

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 and lunch are provided daily, courtesy of BISD and 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 can be encouraged to register for the sleepover along with their student.

Cost for each Week Camp includes the cost for the Starlight Sleepover
\$175 **\$200**
 members non-members

1st and 2nd Grades

<p>Creature Feature Camp: 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. Session 602234: June 2 to June 5 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 6 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 714234: July 14 to July 17-- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 18 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Fish Tales Camp: 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." Session 609234: June 9 to June 12 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 13 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 707234: July 7 to July 10 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m. and July 11 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Zoo Safari Camp: Go on a safari at the zoo. Explore Australia, Africa, Asia, La Huasteca and South America. Get to know what species of animals are found in each region. Session 630234: June 30 to July 3 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 4 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 804234: Aug 4 to Aug 7 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Aug 8 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8 a.m.</p>
<p>Rainforest Discovery Camp: 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! Session 623234: June 23 to June 26 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 27 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 728234: July 28 to July 31 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and Aug. 1 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Animal Homes Camp: Nest, dens, hives, holes, hallows, 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. Session 616234: June 16 to June 19 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 20 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 721234: July 21 to July 24 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 25 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>

3rd, 4th and 5th Grades

<p>Junior Zookeeper Camp: 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. Session 602333: June 2 to June 5 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 6 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 804333: Aug 4 to Aug 7 -- 9:00 a.m.m to 4:00 p.m. and August 8 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Aquatic Adventure Camp: 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. Session 609333: June 9 to June 12 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 13 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. Session 707333: July 7 to July 10 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 11 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Habitat Sweet Habitat Camp: 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. Session 616333: June 16 to June 19 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 20 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Rainforest Adventure Camp: Learn some fascinating differences between rainforests and other types of forests. See some of the animals that come from rainforests around the world. Session 623333: June 23 to June 26 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and June 27 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>Amphibian Academy Camp: How many amphibians can you name? Learn about amphibians that live near you and rare and exotic ones that live in other parts of the world. Join us and get to see some up close. Session 630333: June 30 to July 3 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 4 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>All About Birds Camp: Come learn about the Zoo's feathered residents. Learn about the advantages of having feathers. They are not just for flying. Session 714333: July 14 to July 17 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 18 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>All About Reptiles Camp: Come learn about reptiles and get to meet some up close. Get the chance to meet some of the world's largest reptiles. Session 721333: July 21 to July 24 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and July 25 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>
<p>All About Mammals Camp: There's about 80 species of mammals at the Zoo. Join the adventure to see the world's tallest, largest and rarest mammals at the Zoo. Come learn about them Session 728333: July 28 to July 31 -- 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and August 1 -- 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.</p>

SUMMER

SAFARI

2025



Class Schedule

Zoo Family Starlight Sleepover July 19th

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; email: educ@gpz.org

SUMMER SAFARI

What will your child do this summer? Consider the Summer Safari program at the Zoo! This exciting program includes puppet shows, games, stories, crafts, sing-alongs, and tours. Each child receives a completion certificate and rewards.

Summer Safari classes focus on learning and conservation. We provide breakfast, lunch, and snacks on most days. If your child has special dietary needs, please contact the Education Department.

Children aged 7 and older can join the week-long camps, while those aged 4 and older can sign up for the two-day, 3-hour classes. The Starlight Sleepover is for kids aged 7 and up as well.

Camps run Monday through Thursday, with the Starlight Sleepover on Friday. Parents can join the sleepover and sign up for a discounted price of \$35 each.

Cost for each
2-Day Class

\$50 | \$60

members non-members

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



JUNE		Pre - K and Kinder	
Animal Tails 602111 June 2 and 3 -- 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.	Feathered Friends 609111 June 9 and 10 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They are able to take flight, but not all with feathers fly.	Animal Coats 616111 June 16 and 17 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn why a hippo has thick skin and why a chinchilla is fluffy.	Rainforest Animals 623111 June 23 and 24 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Discover what kind of animals live in each level of the rainforest.
Sharks and rays 602121 June 2 and 3 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They are some of the ocean's most fascinating animals. Join us for a special encounter with these interesting creatures.	If I Ran The Zoo 609121 June 9 and 10 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn about what goes on at the Zoo and get to see many interesting animals.	Butterfly Biography 616121 June 16 and 17 -- 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.	Giant Reptiles 623121 June 23 and 24 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come meet giants like the Komodo dragon, the Orinoco crocodile, and the Galapagos tortoise.
Gliders and Jumpers 604111 June 4 and 5 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn all about Australia's marsupial gliders and jumpers.	Turtles & Tortoises 611111 June 11 and 12 -- 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.	Classy Critters 618111 June 18 and 19 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn about the classes of animals and what makes them distinct from each other.	One or Two Humps 625111 June 25 and 26 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. The Camel Family has several members... some with no hump and some with one or more.
Deer and Antelope 604121 June 4 and 5 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They may be prey for carnivores, but they are not without great survival skills. Come meet the Zoo's hoof stock and see if you can tell if they have horns or antlers.	River Giants 611121 June 11 and 12 -- 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.	Leaping Lemurs 618121 June 18 and 19 -- 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.	Snakes & Lizards 625121 June 25 and 26 -- 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		Pre K and Kinder	
The Secret World of Ants 630111 June 30 and July 1 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Not all ants are the same. Learn about ants and their role in the environment.	Animal Babies 707121 July 7 and 8 -- 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.	Hello Birdie 716111 July 16 and 17 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It's the feathers, the eggs and all about birds.	The Fast & Furry 723121 July 23 and 24 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. What are the fastest mammals on the planet? Learn how fast they go.
Animal Homes 630121 June 30 and July 1 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Find out what makes a Home Sweet Home for some animals.	Tiny Monkey 709111 July 9 and 10 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Meet and learn all about the world's smallest primate.	Bears 716121 July 16 and 17 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Get familiar with the largest meat-eater on land.	Cavy Central 728111 July 28 and 29 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Meet and learn all about these cute rodents... guinea pigs!
Fish Stories 702111 July 2 and 3 -- 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.	Bugs! Bugs! Bugs! 709121 July 09 and 10 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Get into the world of insects.	Classy Critters 721111 July 21 and 22 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn how to describe animals by their characteristics.	Zoo Chef 728121 July 28 and 29 -- 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.
Color me Wild 702121 July 2 and 3 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn that in the wild, colors have purpose and function and it's about survival.	Creepy Crawlers 714111 July 14 and 15 -- 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.	Animal Tails 721121 July 21 and 22 -- 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.	Happy Hippo 730111 July 30 and July 31 - 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn what makes a hippo "happy" at the Zoo. Meet the pygmy hippo family.
Animal Tracks 707111 July 7 and 8 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Identify and compare the footprints of exotic animals. Become a footprint detective!	Tortuga Tales 714121 July 14 and 15 -- 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.	Crocs & Gators 723111 July 23 and 24 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Visit the largest reptiles at the Zoo. Learn the real difference between a croc and a gator.	Feet, Teeth, & Tongues 730121 July 30 and July 31 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn the purpose of a blue tongue, sharp teeth and clawed feet.

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 playtime 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 preregistered children can be accepted. Minimum age is 4 years. Children must be picked up promptly at 5:15 p.m. 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.

JUNE

It's Otterly Amazing 602212 June 2 and 3 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Come learn all about these adorable aquatic acrobats.	Nut Crackers 609212 June 9 and 10 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Parrots are in the bird group equipped to crack even the toughest nut! See them in action.	Wild & Stinky 616212 June 16 and 17 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn why some animals stink and smell them up close.	All About Apes 623212 June 23 and 24 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They are found in small or large troops. Come learn about these fascinating, endangered primates.
Boas & Pythons 602222 June 2 and 3 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Some can get as long as a bus. Most of these constrictors are big and expert hunters.	Fabulous Felines 609222 June 9 and 10 -- 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.	Monkey Mania 616222 June 16 and 17 -- 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.	Invisible Animals 623222 June 23 and 24 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn how skin color and behavior helps animals camouflage, becoming practically invisible to other animals.
Lemur Landing 604212 June 4 and 5 -- 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.	What's on the Menu 611212 June 11 and 12 -- 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.	Marsupial Mania 618212 June 18 and 19 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. These mammals have pouches to carry their babies. Let's explore the Zoo for marsupials.	Toys and Snacks 625212 June 25 and 26 -- 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.
Let's go Fishing 604222 June 4 and 5 -- 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.	Animal Champs 611222 June 11 and 12 -- 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.	Upside Down 618222 June 18 and 19 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. To a sloth, the world is upside down. Come learn about sloth life.	World of Rodents 625222 June 25 and 26 -- 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

Habitats 630212 June 30 and July 1 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn what makes a suitable habitat	Reptile Rally 707222 July 7 and 8 -- 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.	Animal Talk 716212 July 16 and 17 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn how animals of the same species talk to each other.	Flying Mammals 723222 July 23 and 24 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Explore the world of bats and get a chance to visit the Zoo's "bat cave."
Night Hunters 630222 June 30 and July 1 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They are stealthy and expert hunters in the dark of night. What makes nocturnal predators good hunters?	Arachnid Academy 709212 July 9 and 10 -- 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.	On Your Toes 716222 July 16 and 17 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They're always on their toes! Explore the Zoo for some animals with hooves.	Wild and Gross Animals 728212 July 28 and 29 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn why some animals stink, ooze stuff and do gross things.
Snakes on the Plain 702212 July 2 and 3 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Get to know some of our native species of snakes.	Animals of the Rainforest 709222 July 9 and 10 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. They literally live in the trees. Come explore life in the trees.	Swamp Creatures 721212 July 21 and 22 -- 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.	Great Tortoise Tour 728222 July 28 and 29 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. How slow can you go? Get to meet the Zoo's largest shelled reptile ... the Galapagos tortoise.
Predator & Prey 702222 July 2 and 3 -- 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.	Call of the Wild 714212 July 14 and 15 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. They howl, they growl, scream and even sing. Learn how animals talk to each other.	Cobra Chronicles 721222 July 21 and 22 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. This large snake has an appetite for other snakes.	Baby Primates 730212 July 30 and July 31 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Baby apes and monkeys are cute and need special attention.
Animal Weapons 707212 July 7 and 8 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Learn more about predator and prey, and features animals have adapted just for hunting and defense.	Animal Senses 714222 July 14 and 15 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Why do animals have such keen senses? Compare your senses to those of wild animals.	Stinkers 723212 July 23 and 24 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Hop down to Australia and later make your own kangaroo craft.	Animal Munchies 730222 July 30 and July 31 -- 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.

AUGUST

Monkeys & Apes 804111 Aug 4 and 5 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. What is the difference between a monkey and an ape? Come to the Zoo and explore their world.	Sharks & Rays 804121 Aug 4 and 5 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sharks and rays are some of the ocean's most fascinating animals. Come meet these interesting creatures.	Hide and Seek 806111 Aug 6 and 7 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. It's the animal kingdom's game of survival. Learn what some animals do to hide from predators or to conceal when hunting other animals.	Pouch Babies 806121 Aug 6 and 7 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Why do some animal mothers carry their baby in a pouch? Come learn about marsupials and get a chance to meet some pouch babies.
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AUGUST

Animal Tree House 804212 Aug 4 and 5 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Explore the forest canopy for animals that live in this type of habitat.	Lion's Pride 804222 Aug 4 and 5 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Come meet the King of the Jungle as you learn all about lions.	Animal Book of Survival 806212 Aug 6 and 7 -- 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. Come learn about what it takes to survive in the wild.	Toad-ally Awesome Animals 806222 Aug 6 and 7 -- 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Learn all about toads and meet some pretty awesome amphibians at the Zoo.
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1st and 2nd Grades

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Pre K and Kinder

1st and 2nd Grades