

WINTER CAMP 2023

WINTER WARRIORS

DEAR PARENTS AND GUARDIANS,

Thank you for enrolling in the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's 2023 Winter Camp! We are so excited to have your child join us! For this Winter Warriors Camp, we will be learning about the the unique adaptations many animals possess to survive cold, harsh weather. Through interactive learning, games, crafts, and hikes through the zoo, we will learn all about the behaviors that help animals thrive in the winter months. These lessons will put an emphasis on inquiry-based learning, and are designed to give campers the confidence to ask and explore scientific questions.

Below, you will find more information on camp themes and activities. These are meant to keep you informed, but are also a great tool to facilitate discussion at the end of each day. If any questions or concerns arise, the camp instructors and staff will be happy to assist you. Thank you for your continued support of the Cincinnati Zoo!

DAY ONE: MIGRATION

Can you imagine taking a long, cross-country trip without any tools for navigation or supplies? Today, we will learn about how some animals make these impressive seasonal trips.

Possible Animal Ambassadors:

- Red-tailed hawk, 3-banded armadillo, Madagascar hissing cockroach, rabbit, box turtle, tawny frogmouth

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Stellar's sea eagles, bald eagles, Wings over the World, Gorilla World, Elephant Reserve

Conversation Starters:

- Why do some animals migrate?
- What are some of the dangers of migration?
- What was your favorite animal that you saw today?



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DAY TWO: HIBERNATION/TORPOR

From brumation to torpor, today we will learn about the special names for the different kinds of deep sleep and meet some animals that use them to weather winter storms.

Possible Animal Ambassadors:

- Skunk, Dumerils ground boa, spotted turtle, tenrec, pancake tortoise, black rat snake

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Night Hunters, Cat Canyon, Reptile House, World of the Insect

Conversation Starters:

- What are the different types of "deep sleep"?
- Why do some animals hibernate?
- What area of the zoo did you get to visit today?



DAY THREE: DEAL WITH IT!

Some animals sleep, some animals leave, and some animals are built to tough out the cold. Today we will explore their amazing adaptations and how they help them find the resources they need to survive in winter.

Possible Animal Ambassadors:

- Chinchilla, chicken, corn snake, darkling beetle, screaming hairy armadillo, milksnake

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Arctic fox, Wolf Woods, Swan Lake, Red Pandas, Children's Zoo

Conversation Starters:

- What are some of the adaptations animals have for winter weather?
- How do nest boxes help local wildlife?
- What was your favorite part of winter camp?