



Field Trip Handbook

Updated: July 2025

Table of Contents

Pricing..... 2

Registration..... 2

Your Zoo Day..... 3

Add-Ons..... 4

Additional Information..... 6

Rules of the Wild..... 6

Navigating the Zoo..... 7

Accessibility..... 7

Weather..... 8

Plan Your Visit..... 8

Teacher Checklist..... 8

Pricing

Admission for Schools (Aug-May)

- Student Cost: \$12 per student
- Chaperone Cost: 1 free per 10 students; \$19 per additional chaperone

Admission for Groups during the Summer/Weekends

- Child Cost: \$16.95 per child
- Chaperone Cost: 1 free per 10 children; \$28.95 per additional chaperone

Facilitated Programs

- \$4 per person

Train

- \$2 per person/\$3 per person in the summer

Kayaking

- Africa Guided Kayaking Tour: \$10 per person
- Wetlands Self-Guided Kayaking: \$5 per person

TreeTop Trek (Click [HERE](#) for descriptions)

- Chutes and Ladders: \$18 per person
- Canopy Walk: \$22 per person
- Zip It: \$12 per person
- Challenge: \$32 per person

Registration

Click [HERE](#) to register. Create an account and book the date of your field trip. Be sure to choose the activities (called add-ons) you are interested in including as part of the trip experience; however, please note that add-ons are not guaranteed and will be approved on a first-come, first-served basis. An updated invoice with the additional cost of the add-on will be sent once it is booked. Your registration is not finalized until you receive a confirmation letter. Reservations require a minimum of 15 people.

An automated invoice will be sent to you once your trip is booked. The invoice is an initial quote and can be adjusted at any time before the trip. Cancellations require three weeks' advanced notice unless weather related. If you ordered food, this may not apply. Please contact the Café directly for additional information.

- All payments must be made prior to entering the Zoo via credit card, check or cash. Purchase Orders are **NOT** accepted.
 - **Prior to Trip:** You may pay for your trip by going to the "Manage my Recurring Payments" section of the receipt. You may also call the Conservation Learning Operations Coordinator to pay over the phone with a credit card.
 - **On Arrival:** We can also accept payment at the gate by check, card or cash.
- Failure to provide payment at the time of entry will result in a refusal of entry and/or cancellation of planned services.
- Whole school reservations of more than 300 guests must reschedule or cancel no less than 3 weeks before the trip. Otherwise, a cancellation fee of 15% will be billed.
- Weekend trips must be paid by the preceding Friday.
- Zoo Memberships are not valid with reservations. Please include all parents, staff and additional adults in the overall headcount to participate in any of the benefits of a group rate, including programs, trains, etc.
- Once you are inside the Zoo, we cannot offer a refund.



Your Zoo Day

Arrival and Unloading

- The earliest entrance to the Zoo is 9:30 a.m.
- Pull into the bus loop as far as possible. For safety reasons, buses should not unload in the parking lot.
- Please unload your students and lunches onto the sidewalk; avoid blocking guest access to the ticket booth.
- The booking teacher will meet Zoo staff on the right side of the ticket booth to pay and obtain any add-on tickets needed.
- Group reservations require the same arrival time and one payment for all attending, including parents meeting you at the Zoo.
- Once your group is ready, everyone will enter through the front entrance on the right side. Chaperones will need to transport coolers back to the Café.

Parking

- Please park in the provided bus parking. If spots are not available, park along entrance road.
- Buses must be turned off while on Zoo property (no idling).
- Bus drivers receive complimentary entry into the Zoo.



Buses must be turned off when parked on Zoo property.

Departure

- At the end of the day, please gather your group in the mulch area by the Gift Shop. Please be mindful of not blocking the main entrance.
- Once your group is ready, exit through the main gate.
- All guests must exit the Zoo by 5 p.m.
- No readmittance is permitted after departure.

Bringing Your Own Lunch

- Food must be brought and stored in hard plastic coolers.
 - Coolers must be labeled with your school's name and should be stored by the Café.
 - A cooler with wheels is recommended as Zoo carts are not always available.
 - Canvas, plastic and paper bags are not sufficient to keep squirrels and birds out.
 - Individual lunches in bags or backpacks are not permitted; food may not be carried through Zoo loops.
- Chaperones are encouraged to bring lunches, but food is available for purchase.
- There are no scheduled lunch times. You may choose the best time that works for you, but we do ask that large groups break into different times to allow other guests to use the picnic tables.
- Please eat at the picnic tables located by the Café.



Coolers should be stored against the wall on the right (north) side of the Café.

Ordering Lunch

- Food must be ordered through SSA, our food service provider. Invoicing and payment will be done directly through them.
- A menu will be provided along with reservation confirmation.
- Food orders must be placed at least 72 hours before your field trip by emailing SSA directly at BrevardZooCatering@thessagroup.com

Add-Ons

Enhance your field trip by adding additional activities, like a train ride, kayaking tour, aerial adventure course or facilitated learning program.

- Add-on activities have a maximum capacity. We will work with your group to schedule the number of activity times needed to accommodate your group.
- If your group attendance increases from the original booking request, please notify us as soon as possible. Additional time slots are not guaranteed if there are changes after receiving the confirmation email.



FACILITATED LEARNING PROGRAMS

Our field trips offer a unique blend of exploration and hands-on experiences for your students. Learning at the Zoo is a one-of-a-kind experience that fosters curiosity and deepens connections to science and the natural world. All facilitated learning programs are aligned to Florida education standards.

- Programs are not available on weekends or during the summer.
- Those with free admission for the group rate will also be free for learning programs.
- The maximum number of participants for programs varies depending on the program and/or location.
- Lands of Change Theater programs and Expeditions are weather dependent and may be cancelled due to bad weather. Theater programs are not available in August, September, January or February.

Classroom Program (35 people per time) or Lands of Change outdoor theater (70 people per time)

Habitats for Survival (Grades 1-2): 45 Minutes

Home sweet home! All animals – including humans – need a safe place to live. Through exploration and observation, students will discover the things that make each habitat the perfect home for its residents.

SC.1.L.14.1, SC.1.L.17.1, SC.1.N.1.1, SC.2.L.17.1, SC.2.L.17.2, SC.2.N.1.1, SC.2.N.1.3

Amazing Adaptations (Grades 2+): 45 Minutes

Is it survival of the fittest or just a quirk of nature? Students will discover the adaptations needed to escape hungry predators, become ultimate hunters or survive and thrive in the harshest climates.

SC.3.L.17.1, SC.3.N.1.6, SC.4.L.16.2, SC.4.N.1.4, SC.5.L.17.1, SC.7.L.15.2

Classroom Program Only (35 people per time)

Wiggly Wonders (Grades PreK-K): 30 Minutes

Can you swim like a fish or slither like a snake? Students explore animal movements as they hop, crawl and wiggle their way through this fun, hands-on animal experience. SC.K.L.14.2, SC.K.L.14.3

Nature Space Program (25 people per time)

Muddy Buddies (Grades PreK-2): 1 Hour

Get down and dirty with this sensory-rich program. Come learn about animals that live in and around mud while exploring and discovering nature using the senses. Students will have the opportunity to play in the mud kitchen, create mud tracks, paint with mud and dig in the dirt. Closed-toed shoes required.

SC.K.N.1.2, SC.1.L.14.3, SC.1.N.1.1, SC.2.N.1.1

Expeditions (20 people per time) Not available in March and April

Food Chain Expedition (Grades 3-8): 1-hour Tour

It's the circle of life! As they explore one of the Zoo's loops, students will discover how the energy of the Sun makes its way through the food chain to power the lives of the plants and animals living there.

SC.3.L.17.2, SC.4.L.17.2, SC.4.L.17.3, SC.7.L.17.1

Sensory Safari Expedition (Grades K-2): 45-minute Tour

Using (almost) all your senses, your students will be immersed in different areas of the world and see how animals both survive and thrive. Being able to see, hear, touch and smell will allow your students to experience what makes an animal's life different and similar to our own.

SC.K.L.14.1, SC.K.L.14.3, SC.K.N.1.2, SC.1.N.1.2, SC.2.N.1.3

Classification Expedition (Grades 3-6): 1-hour Tour

Scientists learn in many different ways. One of the most important is observing the natural world. Animals continue to amaze our smartest minds! By observing what they do, scientists can make tremendous strides in understanding these incredible creatures. Here, students will step into the shoes of scientists and learn how they classify animals based on their characteristics and behaviors.

SC.3.L.15.1, SC.3.N.1.6, SC.4.N.1.4, SC.5.N.1.6, SC.5.N.2.1, SC.6.L.15.1, SC.6.N.1.3

Career Expedition (Grades 7+): 1-hour Tour

Working in and around the Zoo can be a very rewarding experience. From our Animal Care professionals to our Horticulture team, they play an important role in ensuring the overall wellbeing of the animals in our care and in their native habitat. Every job has a purpose, and every purpose is important. Your students will learn what their lives can look like if they choose to pursue one of these incredible fields.

ELA.7.C.4.1, ELA.8.C.4.1, ELA.9.C.4.1, SC.912.N.2.5

Adventures

Train

Sit back, relax and enjoy the ride! This 15-minute excursion narrated by a seasoned guide whisks guests through an expansive habitat home to camels, African cattle and the critically endangered eastern bongo.

- All people attending, except children under 3, are charged for the train.
- Train capacity is 60 people per ride.

Kayak

We are the only Zoo in the country to offer guided kayaking tours around an animal habitat. Choose a guided kayaking tour through Expedition Africa or a self-guided tour in Wild Florida. 10 people capacity per time.

- Two-person kayaks are used for these tours; people who tour alone do fine in these kayaks.
- Each child between the ages of 5-11 requires an adult in the kayak.
- Youth ages 12-17 require an adult to be on the water.
- All minors require a waiver signed by a parent or natural guardian. **(To access waiver, click [HERE](#).)**

Looking for even more adventure? Inquire about our private overnight or night hike options to see the Zoo in a whole new light!

TREETOP TREK

Add some thrills to your visit or experience the Zoo from a different perspective!

- Ages 12 and under must have a chaperone on the course.
- Ages 18 and under must have a waiver signed by a parent or natural guardian.
- One adult chaperone is required for every 5 children.

Chutes and Ladders: This is our kids' course. The obstacles are smaller, shorter versions of those on Canopy Walk and Challenge courses, and there are two ziplines. The highest this course goes is about 10 feet, with the kids being generally within arm's reach for a majority of the course. There are 2 ziplines and 23 elements on this course. Maximum capacity is 25 people per time. Course takes approximately 45 mins to complete. *Requirements:* Must be at least 4 years old and 36-60 inches tall.

Canopy Walk: Our beginner course with 20 elements (**does not include ziplines**) goes over the Zoo's Rainforest Revealed exhibit and is our nice and easy aerial course 25 feet up in the trees. Maximum capacity is 20 people per time. Course takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. *Requirements:* Must be able to reach up 67 inches. Maximum weight 250 pounds. Ages 7 and up.

Zip It: Zip over the wetlands on a 650-foot zipline while experiencing speeds from 15-20 miles per hour. After a beautiful climb up the spiral stairs where you will be high above the treetops, zip back over the wetlands on an 800-foot zipline at speeds from 15-20 miles per hour. Maximum capacity is 12 people per time. Course takes approximately 45 minutes to complete. *Requirements:* Must be at least 56 inches tall. Maximum weight 250 pounds.

Challenge: Zip across the wetlands on a zipline that is 70 feet in the air, swing and climb through a course that includes 5 ziplines and 17 elements and then finish by zipping back across the wetlands. Maximum capacity is 15 people per time. Course takes approximately 1.5-2 hours to complete. *Requirements:* Must be at least 56 inches tall. Maximum weight 250 pounds.

Additional Information

Daily Zoo Chats: This is your chance to meet our staff, ask questions and learn all about what makes our animals so amazing! All chats are subject to change; please consult with a Zoo staff member on the day of your visit for the most current schedule or [click HERE](#).

Animal Feedings: Get close and personal and feed the world's tallest animal or feed tiny Australian parrots as they land on your arms! Due to the unpredictability of animals, feedings cannot be reserved ahead of time. Please do not feed the local wildlife!

- Giraffe snacks are available for purchase in the giraffe platform in Expedition Africa.
- Nectar cups and seed sticks are available to purchase outside the Aviary in Lands of Change.
- Quarter feed machines are available for deer in the Wild Florida Loop and for fish along the bridges.
- Kangaroo feedings take place from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. Only guests feeding can go into the Kangaroo Walkabout during that time.

Rules of the Wild - Zoo Etiquette

- Please use caution when touching animals in the Barnyard and other supervised encounter areas; all animals can bite.
- Keep all possessions and body parts out of animal habitats; stay on designated paths.
- Animals can only be fed food purchased from feeding stations or from the quarter feed machines in their area. Do NOT feed local wildlife (birds, squirrels, etc.).
- Smoking/vaping is only allowed outside the front gate.
- All guests must use "walking feet" in the Zoo. No "Heelies" (rolling shoes).
- The aviary is a free flight area. Please enter with caution and secure articles such as loose jewelry, watches, cell phone buttons, sunglasses and hats.

Navigating the Zoo

A central, main loop travels around the Flamingo Pond. The entrance to each loop is around that main loop. Journey along our trails to explore animals and habitats from around the world.

- Expedition Africa
- Lands of Change: Australia and Beyond
- Wild Florida
- Rainforest Revealed

Caribbean Trail

- Paws On (including the children's splash area, sand play beach, aquarium, Barnyard and Upland Acres nature play area).
 - Please note that the areas in Paws On are not large. Please adjust your headcounts to a maximum of 25 people per area.



Accessibility

We believe everyone has the right to experience the Zoo and the great outdoors, regardless of ability. That's why we are dedicated to providing an accessible experience for all our guests.

- Wheelchairs are welcome in all areas of the Zoo. Some walkways include slight ramps, and the Kangaroo Walkabout path is made of finely crushed coquina. Rainforest Revealed features an elevated walkway that can be accessed by a lift.

- As a KultureCity Sensory Inclusive certified organization, we offer sensory bags and lanyards for our guests to borrow. Both items can be checked out at Guest Services and the Cape to Cairo Express ticket booth on a first-come, first-served basis.
- The Zoo offers a Quiet Zone, a designated space that people can retreat to when they feel overwhelmed and overloaded by the sensory input from the Zoo environment. The Quiet Zone is located at the sand play beach in Paws On.

Weather

The Zoo is open rain or shine, and most of our experiences are outdoors. During severe weather, some animals will go off exhibit, programs and chats can be cancelled and certain activities may close; these activities typically reopen after 30 minutes of no lightning in the area. Once you are inside the Zoo, no refunds or rainchecks will be given due to bad weather, with the exception of add-on activities cancelled due to the weather.

Be prepared for Florida weather. If you have ponchos, it is always best to be prepared. Always plan to drink plenty of water.

Plan Your Visit

For the latest information and updates about the Zoo and activities available during your visit, see the links below:

- [Daily Zoo Chats](#)
- [Zoo Map](#)
- [Meet the Animals](#)
- [Brevard Zoo Podcast and Blog](#)
- [Paws On Playground and Barnyard](#)
- [Accessibility](#)
- [Activities and Animal Feedings](#)

Teacher Checklist

To ensure a smooth entrance into the Zoo, please have the following ready upon arrival:

1. Numbers: Please have the total headcounts for your field trip ready upon arrival.

- **Total students** _____
- **Total adults** _____

2. Payment: Credit card, check-in-hand or cash (if not previously paid online).

3. Confirmation letter with add-on schedule.

4. Lunches in hard plastic coolers.