

# SUMMER CAMP 2026

## Animal Chatter



### Dear Parents & Guardians,

Thank you for enrolling your child in the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden's Summer Camp. We are so excited that your child can join us! For this **1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Summer Camp**, we will focus on animal communication! Through interactive learning games and activities, animal encounters, and treks to various zoo habitats, we will learn all about how animals talk to each other and what messages they might be sending.

Below, you will find more information on daily camp themes and activities. Feel free to use these to facilitate discussions with your child after each day of camp. Should you have any questions, comments, or suggestions, all camp staff will be happy to assist you. Thank you for your continued support of your Cincinnati Zoo!

### Day One: Communication Intro

Today, we will learn about the basics of animal communication.

#### Possible Animal Encounters:

- Box Turtle

#### Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Veldt and Barnyard Bonanza

#### Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- What messages might an animal want to communicate to another animal?





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### Day Two: Do You Hear What I Hear?

Today, we will learn about how animals communicate using sounds.

#### Possible Animal Encounters:

- Madagascar Hissing Cockroach

#### Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Wolf Woods

#### Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- What animals use sound to communicate? What noises do they make?



### Day Three: I See Your True Colors

Today, we will learn about how animals communicate using colors.

#### Possible Animal Encounters:

- Blue-tongued Skink

#### Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Wings of the World

#### Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- What animals use color to communicate? What colors did you see on their bodies?

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### Day Four: Smells Like Teen Spirit?

Today, we will learn about how animals communicate using smells.

#### Possible Animal Encounters:

- Striped Skunk

#### Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- World of the Insect

#### Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- What animals use smells to communicate? What do they smell like?

### Day Five: Animal Charades

Today, we will learn about what how animals communicate using their body language.

#### Possible Animal Encounters:

- Bearded Dragon

#### Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Gorilla World

#### Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- What animals use their bodies to communicate? What kinds of messages were they sending?



Gadgets for Gorillas is our summer camp conservation challenge! We are collecting e-waste to recycle, helping to protect gorilla habitat in the Congo. The bin will be located in our lobby. Click [here](#) for a video with more details.

