

Parent's Guide to Oglebay Good Zoo Summer Camps



Dear Parents,

Thank you for your interest in Oglebay Good Zoo Summer Camps! We have an exciting summer filled with fun and educational programs!

Through hands-on activities, experiments, and live animals, participants will learn about wildlife, nature, science, and the outdoors! Camps are available for ages 4 and up. Most camp programs are from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. with before and after care available. The zoo's experienced team teaches these fun-filled, yet educational programs! The zoo's experienced team is trained in CPR and first aid. Lifeguards are on duty for all swimming activities.

Below you will find more information on our camp programs as well as frequently asked questions.

We look forward to working with your children!

Sincerely,

Joe Greathouse, PhD
Zoo Director



304-243-4100

Registration/Admission Policy

Pre-registration is required for all summer camps . A completed and signed registration form along with payment is required to register. The registration form includes a list of individuals authorized to pick up your child and other necessary information. Registration links and a list of camps are available on our website www.oglebay.com/good-zoo.

Late Registrations – less than 7 days prior to the first day of the camp

Due to the nature of the camps, space is limited. We advise registering as early as possible to ensure your space. If the camp you desire is filled, you will be placed on a waiting list and notified if spaces become available.

Camp registrations must be received at least 7 days prior to any camp. If space allows, registrations will be accepted on shorter notice, but will require a late registration fee. If registering less than 7 days prior to the start of any camp, please add \$5 per child.

Before and After Care

Before and after care is available Monday through Friday from 7:30 am – 9 am and 3 pm – 5:30 pm. Activities for before and after care include games, art projects, movies etc.

Before and after care is available for full day, weekday camps only. This service must be scheduled at least 1 day in advance.

The cost for before and after care is \$10 per hour.

Cancellation and Refund Policy

Payment for all camps is required at the time of registration.

The zoo reserves the right to cancel any camp for any reason. If the zoo cancels a camp, participants will be notified by phone and/or e-mail at least 24 hours prior to the camp's start time. Participants of camps cancelled by the zoo will be given the opportunity to schedule into another open session (of equal value), apply the refund amount toward a session of a different value or receive a full refund.

2 weeks or more prior to first day of summer camp: Full refund or scheduled into another session (during the current year)

7 – 13 days prior to first day of summer camp: 50% refund or scheduled into another camp (during the current year)

No refunds will be granted less than one week from the summer camp's start date and the fee is not transferable to another session.

Arrival Procedures

Check-in is at the zoo main building entrance. Before care begins at 7:30 AM and the summer camp begins at 9:00 AM. If you require an earlier drop off time, please contact the zoo for availability. Participants arriving before 8:45 AM will be charged before care fees. When you arrive with your child, please check in with the team member on the porch of the zoo. If no one is present, please ring the door bell to the left of the entrance. Your child will then go to before care in the classroom or proceed with the instructor to the camp.

Departure Procedures

Dismissal occurs outside of the theater door of the zoo for all camps EXCEPT those going to the Oglebay outdoor pool. (The theater door is down the sidewalk to the left of the main entrance doors.) Parents are asked to wait on the sidewalk as the instructor dismisses each child. For safety reasons, parents may not pick up their children inside the zoo.

PHOTO IDENTIFICATION IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO PICK UP YOUR CHILD! In order for your child to leave the zoo, our instructors **MUST** see a photo-ID and the person picking up the child **MUST** be on the authorized pick-up list. The authorized pick-up list is found on your registration form. If you must make changes to the pick-up list, contact the zoo office at 304-243-4100 or consult with the “check-in” instructor when dropping off your child.

The safety of your children is our priority! Photo identification must be shown every day. Even if our educators know you are the proper adult, you must show ID.

If your child is in a camp which goes to the Oglebay outdoor pool in the afternoon, you will pick your child up at the pool. The camps will dismiss children from the front lawn of the pool. If your child has not been picked up at the pool by 3:10, they will be transported back to the zoo.

If your child is in aftercare, check with the staff at the admission gate and they will call the instructor(s) with your child. If the zoo is closed, please ring the doorbell found to the left of the zoo entrance, and someone will assist you.

Lunch and Snack Guidelines

Participants in full day camps will need to purchase the boxed lunches from the zoo or bring their own lunch. Children are not permitted to go to the zoo concession stand.

The boxed lunches provided by the zoo are \$7.50 per day.

Boxed Lunch Menu* (all lunches include juice and/or water)

Monday – Chicken nuggets, fruit cup, pretzels and Capri Sun

Tuesday - Taco in a Bag, cheese stick, fruit cup, Capri Sun

Wednesday - Half wrap (turkey and American cheese), cheese stick, fruit cup, Capri Sun

Thursday – Mac and cheese wedges, pudding, pretzels, Capri Sun

Friday - Hot dog, applesauce, cheese stick, Capri Sun

*Menu items are subject to change

The zoo will provide a daily snack. Snack choices vary, but may include animal crackers, fruit, yogurt, freeze pops, veggie sticks etc. Each child should come with their own water bottle, labeled with their name. Additional water will be provided throughout the day.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I register my child for camp?

To register your child, please complete the summer education camp registration form online at www.oglebay.com/good-zoo.

When is payment for summer camp due?

Payment is due at the time of registration.

When do I pay for before and after care and how much is it?

Before and aftercare may be paid with your registration, or in one sum on the last day of the camp if additional before or aftercare is needed beyond what was selected during registration for the camp.

Before and after care is **\$10 per hour per child**.

Do you have an early-bird discount?

Yes! If you register before April 30th you can take 10% off your summer education camp fees. Registration **MUST** occur prior to the cut-off date in order to receive the discount. **The discount does not apply to lunches, t-shirts or before/after care fees.**

Do Good Zoo Members receive a discount on summer education camps?

Yes! Children covered under a zoo membership receive 10% off camp fees. We are sorry, but adults holding an *individual* membership cannot transfer their discount to children enrolling in camps.

Do you have a late registration fee?

Yes, if you register your child less than 7 days prior to the start of the camp session, **\$5** per child will be added to the registration fee.

What is your Refund Policy?

The zoo reserves the right to cancel any camp for any reason. If the zoo cancels a camp, participants will be notified by phone and/or e-mail at least 24 hours prior to the camp's start time. Participants of camps cancelled by the zoo will be given the opportunity to schedule into another open session (of equal value), apply the credit towards another session, or receive a full refund.

Payment for all summer camp camps is required at the time of registration. Participants cancelling a registration 2 weeks or more prior to the start of the camp may receive a full refund or have their payment transferred to another session. No refund will be given and payments are not transferable for registrations cancelled with less than 1 week notice.

Will I receive a summer camp confirmation?

You will receive an e-mailed confirmation at the time of your online registration.

What times are the summer camps?

Camp times vary - see camp description for details. Most camps are from 9 am – 3 pm with before and after care available from 7:30 am – 9 am & 3 pm - 5:30 pm. Earlier drop off times may be available. Contact the zoo office for more information.

How does prepaid before and aftercare work?

You select the number of hours that you would like before or aftercare upon registering for the camp. If additional before or aftercare are needed throughout the week, you will be billed for additional hours on the last day of the camp.

There are no refunds for unused prepaid before and/or aftercare and the time is not transferable to another family.

What if my child needs to miss a day of the summer camp?

Please let our instructors know if your child will be missing a day of camp. We are sorry, but camp fees will not be prorated and refunds will not be issued for missed days.

What if we are late arriving at the camp?

Please arrive to camp on time; however if you are late, ring the doorbell to the left of the entry doors. Someone will come to assist you. **Please be patient when arriving late, our instructors and other team members are conducting activities, and it will take a few minutes for them to get to your child when you arrive after the camp has started.**

Can I pick my child up early?

If you must pick your child up early, inform the “check-in person” or your child’s instructor when you drop your child off. They will try their best to have your child at the front entrance of the zoo at the time you designate. **If you would like to pick your child up with little or no notice, you will need to be patient and wait until your camp instructor is able to bring your child to you.** The camps spend time at various locations in the zoo and on the hiking trails, so your child may not be available immediately.

Where do I drop my child off/pick my child up?

All participants should check-in at the front entrance of the zoo when arriving each day.

Children in camps that go to the outdoor pool will be picked up at the outdoor pool, unless the weather prevents them from swimming. If it is stormy or severe weather, we will stay at the zoo and your child should be picked up at the zoo. **If you have any question about where the children are to be picked up, call 304-243-4100.** If your child has not been picked up at the pool by 3:10, they will be transported back to the zoo, and you will be charged aftercare fees.

All other participants will be picked up outside of the theater door of the zoo (The theater door is down the sidewalk to the left of the main entrance doors.) For your child’s safety, parents are not permitted to pick up their children inside the zoo.

We try very hard to make drop off and pick up times run smoothly, efficiently and safely. We ask that parents be courteous to other parents when dropping off and picking up children. **Please have your ID ready for the educator at pick up. This will help speed up the process.**

Where do I pick my child up if they are staying for after-care?

If your child is staying for after care, please stop at the zoo admission gate. The gate attendant will call the educator on the phone, and your child will be brought to the front entrance of the zoo. If you know what time you will be picking up your child, please inform the educator for your child’s camp or the “check-in” person in the morning. We will make every attempt to have your child at the front entrance at the time you designate. **If the zoo is closed when you arrive to pick up your child, ring the doorbell to the left of the zoo entrance, and someone will come to assist you.**

What should my child wear to summer camp?

Participants should wear play clothes and comfortable walking shoes. The camps spend time walking through the zoo, playing games, taking hikes, and other activities. Children likely may get dirty, so please do not send your child in brand-new shoes or good clothes. Closed toed shoes are preferred.

Our camp instructors have found that flip flops and croc style shoes greatly increase the risk of children falling. Please have your child dress for the weather.

Should my child bring extra clothes, shoes or sunscreen?

Some of our camps involve creek walks and messy activities. You may choose to send an extra set of clothes with your child. Please label clothes, shoes, lunchboxes and backpacks with your child's name.

We advise children to wear sunscreen when attending the camps since a large amount of time is spent outdoors. **Please send sunscreen labeled with your child's name.** Participants need to provide and apply their own sunscreen.

The **American Academy of Dermatology** recommends using a **BROAD SPECTRUM** sunscreen with a **SPF of 30 or higher**. They also recommend using sunscreens that are **WATER RESISTANT** or **VERY WATER RESISTANT**. For more information about sunscreens and sun safety, check out the American Academy of Dermatology's website at www.aad.org

Do you provide a summer camp T-shirt?

T-Shirts are not provided with the camp; however you may purchase T-shirts for \$18.95 each (plus applicable taxes and fees). Orders for T-shirt must be received by July 1st. After July 1st, T-shirts are available on a first come first served basis and can be purchased before the camp from the "check-in" instructor. Adult and Youth sizes are available.

What will my child do during summer camp?

Participants will do a variety of activities, see animals, go on hikes and much more. Camps are designed to be educational yet fun! Activities are age-appropriate and many correlate to state curriculum components. Through the curriculum, participants are exposed to physical and natural science, geography, physical education, literacy, music and art. See camp descriptions for more details.

Will my child ride the zoo train?

Yes, a train ride is included with week-long camps.

Will my child go swimming?

Many summer education camps for those entering 2nd grade and up go to the Oglebay outdoor pool in the afternoon. Check the camp description for details. Camps for those age 4 – 1st grade do NOT go to the pool.

Can my child skip the pool and just attend the activity portion of the camp?

Yes! If your child would like to attend the camp, but not go to the pool, we have a discounted rate to attend the morning portion of the camp. See camp descriptions for details and pricing.

My child is attending a camp that goes to the outdoor pool. What do I need to know?

Participants in the pool camp should have a swimsuit, towel, and **sunscreen**. The ***American Academy of Dermatology*** recommends a water resistant/very water resistant broad spectrum sunscreen of 30 SPF or higher.

Make sure your child wears comfortable walking shoes, because we do walk to the pool. The camps generally leave the zoo around 12:00. During the walk to the pool, the group may stop for additional activities. The educators reserve the right to alter this schedule.

Slight rain will not keep us from going to the pool. If it is stormy or severe weather, we will stay at the zoo and your child should be picked up at the zoo. **If you have any question about where the children are to be picked up, call 304-243-4100.**

Can my child bring toys or games with them to the camp?

No, we keep participants busy throughout the day. Please keep toys, stuffed animals, electronics etc. at home. The zoo and staff are not responsible for lost, stolen or broken items.

Do you provide snacks?

The zoo provides a snack with every summer camp. Snacks vary from crackers, fruit, veggies, yogurt etc. Water is available throughout the day. Children should bring their own water bottles that can be refilled. If your child has food allergies, be sure to indicate this on the registration form.

Children are not permitted to purchase snacks from the zoo concessions stands during the camp due to the additional staff needed to oversee the children. However, participants who visit the Oglebay Outdoor Pool in the afternoon may purchase snacks from the pool concession stand (chips, popsicles etc.). This is at the discretion of a parent/guardian. The typical price range for snacks is \$2 - \$4. The instructors will not be responsible for handling any money for children.

Can we purchase lunches?

Boxed lunches are available for \$7.50 (plus tax/fees) per day.

Participants are NOT permitted to purchase lunch from the concession stand due to the length of time for food preparation and the additional staff needed to oversee the children. For more information, see the *Lunch and Snack Guidelines* on the previous pages.

What if my child forgets their lunch?

Should your child forget their lunch, we will provide a lunch for them, and you will be charged \$7.50 (plus tax/fees) for the lunch at the time your child is picked up.

What is your instructor to child ratio?

We have one instructor plus several trained volunteers for every 10 camp participants.

Why do you need an emergency contact?

In case of emergency, parents will be contacted first. If parents cannot be reached, then the emergency contact will be called. **If you have a preferred number where you can be reached,**

have a preference of which parent/guardian to call first or have additional contact information, please give this to the education staff member checking in your child.

What is your participant conduct policy?

All participants are expected to treat other children, zoo team members, animals and zoo property with respect and to follow all rules outlined by the instructor. Camp attendance is a privilege. If at any time a child's conduct is disrupting to the camp or the instructor's ability to present the camp, the zoo reserves the right to terminate the child's enrollment, with no refunds given.

Who are the camp instructors?

Our instructors are either full or part-time team members at the zoo. The zoo's director has a PhD and is an assistant professor of biology at West Liberty University, and the zoo's curriculum advisor has a master's degree in education and has been coordinating and conducting zoo camp camps for over 20 years. Many of our instructors have teaching certificates and/or degrees in biology or education. Education team members are trained in CPR and first aid. Our instructors are carefully selected, screened and trained. Each session has a "point" instructor who is with the group for the entire week. Depending on the size of the camp, this instructor may be assisted by one or more extra instructors. In addition to our paid zoo team, the camps are assisted by our teen volunteers. Each teen volunteer has been through an application and screening process and has completed a rigorous training camp prior to assisting with any camp. The zoo reserves the right to change instructors for camps and will not guarantee any particular instructor for any camp.

..... HOW TO SELECT A
SUNSCREEN

Choosing the right sunscreen can help reduce the risk of skin cancer and early skin aging caused by the sun.

SUNSCREEN IS AN IMPORTANT TOOL

In the fight against skin cancer, including melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer.

1 in 5

Americans will develop skin cancer in their lifetime.



The American Academy of Dermatology recommends consumers choose a sunscreen that states on the label:

BROAD SPECTRUM

Means a sunscreen protects the skin from ultraviolet A (UVA) and ultraviolet B (UVB) rays, both of which can cause cancer.

SPF 30 OR HIGHER

How well a sunscreen protects you from sunburn.

WATER RESISTANT OR VERY WATER RESISTANT

For up to 40 or 80 minutes. Sunscreens are not waterproof or sweatproof and need to be reapplied.



ONE OUNCE OF SUNSCREEN, enough to fill a shot glass, is considered the amount needed to cover the exposed areas of the body.



To learn more visit SpotSkinCancer.org