

San Diego Zoo Summer Camp Important Information

Cub Camp - HALF DAY (9 to NOON)

We thank you for choosing the San Diego Zoo's Summer Camp as part of your child's summer vacation experience. Our program offers children opportunities to use critical thinking and problem-solving skills, cooperation, and have up-close encounters with animals that connect kids to wildlife and conservation. Best of all, they have so much fun doing it--they forget they're learning!

This is probably your first time at Zoo Camp so please read all of this information carefully.

Drop-off and pick-up your Zoo Campers

MONDAY MORNING please **park your car** and walk with your child to the Greeting Grass so you can meet your child's teacher and turn in the enclosed **two-sided release form (please complete ahead of time)**. **Allow extra time** for check-in on the first day of class. Check in at the Cub Camp sign at the Greeting Grass, located at the west side of the main parking lot ("Cub Camp meets here" indicated on the enclosed drop off/ pick up map).

MONDAY AFTERNOON and TUESDAY - FRIDAY, there are two ways to drop off and pick up:

*Option #1: You can stay in your car and use our **Express Lane drop-off and pick-up service**. To use this service, drive into the **Express Lane** indicated by the arrows on the map. **You must stay behind the wheel of your car the entire time**. A staff person will come to the car and escort your child(ren) to or from the Greeting Grass and help them into the car.*



(Please do not get out of your car – not to put on your child's shoes, sunscreen, buckle them into the car seat, open the back hatch, etc. If for any reason you need to get out of the car, you must park in a legal, marked spot, not in the Express Lane.)

For pick up time, please **write the name(s) of the child or children you are picking up on the provided form** and display it on your car dashboard. This method assures both safety and efficiency.

We agree that your child's safety is of the utmost importance. There may be times that we will direct you to pull forward in the Express Lane to help us with traffic flow, especially if you have many campers, or kids who need help with seatbelts. Your patience and cooperation is essential to the success of this system.

*Option #2: If you want to personally escort your child to or from the Greeting Grass; you need to put on your child's shoes, grab bags from the trunk, or hug your camper goodbye; or **if you need to get out of your car for any reason, you must park your car in a legal, marked space**. (Be aware that parking can be difficult in the afternoons during the busy summer season.) **Never get out of your car in the Express Lane.***

Set Your Watch

7:30-8:45 a.m. Extended Day (XD) Program morning hours of operation. If you registered for this option, please park your car and bring your child to the XD classroom in the Otto Center anytime during these hours. See Drop-off/ Pick up Map for location of Otto Center.

8:45-9:00 a.m. You may drop off your camper at 8:45 at the Greeting Grass, 15 minutes before Zoo Camp begins. **No supervision is provided in the Greeting Grass area before 8:45 a.m.**

9:00 a.m. Zoo Camp start time. If you arrive late, please come to the Otto Center and the Education staff will take your child to his/her class. Please be on time, lots of activities take place out in the Zoo and we don't want your camper to miss out on the fun.

12:00 p.m. Zoo Camp ends. Pick-up time at the Greeting Grass ends promptly at 12:15. **If any child is left beyond the 15-minute grace period, there is a late fee of \$17 PER CHILD.** You will need to go to the Education Department at the Otto Center to pick up your child.

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What to Bring

Light morning snack: Not too much! Snack break is about fifteen minutes. We provide cups of water (bottled) at snack time only.

Sun gear: Be sun smart! Remember sunscreen, hats or visors, and water bottles for hydration during the day.

Comfortable shoes and play clothes: We might get dirty having fun.

Cameras (optional): They're great for capturing memories but are easily left behind. Write your child's name or put a return address label on the camera. Inform your child it is his/her responsibility to keep track of the camera.

Bringing the Fun Home to the Entire Family

You can become involved in your child's Zoo Cub Camp Adventure through family activities in the evening. Every child will be given a home-connector at the end of each day. The home-connectors may reinforce a concept we've covered, or prepare your child for something coming up. We encourage your participation! We will also be sending home a survey on some weeks and we look forward to your feedback.

Since Zoo Camp is not a parent participation program, parents are not able to tag along in camp. You are welcome to visit the Zoo during your child's day at Zoo Camp by purchasing an admission ticket or using your membership card. For family fun, check out our parent participation programs such as Safari Sleepovers, Kindernights, or Family Safari.

