



Thank you for choosing to enroll your child in the Racine Zoo Summer Camp! Your child will be participating in many hands-on activities, games, crafts, and animal encounters to fill his/her summer with excitement and education. Please be aware that during some of the activities, your child may get dirty. Racine Zoo Summer Camp will take place rain or shine. Activities and projects may be altered to address the weather. Please dress your children accordingly.

The first day of camp is very busy and parents often have many questions. Below you will find a list of useful information.

- Drop off and pick up will be at the **Augusta Street gate or the Walton Street gate** (Look for directions in the email from zoo staff the week before camp). Zoo staff will be waiting just inside the gate. *In inclement weather staff will have directions for where to drop off and pick up campers posted at the gate.*
- Camp time is from 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. and half-day camp for 3 & 4year old camps is 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- If you have signed up for “before care,” the earliest drop-off time is 7:30 a.m. If you have signed up for “after care,” the latest possible pick-up time is 6:00 p.m.
- If you are late dropping off your child (after 9:10 a.m.), you must take them to the Zoo admissions window and tell Zoo staff that your child is here for camp. Zoo staff will radio camp counselors, who will come and meet your child in the Zootique.
- All parents will be charged an additional fee for picking up his or her child after 6:00 p.m. Parents who have not paid for “before or after care” will also be subject to these fees if they drop their child off before 8:30 a.m. or pick them up after 4:30 p.m.
- We do provide games and activities for “before and after care.” The Zoo is not responsible for any lost or damaged items. If children’s personal games or toys become a problem, they may be confiscated and returned to the parent at the end of the day.
- Two daily snacks are provided for all campers. We do our best to accommodate everyone, but if your child has any dietary restrictions or allergies please consider providing a small snack for your child to eat during morning and afternoon snack time.
- **All campers need to bring a backpack** to carry with them throughout the day. Half-day campers **do not** need to bring a lunch, full day campers **do** need to bring a lunch.
- Please label your child’s lunch and backpack with his or her name, as many children have the same or similar lunch bags. Reusable lunch bags and water bottles are highly encouraged.
- Please make sure to dress your child in clothes appropriate for outside play and crafts such as painting or making paper- mache. **Closed toed shoes are required.**
- All campers must be potty-trained. We recommend packing an extra set of clothes for our younger campers in case your child has an accident.
- We encourage parents to apply all sunscreen and bug-spray in the morning if needed as none will be provided at the Zoo.
- Campers are not allowed to carry cell phones with them during the day; they must be turned off and stored in their backpack. Should you need to contact your child at any time of the day, please call 262-636-9580 (Conservation Education Department) or 262-636-9189 (Main Zoo Line).
- We do not tolerate violence, hitting, or harassing behavior in Zoo Camp. At the first occurrence the camper and parents will receive a verbal warning. On the second strike we will call home. On a third strike, we will ask the parents to immediately come pick up the camper and they will not be allowed back at camp for the rest of the week. There will be no refunds for behavioral dismissal, but we will make every effort to work with students and parents to create a behavior management plan to prevent escalation.
- If your child needs to be picked up from camp early, please inform the camp counselor as soon as possible. If camp counselors cannot be notified, you may call one of the previously listed numbers.
- Please let us know if anyone other than the person dropping the child off will be picking him or her up. Also, if anyone other than the individuals authorized on your child’s information sheet needs to pick him or her up, a written note is necessary. **All parents and other adults authorized to pick up students will be required to show a photo I.D. for safety reasons before we will release your child.**

If you have any additional questions, please ask a camp counselor and they will be happy to help you.

Once again thank you for choosing the Racine Zoo Summer Camp. Have a wonderful summer!