Racine Zoo 2020 Lil’ Explorers Preschool Response to COVID-19

We have been closely monitoring the situation regarding COVID-19, and after careful consideration of federal and local recommendations, as well as listening to our preschool families, we have decided to resume Lil’ Explorers classes again this summer! We are so excited to see some of you back again! If you are not ready to return, don’t worry – we will keep you in the loop so that when you and your family feel safe, you can come back to class. Lil’ Explorers will necessarily look a bit different than it has in the past as we work to do our best to keep your children safe.

General Camp Changes
• All preschool classes will cap at 15 children and their adults
• Preschool classes will take place in outdoor, covered pavilion, rather than in the education center to allow for more distancing
• Some classes may visit exhibits following class. While the pavilion is covered, please wear weather appropriate clothing.
• All Lil’ Explorers will have their own set of craft supplies disinfected prior to and after class.
• Games, songs, and activities will be modified such that our Lil’ Explorers are not in contact with each other.
• We will still have snack time, but all snacks will be pre-wrapped snacks for your safety.
• Masks will be required for all participates ages 3 and up. We understand that your littles will not be perfect about mask use, but please do your best!
• Parents will be asked to take their child’s temperature and their own before coming to class. Temperatures over 100F should not come to the Zoo.
• Anyone exhibiting any symptoms associated with COVID-19 (fever, unusual shortness of breath, cough, severe headache, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, stomach cramps, particularly in young children, or other symptoms) are kindly asked to stay home for the safety of our class.
• If you or a member of your household has been in contact with a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19, we request that you refrain from bringing your child to class.
• These same procedures will be applied to staff and others will be available to fill in should your child’s instructor become ill.
• Refunds for missed days due to illness will not be refundable, but we will credit you for equal classes in the future when they are feeling better.

We understand this is an incredibly difficult and stressful time for children and families, and the decision to have your child attend classes is a personal decision for you and your family. We hope these measures alleviate some of your concerns, and hope to see all of our Lil’ Explorers again soon! Please do not hesitate to reach out to our education department at 262-636-9580 or education@racinezoo.org if you have any questions or concerns.