



# ZOO

Education Programs

Winter 2024

For more information or  
to register for programs  
<http://cincinnatizoo.org/education/>



# Winter Camp

**DATES:** Join us either Dec. 23, 26 & 27 **or** Dec. 30, Jan. 2 & 3  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.  
**PRICING:** \$195 Non-members | \$180 Members  
\$30 Before Care | \$40 After Care

## Cold Weather Critters (4 Year Olds-2nd Grade)

Br-rr-rrrr, get out the gloves, jackets, and hats: winter is coming! Good thing many animals have built-in cold weather gear! Join us for this adventure as we meet cold weather animals face-to-face, hike to animal habitats, and discover the local wildlife that can tough out the harsh cold, just like we can!

## Winter Warriors (3rd-8th Grade)

Some animals are equipped to tough out the cold and snow, while others migrate or hibernate to avoid the winter weather altogether. During this fun, hands-on program, we will investigate our own cold-weather adaptations with Zoo hikes, compare our adaptations to those of other animals with animal visits, and use games and other activities to have fun exploring and playing together.

**Note:** Grades will be further sub-divided based on registration numbers.



# Holiday Camp

**DATES:** Join us on either Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (Jan. 20) **or** Presidents' Day (Feb. 17) for this single-day camp!  
**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.  
**PRICING:** \$80 Non-members | \$65 Members

## Zoo Play Date (4 Year Olds-8th Grade)

Is play an important part of your day? It is to animals here at the Zoo! In this one-day camp, we will explore how both human and non-human animals use play to stay healthy and learn how to get along with others. With interactive activities and observations of animals both in the Zoo and in the classroom, we will learn about how play is useful in keeping our animals happy and healthy. We will even create enrichment items for a few of our Zoo residents to enjoy.

**Note:** Grades will be further sub-divided based on registration numbers.







photo by Kathy Newton

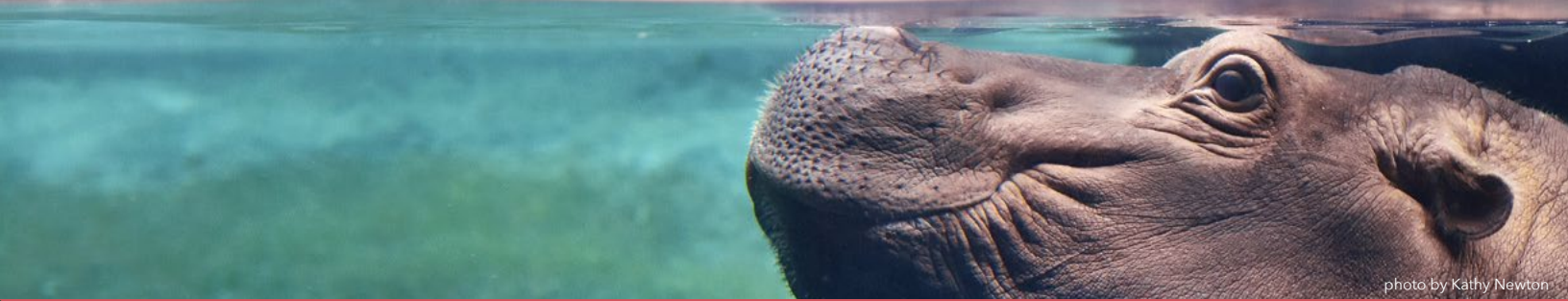


photo by Kathy Newton

# Toddlers (For 18-36 month olds)

# Pre-K (For 3-5 year olds, not in Kindergarten)

## Animal Tales

Do you know what The Very Busy Spider was doing all day long? Can you imagine all the creatures that live in The Tall, Tall Grass? Have you every asked, "Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See?" During this series your Zoo Trooper will move and explore our world like the animals in our books through dramatic play, meeting animals in the classroom, and exploratory hikes through the Zoo!

### DATES:

**Tuesdays:** Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.  
**Wednesdays:** Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.  
**Fridays:** Jan. 17, 24, 31 & Feb. 7 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.  
**Saturdays:** Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.

### PRICING:

\$85 Members | \$100 Non-members

## Animals of All Shapes and Sizes

Does a robin's beak look like a triangle? Do elephant legs look like rectangles? What better way to learn shapes than by learning with animals! Bring your toddler to this four-week series to learn how we can discover shapes while we learn about animals! Join us to learn about shapes while we move around the Zoo, meet animals in the classroom, and find shapes as we explore.

### DATES:

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.  
**Wednesdays:** Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.  
**Fridays:** Feb. 21, 28 & Mar. 7, 14 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.  
**Saturdays:** Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 9:30-10:15 a.m. or 11:00-11:45 a.m.

### PRICING:

\$85 Members | \$100 Non-members

**Note:** Plan for one adult to stay with your child during these classes.

## At Home in the Cold

Do you like to play outside when it's cold or snowy? So do some Zoo animals! Join us as we journey through the Zoo to identify the animals with the best adaptations to keep warm on the coldest days. We call these friends cold weather warriors! Bundle up—it might get chilly!

### DATES:

**Tuesdays:** Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Wednesdays:** Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Fridays:** Jan. 17, 24, 31 & Feb. 7 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Saturdays:** Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

### PRICING:

\$85 Members | \$100 Non-members

**Note:** Plan for one adult to stay with your child during these classes.

## Feeling Hot, Hot, Hot!

Scorching sun, dry heat, no shade—wait what?! We might run the opposite way, but some animals can take the heat! Join us in this four-week series as we discover how some animals can survive the hottest temperatures on the planet!

### DATES:

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Wednesdays:** Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Fridays:** Feb. 21, 28 & Mar. 7, 14 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.  
**Saturdays:** Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 10:00-11:00 a.m.

### PRICING:

\$85 Members | \$100 Non-members



photo by Kathy Newton



photo by Teagan Dumont

# Kindergarten

# 1st and 2nd Grade

## My Home Is A...

Pack your bags and join us for a journey around the world! From the freezing arctic to tropical rainforests, different animals call different places “home”. During this four-week series, we’ll take hikes in the Zoo, meet special animal friends, and play games that will help us learn about the diverse and exciting habitats that animals call home.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)  
*Tuesdays:* Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Wednesdays:* Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Saturdays:* Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**PRICING:**  
\$90 Members | \$105 Non-members

## I Sleep In A...

Do you sleep in a nest like a cockatoo? Maybe you burrow down in the dirt like an armadillo to stay safe and warm? Many animals sleep in unique places! During this four-week series, we’ll play games, hike through the Zoo, and meet some new animal friends as we discover where different animals like to sleep and what sorts of material they use for shelter.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)  
*Tuesdays:* Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Wednesdays:* Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Saturdays:* Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**PRICING:**  
\$90 Members | \$105 Non-members

**Note:** Children attend this series independently.

## Livin’ Off the Land

Can you picture an elephant climbing a tree? Some animals are made for life on the ground. Join us for this four-week journey to figure out what animals are best suited for terrestrial life! Discover these ground-dwelling critters by meeting some animals in the classroom and out in the Zoo!

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)  
*Tuesdays:* Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Wednesdays:* Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Saturdays:* Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 2:00–3:30 p.m.

**PRICING:**  
\$90 Members | \$105 Non-members

## Who Lives in the Water?

Who has flippers, fins, tails, or webbed feet? All of these body parts are perfect for moving through water! Join us as we investigate how some animals live the aquatic life! In each class, we will explore aquatic animals around the Zoo, challenge ourselves with classroom activities, and experience up close animal encounters.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)  
*Tuesdays:* Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Wednesdays:* Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 10:00–11:30 a.m.  
*Saturdays:* Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 2:00–3:30 p.m.

**PRICING:**  
\$90 Members | \$105 Non-members





photo by DJJAM



photo by Kathy Newton

# 3rd and 4th Grade

# 5th and 6th Grade

## Globetrotting

From the giraffes of Africa to the orangutans of Asia, this inter-continental journey will take us all over the globe. Explore the leaf-cutter ants of Central and South America to the river otters of North America in this four-week series where we'll travel from north to south and east to west as we explore wildlife that calls each continent home.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)

**Tuesdays:** Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Saturdays:** Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 1:30–3:30p.m.

**PRICING:**

\$95 Members | \$110 Non-members

## Island Inhabitants

Islands are very special places. Split from the mainland by water, over time, they become home to some unique animals and habitats. Come island-hop with us through this four-week series as we travel from the Galapagos to Madagascar to Komodo (to name a few) to learn about the animals that are found only in these special ecosystems and the ways scientists are working to protect these amazing places.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Saturdays:** Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 1:30–3:30p.m.

**PRICING:**

\$95 Members | \$110 Non-members

## Backyard Biologist

Animals leave many signs behind when they live in or pass through a place. An animal's call, tracks, nest spot, and even scat can tell us a lot about who they are and how they spend their time. Plants also give clues on what they are and which habitat they prefer. During this four-week series, we will learn how to identify local plant and animal wildlife and how to be good stewards of the natural world in our own backyards.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)

**Tuesdays:** Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Saturdays:** Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 1:30–3:30p.m.

**PRICING:**

\$95 Members | \$110 Non-members

## Animal Architects

From tree-eating elephants to mound-building insects, animals change, mold, and shape the world around them. While simply making a home or finding food, these animals make a lasting impact. During this four-week series, we will learn about the original architects of this world and how the things they build or destroy help them survive and impact their habitat.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 10:00a.m.–12:00p.m.

**Saturdays:** Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 1:30–3:30p.m.

**PRICING:**

\$95 Members | \$110 Non-members



photo by Kathy Newton

# 7th and 8th Grade

## Most Extreme Habitats

Polar, arid, harsh, and extreme—these are words that describe some of the most inhospitable places on Earth, yet nature finds a way! From the tops of treacherous mountains to the middle of scorching deserts, some animals are adapted to not just survive, but thrive in the most extreme habitats on Earth. During this four-week series, we will do some in-depth investigations of these habitats and learn about the lengths that animals will go to make them their home.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)

**Tuesdays:** Jan. 14, 21, 28 & Feb. 4 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Jan. 15, 22, 29 & Feb. 5 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Saturdays:** Jan. 18, 25 & Feb. 1, 8 | 1:30–3:30 p.m.

**PRICING:**

\$95 Members | \$110 Non-members

## Sharing Spaces & Common Places

Humans and animals share habitat in places as close as our backyard and as far away as the savannas of Kenya. With such close proximity, conflict can arise, but so can coexistence. During this four-week series, we will explore the ways wildlife and human cultures have found balance, as well as how we can grow these successes.

**DATES:** (Choose every Tuesday, Wednesday, or Saturday for 4 weeks.)

**Tuesdays:** Feb. 18, 25 & Mar. 4, 11 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Wednesdays:** Feb. 19, 26 & Mar. 5, 12 | 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Saturdays:** Feb. 22 & Mar. 1, 8, 15 | 1:30–3:30 p.m.

**PRICING:**

\$95 Members | \$110 Non-members

# 7th and 8th Grade

## Junior Zoologist Zoo Troop

**DATE:** Dec. 14, 2024

**TIME:** 8:00 a.m.–9:30 a.m.

**WHO:** 7th–8th grade Zoo Troopers and 7th–8th grade friends

Does your child love birds and nature? Join our local birding expert for a fun and educational morning walk through the farm as we seek out and identify the amazing birds that live right here on our grounds. Warm up with a cup of hot chocolate, enjoy a tasty donut, and embrace the crisp December air for a perfect winter morning adventure.

**Note:** This program takes place at our Bowyer Farm in Mason, located at 2210 Mason Montgomery Road. This is an outdoor program—dress warmly and with comfortable walking shoes to walk approximately 1–2 miles over uneven terrain.



photo by watts\_photos



# Day Programs

## Zoo Gourmet

**DATE:** Dec. 14, 2024

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**PRICING:** \$20 Members | \$25 Non-members

Food is a huge part of celebrating holidays! At the Zoo, our animals feast year-round on carefully planned diets. Join us for a holiday food frenzy and learn how we feed thousands of animals every day. Through games, a hike around the Zoo, and with the help of animal ambassadors, we'll learn about why different animals eat different foods, and how the Zoo manages its many menus.

**Note:** All attendees 3 years and above must register. At least one adult must register per group. Children under 3 years are free. Price is per person.



## Maple Tapping and Tasting

**DATE:** Feb. 15, 2025

**TIME:** 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. or 1:00–3:00 p.m.

**PRICING:** \$20 Members | \$25 Non-members

Come join us at the Zoo's Bowyer Farm for a fun afternoon full of history, hands-on activities, and storytelling all about maple tapping! This program offers a sweet peek into the history of this age-old tradition and offers an opportunity to participate in the maple tapping process. At the end, participants will be able to taste the precursor to maple syrup, fresh from the tree! This program is sure to be fun for the whole family.

**Note:** This program takes place at our Bowyer Farm in Mason, located at 2210 Mason Montgomery Road. This is an outdoor program—dress warmly and with comfortable walking shoes to walk approximately 1–2 miles over uneven terrain. All attendees 3 years and above must register. At least one adult must register per group. Children under 3 years are free. Price is per person.





# Evening Programs

## Zoo Night Hike: Winter Wonderland at the Zoo

**DATES:** Jan. 25, Feb. 22, 2025

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.–7:30 p.m.

**PRICING:** \$20 Members | \$25 Non-members

Join us each season for a special night hike around the Zoo! And the winter is for all the animals who LOVE the cold! From penguins to wolves to otters, join us on select nights to explore the animals who are thriving in the snow. Participate in fun, educational activities, take a Zoo hike while the Zoo is closed, and meet some of our animal ambassadors up close and personal! All while learning about the current cold-weather friends we have at the Zoo.

**Note:** All attendees 3 years and above must register. At least one adult must register per group. Children under 3 years are free. Price is per person.



# Overnight Adventures®

## Sleep with the Manatees Overnight Safari

**DATES:** Feb. 22, 2025

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.–9:00 a.m. the next day

**PRICING:** \$65 per person

**WHO:** Individuals, families, and small groups

Florida is full of diverse habitats that are bursting with thousands of animal species, from walking-on-water basilisks to slow-and-steady manatees. We'll dive headfirst into the astonishing biodiversity of these habitats, centering around the lives of our resident manatees who are a part of a rehabilitation program. Throughout the night we'll explore a few places in the Zoo, participate in fun, educational activities, get a behind-the-scenes sneak peek, including our amazing science and research center CREW, and meet some of our animal ambassadors up-close and personal! When the night ends, you'll doze off at our Manatee Springs building in the big open-spaced exhibit area.

**Note:** At least one adult must register per group. Children must be at least 5 years old. Price is per person. Sleeping space is a shared open room in the Manatee Springs building.





# Overnight Adventures®

The gates are shut, the lights are down, and everyone has gone home for the day. It's time to discover the Zoo after dark! Go behind closed doors and get up-close with animal encounters, hikes, and games. After a night of adventure, tuck into your sleeping bag overlooking the animals and then wake up the next morning to breakfast and a special animal experience. The fun doesn't have to stop there as next day admission is included and you can explore the Zoo on your own!

**DATE:** You choose! Wednesday–Saturday (other days of the week are possibly available upon request).

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.–9:00 a.m. the next morning

**PRICING:** \$55–\$65 per person depending on the program, Twiga Tented Safari is sold as one tent of 10 people for \$900.

**WHO:** Schools, clubs, scouts, 4-H, birthday parties, family celebrations, sororities/fraternities, work outings and more! Anyone can spend the night at the Zoo over the age of 5!

## African Predator Prowl

On the African plains, it's survival of the fittest! Discover the adaptations predators have to hunt and how their prey has evolved to give them a fighting chance. We'll observe our incredible African predator and prey species, investigating what it takes for these animals to survive. You'll go behind-the-scenes to our African animal care staff areas to see how we bring expert care and attention to these extraordinary species. Then after the fun, curl up in our private education classrooms overlooking our rainforest.

## Adventures in Adaptations

Adaptations are the key to life! Join us as we explore how animals find their food, escape predators, find a mate, and overall SURVIVE in all their unique habitats. Throughout the night we'll explore a few places in the Zoo, participate in fun, educational activities, get a behind-the-scenes sneak peek, and meet some of our animal ambassadors up-close and personal! Then, after the fun, curl up in our private education classrooms overlooking our rainforest.

## Sleep with the Manatees

Florida is full of diverse habitats that are bursting with thousands of animal species, from walking-on-water basilisks to slow-and-steady manatees. We'll dive headfirst into the astonishing biodiversity of these southern habitats, centering around the lives of our resident manatees who are a part of our rehabilitation program with Florida conservation groups. We'll get behind-the-scenes to see how we care for them, and then learn more about the amazing world we live in. When the night ends, you'll doze off at our Manatee Springs building with manatees floating by your bed.

## Twiga Tented Safari

**Only available April–October.** A truly one-of-a-kind experience, our Twiga Tented Safari will take you across the African grasslands. We'll traverse through Africa, listening to tales of innovation for living harmoniously with wildlife, such as how a flashlight can shield you against lions, or why a puppy raised with goats can save cheetahs. On our safari, we will get behind-the-scenes at Hippo Cove and uncover secrets of our world-famous bloat. We'll finish up our night at our twiga tents, gathered round a roaring campfire roasting s'mores. Then, this unique adventure ends with a relaxing night in our shared safari tents on cozy cots and waking up to breakfast overlooking Giraffe Ridge.





# Garden Programs

## Landscaping for the Homeowner

**DATE:** Wednesdays, Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26, & Mar. 5

**TIME:** 7:00–9:00 p.m.

**PRICING:** \$60 Members | \$75 Non-members

Join us for our 5-week virtual series of lectures regarding all aspects of landscaping for the homeowner by one of the region's top horticulturalists and the Zoo's Director of Horticulture, Steve Foltz. If you are planning on garden renovation or a new installation in your landscape these classes provide great insight on design, preparation, and plant selection with emphasis on plants that do best in the Tri-state area. A different aspect of landscaping is covered each week such as perennial design and tree care, but one way or another everything is covered!



# Virtual Wild Chats

## Wild Chats

Bring the Zoo to you! Our Virtual Wild Chats give you an insider's view of the Zoo. There are two great topics to choose from, where the learning is brought to life through live Q&A with a program host and pre-recorded videos from around the Zoo.

**DATE:** Choose a day between Monday and Saturday

**TIME:** Choose a time between 9:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m. for a 45 minute long program

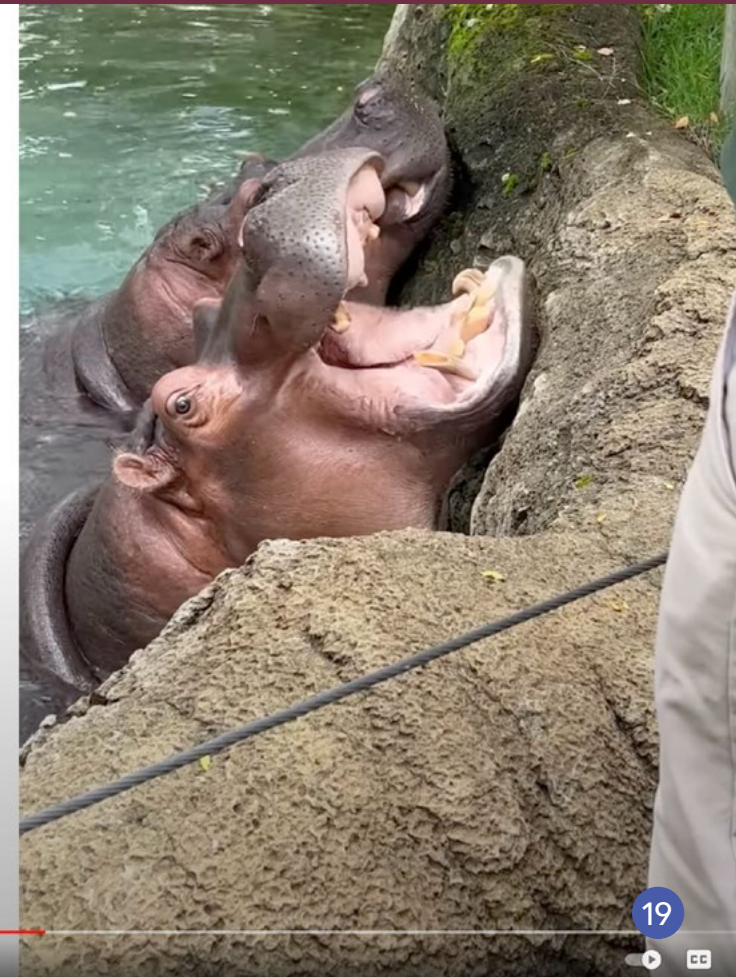
**PRICING:** \$100–\$150 per program

**WHO:** Schools, libraries, scout groups, birthday parties, nursing homes, corporate meetings, and more!

### Topics:

**My BFF(iona):** Get an inside look into the wild and wonderful journey of everyone's favorite hippo, Fiona. Starting life as a 28 lbs premature hippo, Fiona stole hearts around the globe. We'll look at the journey she took with her dedicated animal care staff, learn more about the natural history of wild hippos, and see how Fiona and her bloat are doing today.

**Zoo Careers:** Who does it take to run a Zoo? Zoos are more than just animals and their care staff—there are so many other people who are needed! Discover all the important Zoo careers as we dive deep into three careers of your choosing with recorded interviews from the actual staff who make it happen.





# Get Involved

## ZooTeens 2025: Applications Close Jan. 31

The ZooTeen program is perfect for teenagers (13–17) who are passionate about nature, animals, and conservation! ZooTeens build knowledge, gain leadership experience, and develop professional skills while having a lot of FUN in education programs, engaging with Zoo visitors, collecting community science data, and getting involved in the community. **The application period for Summer 2025 is December 1st to January 31st.**



19

20

# Professional Development

## Advanced Inquiry Program Master's Degree

### Ignite Ecological & Social Change While Earning Your Master's Degree

The Advanced Inquiry Program (AIP) is an online master's degree from Miami University that combines web-based coursework with unique experiences at the Zoo. Created for working professionals in various career stages, the AIP immerses students in collaborative inquiry and action as they champion change for the environment and their local community. AIP students join a network of local and national leaders, working together to improve their professions, institutions, neighborhoods, and environments.

Applications for the next cohort are open now with a deadline of **February 15, 2025** with courses beginning that summer. For more information or to apply, check out [cincinnatizoo.org/AIP](https://cincinnatizoo.org/AIP).



21





[Click here to view our calendar of programs!](#)