

SUMMER CAMP 2026

Bringing Up Baby



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 **4&K Summer Camp**, we will focus on how different animals raise their babies! Through interactive learning games and activities, animal encounters, and treks to various zoo habitats, we will learn all about the needs of different baby animals. 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: Welcome to the World

Today, we will learn about how different animals come into the world, and whether they hatch or are born.

Possible Animal Friends:

- Ball Python and Tenrec

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Reptile House and Giraffe feeding

Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- Which animals hatch from eggs?
- Do all animals depend on their parents from birth?





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Day Two: Are you my Mother?

Today, we will learn about which baby animals look like their mothers, and which do not!

Possible Animal Friends:

- Blue Tongued Skink and Angolan Python

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Africa and Goat Yard

Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- Can you name an animal that doesn't look like its mother when it's born?
- Why might some animals look like their mothers at birth, but others don't?



Day Three: All in the Family

Today, we will learn about which animals grow up with more than one parent figure.

Possible Animal Friends:

- Tawny Frogmouth and White's Tree Frog

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Swan Lake, Gibbon Island and Free Flight Bird Aviary

Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- What are some animals that are raised by multiple grown-ups?
- Why would it help a baby animal to have more than one grown-up?

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Day Four: It Takes a Village

Today, we will learn about which animals live in groups for their entire lives.

Possible Animal Friends:

- Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches and Chicken

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Gorillas, Cat Canyon, and Night Hunters

Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- Can you name an animal that lives in a group for its whole life?
- How would living in a group be helpful even to grown animals?

Day Five: Going Solo

Today, we will learn about which animals do not require care when they are born.

Possible Animal Friends:

- Sand Boa and Giant African Millipedes

Possible Zoo Hike Locations:

- Wolf Woods, Barnyard Bonanza

Conversation Starters:

- What was your favorite animal that you got to meet today? Why?
- Which animals don't need help from adults?
- What was your favorite part of camp this week?



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.

