

Dear Guardians,

Thank you for enrolling your child in the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's Winter Camp. We are so excited that your child can join us! Our winter camp, entitled "Cold Weather Critters", focuses on how plants and animals survive the harsh winter weather. Through interactive and collaborative learning games and activities, animal encounters, crafts, and treks to various habitats in the Zoo, we will learn all about how animals respond to the cold weather, especially in Ohio.

Below, you will find more information on daily camp themes and schedules. This outline will serve as a way to facilitate discussions with your child following their day of camp. All camp staff members are more than happy to address any questions, comments, or suggestions, and we are looking forward to getting to know not only your child, but also you! Thank you "snow" much for your continued support of YOUR Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden!

Day One: Discovering Our Backyard Winter Wonderland

Today, we are exploring our Ohio backyard to learn about the animals that live here! We will also immerse ourselves into the winter season and learn how Ohio wildlife responds to this change in the weather.

Possible Animal Friends:

• Box turtle, corn snake, black rat snake, skunk, barn owl, opossum

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

• Wolf Woods, Barnyard/Children's Zoo

Conversation Starters:

- What are signs that winter is here?
- What animals may frolic around in Ohio in the winter?
- How do these animals stay warm in the winter?
- How do you stay warm in the winter?





Day Two: Discovering Hibernation and Cold Weather Adaptations

Today, we are delving into one response that native Ohio wildlife may have to survive the winter - hibernation! Then, we are grabbing our passports and "traveling" to the Artic and Antarctic regions to understand how wildlife native to these areas are adapted to such wintery conditions.

Possible Animal Friends:

 White's tree frog, Madagascar hissing cockroaches, chinchilla, rabbit, opossum, spotted turtle, chicken, penguin

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

Cat Canyon, Night Hunters, Red Panda Habitat, African Penguin Habitat,
Bald Eagle Habitat

Conversation Starters:

- · What animals do not live in Ohio, but live in Artic and Antarctic regions?
- · How would you define hibernation?
- Would you rather live in Ohio or in an area that is cold year-round?

Day Three: Migration to a Tropical Holiday

Today, we are focusing on another response that native Ohio wildlife may have to the winter - migration! We will then grab our sunglasses to imagine ourselves observing the native wildlife in tropical habitats and how these animals interact with migratory animals.

Possible Animal Friends:

 Rainbow boa, three-banded armadillo, tawny frogmouth, red-footed tortoise, blue and gold macaw

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

• Discovery Forest, Reptile House, Gorilla Habitat, Swan Lake, Wings of the World

Conversation Starters:

- How would you define migration?
- What animals migrate to tropical habitats and what native friends do they meet there?
- Would you rather live in Ohio or in an area that does not have a winter season?

