.	<b>The Fast &amp; Furry 724121</b> July 24 and 25 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. What are the fastest mammals on the planet? Learn how fast they go.
<b>Animal Homes 701121</b> July 1 and 2 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Find out what makes a Home Sweet Home for some animals.	<b>Tiny Monkey 710111</b> July 10 and 11 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Meet and learn all about the world's smallest primate.	<b>Bears 717121</b> July 17 and 18 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Get familiar with the largest meat-eater on land.	<b>Cavy Central 729111</b> July 29 and July 30 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Meet and learn all about one of the cutest rodents in the world ... guinea pigs!
<b>Fish Stories 703111</b> July 3 and 4 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The biggest fish are at the Zoo! What stories you will tell after you meet and learn all about native fish in South Texas.	<b>Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! 710121</b> July 10 and 11 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Get into the world of insects.	<b>Classy Critters 722111</b> July 22 and 23 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn how to describe animals by their characteristics.	<b>Zoo Chef 729121</b> July 29 and July 30 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Zoo dieticians have to prepare meals for lots of animals every day. Come help feed some of the zoo's animals.
<b>Dino Safari 703121</b> July 3 and 4 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Walk back in time to discover a world ruled by giants. Come learn all you can about these prehistoric creatures.	<b>Creepy Crawlers 715111</b> July 15 and 16 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Can a spider hear or smell? Do all spiders make webs? Joins us to get a closer look.	<b>Animal Tails 722121</b> July 22 and 23 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Long ones...short ones... they all have a good use. Let's search the Zoo for different animal tails.	<b>Happy Hippo 731111</b> July 31 and Aug. 1 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn what makes a hippo "happy" at the Zoo. Meet the pygmy hippo family.
<b>Animal Tracks 708111</b> July 8 and 9 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Identify and compare the footprints of exotic animals. Become a footprint detective!	<b>Tortuga Tales 715121</b> July 15 and 16 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. There are seven species of sea turtles in the world. Learn about the turtles that visit the Texas coast.	<b>Crocs &amp; Gators 724111</b> July 24 and 25 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visit the largest reptiles at the Zoo. Learn the real difference between a croc and a gator.	<b>Feet, Teeth, &amp; Tongues 7312121</b> July 31 and Aug. 1 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn the purpose of a blue tongue, sharp teeth and clawed feet.

## JUNE

### 1st and 2nd Grades

<b>Dinosaur Expedition 603212</b> June 3 and 4 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Let's "travel" back in time on a pre historic safari at the Zoo.	<b>Nut Crackers 610212</b> June 10 and 11 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Parrots are in the bird group equipped to crack even the toughest nut! See them in action.	<b>Wild &amp; Stinky 617212</b> June 17 and 18 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn why some animals stink and smell them up close.	<b>All About Apes 624212</b> June 24 and 25 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They are found in small or large troops. Come learn about these fascinating, endangered primates.
<b>Boas &amp; Pythons 603222</b> June 3 and 4 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Some can get as long as a bus. Most of these constrictors are big and expert hunters.	<b>Fabulous Felines 610222</b> June 10 and 11 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. There are over 30 species of wild cats, many of which are endangered. Come get familiar with these felines and meet the Zoo's cats.	<b>Monkey Mania 617222</b> June 17 and 18 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. What is the difference between a monkey and an ape? Learn this and other fascinating facts about these primates.	<b>Invisible Animals 624222</b> June 24 and 25 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn how skin color and behavior helps animals camouflage, becoming practically invisible to other animals.
<b>Lemur Landing 605212</b> June 5 and 6 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Several different types of lemurs live at the Zoo. Get a close look and learn all you can about prosimians.	<b>What's on the Menu 612212</b> June 12 and 13 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn what it takes to feed hundreds of animals at the Zoo. Help feed some of the hungry Zoo animals.	<b>Marsupial Mania 619212</b> June 19 and 20 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. These mammals have pouches to carry their babies. Let's explore the Zoo for marsupials.	<b>Toys and Snacks 626212</b> June 26 and 27 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Find out why some animals at the Zoo get toys and snacks. Make your own animal toy, and then help present it to them.
<b>Night Hunters 605222</b> June 5 and 6 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They are stealthy and expert hunters in the dark of night. What makes nocturnal predators good hunters?	<b>Animal Champs 612222</b> June 12 and 13 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Who runs the fastest ... jumps highest ... or flies the fastest? Let's learn and compare among wild animals.	<b>Dinosaurs Expedition 619222</b> June 19 and 20 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Step back in time on a special expedition to learn more about dinosaurs.	<b>World of Rodents 626222</b> June 26 and 27 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They are found world-wide and come in different sizes. Come learn more about these gnawing critters.



## JULY

### 1st and 2nd Grades

<b>Dinosaur Expedition 701212</b> July 1 and 2 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Let's "travel" back in time on a pre-historic safari at the Zoo.	<b>Reptile Rally 708222</b> July 8 and 9 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come learn all you can about reptiles and get close to some of the Zoo's scaly residents.	<b>Animal Talk 717212</b> July 17 and 18 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn how animals of the same species talk to each other.	<b>Flying Mammals 724222</b> July 24 and 25 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the world of bats and get a chance to visit the Zoo's "bat cave."
<b>Let's go Fishing 701222</b> July 1 and 2 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The big ones are at the Zoo. Find out what aquatic creatures lurk in our resacas, the river and Gulf of Mexico.	<b>Arachnid Academy 710212</b> July 10 and 11 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. There are more than 30,000 types of spiders. There are some at the Zoo you can see up close. Come meet these 8-legged creatures.	<b>On Your Toes 717222</b> July 17 and 18 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They're always on their toes! Explore the Zoo for some animals with hooves.	<b>Wild and Gross Animals 729212</b> July 29 and 30 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn why some animals stink, ooze stuff and do gross things.
<b>Snakes on the Plain 703212</b> July 3 and 4 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Get to know some of our native species of snakes.	<b>Animals of the Rainforest 710222</b> July 10 and 11 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They literally live in the trees. Come explore life in the trees.	<b>Swamp Creatures 722212</b> July 22 and 23 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Swamps may look uninhabitable, but there is a whole world of fascinating creatures in them ... some can be found at the Zoo.	<b>Great Tortoise Tour 729222</b> July 29 and 30 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. How slow can you go? Get to meet the Zoo's largest shelled reptile ... the Galapagos tortoise.
<b>Predator &amp; Prey 703222</b> July 3 and 4 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Who eats who in the food chain? It is not a game but some win and others become lunch.	<b>Call of the Wild 715121</b> July 15 and 16 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They howl, they growl, scream and even sing. Learn how animals talk to each other.	<b>Cobra Chronicles 722222</b> July 22 and 23 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This large snake has an appetite for other snakes.	<b>Baby Primates 731212</b> July 31 and Aug. 1 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Baby apes and monkeys are cute and need special attention.
<b>Animal Weapons 708212</b> July 8 and 9 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn more about predator and prey, and features animals have adapted just for hunting and defense.	<b>Animal Senses 715222</b> July 15 and 16 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Why do animals have such keen senses? Compare your senses to those of wild animals.	<b>Stinkers 724212</b> July 24 and 25 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Hop down to Australia and later make your own kangaroo craft.	<b>Animal Munchies 731222</b> July 31 and Aug. 1 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. What do animals at the Zoo get to eat? Feed or watch them munch on their favorite foods.

# Attention Working Parents!

Play Sessions are available for your child registered for summer classes -- Monday through Thursday, but not on Fridays. Add a little extra time to your child's day for play and exercise. Children can be dropped off as early as 7:45 a.m. Children will get to explore the Zoo, spend creative play time at the Discovery playground and enjoy animal-themed games with their Play Instructor. Children will then be escorted to their appropriate classroom to start their class. Each play session is \$5 per child. Space is limited and only pre-registered children can be accepted. Minimum age is 4 years. Children must be picked up promptly at 5:15 p.m. in order to be accepted and participate in additional sessions.

**Morning Play Session 745**  
7:45 a.m. to 8:45 a.m.  
**Mid-day Play Session 1200**  
12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
**Afternoon Play Session 415**  
4:15 p.m. to 5:15 p.m.

# Camps and Starlight Sleepovers

Camps are four days long and start on Mondays, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. All camps include a Starlight Safari sleepover on Fridays. The sleepover part of the camps takes place overnight on Friday (the 5th day) at 6:30 p.m. and ends at 8 a.m. on Saturday (the 6th day). Breakfast, lunch and snacks are provided daily, courtesy of the Texas Department of Agriculture's Summer Nutrition Program. Students have to be at least age 7 to participate in the Starlight Safari Sleepover. Family members are encouraged to register for the sleepover along with their student.

Cost for each Week Camp includes the cost for the Starlight Sleepover  
**\$150** **\$175**  
 members non-members

## 1st and 2nd Grades

<p><b>Dinosaur Discovery Camp:</b> Step back in time and discover creatures that roamed the planet. Many were small, but some were as big as a building. Come learn more about dinosaurs and get the chance to visit the Zoo's robotic dinosaur exhibit.  <b>Session 603234:</b> June 3 to June 6 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 7 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Zoo Safari Camp:</b> Go on a safari at the zoo. Explore Australia, Africa, Asia and South America. Get to know what species of animals are found in each region.  <b>Session 610234:</b> June 10 to June 13 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 14 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.  <b>Session 708234:</b> July 8 to July 11 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 12 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Animal Homes Camp:</b> Nest, dens, hives, holes, hollows, caves and burrows are types of animal shelters. Some animals even carry their shelter where they go, while others will "borrow" some other animal's shelter. Come learn who are the architects of the various shelters in nature.  <b>Session 617234:</b> June 17 to June 20 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 21 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.  <b>Session 722234:</b> July 22 to July 25 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 26 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Rainforest Discovery Camp:</b> Learn why rainforests are important, what animals live there and how you can help conserve them. Meet some of the Zoo's animals that come from rainforests. This is a fun way to learn more about some very cool creatures!  <b>Session 624234:</b> June 24 to June 27 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 28 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.  <b>Session 729234:</b> July 29 to August 1-- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Aug. 2 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Fish Tales Camp:</b> Come explore the underwater world of fish. Learn what fish make our resacas, gulf and river their home. The Starlight Sleepover of the camp will take place at Russell Aquatic Ecology Center. Don't miss a chance to "sleep with the fish."  <b>Session 701234:</b> July 1 to July 4 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 5 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Creature Feature Camp:</b> This is your opportunity to learn everything you ever wanted to know about tails, feet, arms and body coverings! See animals up close and meet some of the staff who care for them. Bring walking shoes to go on special tours behind the scenes.  <b>Session 715234:</b> July 15 to July 18 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 19 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>

## 3rd, 4th and 5th Grades

<p><b>Dinosaur Adventure Camp:</b> Join us for an adventure of gigantic proportions. Dinosaurs are back! Spend a week getting to know more about these prehistoric giants and get a chance to visit the Zoo's robotic dinosaur exhibit.  <b>Session 603333:</b> June 3 to June 6 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 7 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Junior Zookeeper Camp:</b> Learn all about the most important job at a Zoo... zookeeping. Meet the keeper! You might be asked to help clean out exhibits, feed some animals or do some other exciting part of a zookeeper's job. Get familiar with the tools and techniques of the trade.  <b>Session 610333:</b> June 10 to June 13 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 14 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Habitat Sweet Habitat Camp:</b> Every living thing needs a home. A good animal home needs to have at least enough food, water, space and shelter for survival. Some animals need a lot of space, while others hardly any. Come discover what a good habitat is for some of the world's most interesting animals. Explore the Zoo in search of examples of animal habitats.  <b>Session 617333:</b> June 17 to June 20 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 21 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Rainforest Adventure Camp:</b> Learn some fascinating differences between rainforests and other types of forests. See some of the animals that come from rainforests around the world.  <b>Session 624333:</b> June 24 to June 27 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 28 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Aquatic Adventure Camp:</b> Spend some time learning about underwater ecology at the Russell Aquatic Ecology Center. At the end of the camp, "sleep with the fish." The Starlight Sleepover of the camp will take place in the aquatic center.  <b>Session 701333:</b> July 1 to July 4 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 5 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>Amphibian Academy Camp:</b> Learn about amphibians and get to see some up close.  <b>Session 708333:</b> July 8 to July 11 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 12 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>All About Birds Camp:</b> Come learn about the Zoo's feathered residents.  <b>Session 715333:</b> July 15 to July 18 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 19 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>All About Reptiles Camp:</b> Come learn about reptiles and get to meet some up close.  <b>Session 722333:</b> July 22 to July 25 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 26 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p><b>All About Mammals Camp:</b> There's about 80 species of mammals at the Zoo. Come learn about them.  <b>Session 729333:</b> July 29 to August 1 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and August 2 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>

# SUMMER

# SAFARI

# 2024



# Class Schedule

## Zoo Family Starlight Sleepover July 20<sup>th</sup>

Challenge your senses to observe nocturnal animals! Tour the Zoo at night! It's a sleepover in a nice, air-conditioned building. Enjoy games, a pizza party, an early morning outdoor breakfast and more!



**For adults and children over 7 years of age.**

**Times:** 6:30 p.m. to 8 a.m. the following morning.  
**Cost:** \$35 per person. This includes a pizza dinner party, zoo tour, games, breakfast, drinks & fun night-time activities!!

**What to bring:** Weather-appropriate clothing; sturdy walking shoes, small flashlight, insect repellent, toiletries, sleeping bag or blankets and a pillow.

**Information and Reservations:** Education Department (956) 548-WILD (9453)  
 Zoo Main Office (956) 546-7187 [www.gpz.org](http://www.gpz.org); email: [educ@gpz.org](mailto:educ@gpz.org)