

Spring Break Camp 2024 Or. Zoolittle, 5th and 6th grade



Dear Guardians.

Thank you for enrolling in the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's Spring Break Camp. We are so excited your child can join us! For this Dr. Zoolittle's Animal Training Camp, we will focus on animal behavior and how it applies to Zoo husbandry. Through learning games, animal encounters, and treks to various zoo habitats we will learn all about how animal behavior and operant conditioning are used to help care for and enrich the animals in our Zoo. Campers will even get first-hand experience with the operant conditioning of one of our Zoo animals!

Below, the potential 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 so much for your continued support of YOUR Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden!

Day and Topic	Possible Hikes	Possible Animal Friends
1: Animal Intelligence	Kea/Wings of Wonder and Gorilla	Hornbill, Box Turtle, Chicken
2: Motivation	Wolf Woods and Africa	Chinchilla, 3 banded Armadillo, Red- footed Tortoise, Chicken
3: Behavior Basics	Veldt/Manatee and Elephant/Red Panda, Gibbon	Rainbow Boa, Screaming Hairy Armadillo, Chicken
4: Operant Conditioning	Night Hunters and Jungle Trails	Striped Skunk, Spotted Turtle, Chicken
5: Chicken Encounter!	Barnyard Bonanza and Campers' Choice	Bearcat, Chicken

Conversation Starters:

- What are some examples of an innate or learned behavior?
- What is the motivation behind a behavior you've seen?
- Which animals do you think are the most intelligent and why?

