



Zoo Camp

Guidelines for Teachers and Adult Helpers

Thank you for coming along and supporting Zoo Camp. The following information should clarify any concerns you may have and answer most of your questions about the Zoo Camp Experience.

Before Your Camp

What to Bring

Please ensure that students and adults bring the following:

- Bedding, please bring your own pillow and sleeping bag. (We can provide 39 camp mattresses in total, i.e. max 32 students + max 7 adults)
- Toiletries and pyjamas
- Drink bottle
- Warm clothes
- Enclosed footwear
- Supplies for a BBQ dinner or similar (we strongly recommend a shared meal rather than individual students bringing individual meals)

Amenities

Sleeping Arrangements: Students and adults will be sleeping in the Zoo Barn. The Barn is an enclosed wooden building with concrete floors but does not have heating or cooling appliances.

This is a shared sleeping space on camp foam mattresses. All participants must bring their own pillow and sleeping bag.

Showers: Due to operational constraints, shower facilities are not available for staff, adult helpers or students.

Toilets: During the night (10:30 pm-6:30 am), students and adults must use the designated toilet situated near the Barn along a lit walkway. Students must be escorted to toilets by a teacher or adult helper. A two-way radio must be taken.

Meals

Perth Zoo provides an evening snack of apples, oranges and biscuits and a breakfast of cereal and toast. The school must provide tea/dinner. We recommend a shared BBQ and are able to provide the BBQ and tools. For other suggestions please contact Discovery and Learning on 9474 0365.

On Arrival

Parking

Buses can park for free of charge in the car park located on Mill Point Road. We recommend you bring at least one car (in addition to buses) in case of emergency. Private cars can park in public car parks outside the Zoo grounds where parking fees may apply or find parking on one of the roads surrounding the Zoo. Parking is not available inside the zoo overnight.

What to do when you arrive at the Zoo

If your group is arriving all together at the recommended time of 4:30 pm, please come through the main entrance and see the cashiers. If your group is arriving by parent drop off please ensure everyone has arrived before coming through the gates together. Then assemble the group at the School Group Meeting area just inside the entrance of the Zoo to meet the Zoo Camp Leaders for a 5:00 pm start. Heavy equipment such as eskies will be loaded on to a Zebra Car (buggy). Students will carry bags, pillows etc.

If your group cannot arrive until 5:00 pm, please assemble outside the main entrance. Cashiers will be closed so please call the Zoo Camp mobile on **0438 992 590** once you have arrived and the Zoo Camp Leaders will come to meet you.

Groups are able to enter the Zoo from 4:30 pm on the day of your camp. If you wish to enter the Zoo before this time please be aware that general admission charges will apply and will require an additional booking. Please contact the Zoo Camp Coordinator on 9474 0365 to notify them of your arrival time and to confirm your Zoo Camp meeting point.

The Zoo Camp Leaders will be available from 4:30 pm on the first day of camp on the Zoo Camp mobile on **0438 992 590**. Please do not try to call this number at other times as it is used during Zoo Camp hours only. Your Zoo Camp Leaders will meet you at the School Group Meeting area at 5:00pm.

During Your Camp

Role of the School Supervisory Team

During the *Race to Save* from 5:15 pm – 6:00 pm, small groups of students will move around the Zoo (in search of clues). Your role may include supervising one of these groups. You will carry a Zoo two-way radio for communication. All other activities will be supervised by Zoo Camp Leaders. Make sure you have comfortable shoes for the walk.

While the 'Race to Save' activity is taking place, some of you will be required to cook the BBQ. Following this, some of the adults will need to assist with the washing up while the Zoo Camp Leaders organise the students for their next block of activities. Please join in for the remainder of the night's activities which are fully supervised by the Zoo Camp Leaders.

Your assistance in helping your Zoo Camp Leaders to keep groups together while they are walking around the Zoo is also appreciated. Teachers and adult helpers may need to help students set up and pack away camp mattresses.

Overnight Supervision: Zoo Camp Leaders will remain onsite (located in the Homestead House adjacent to the Zoo Barn) overnight and will be within two-way radio contact of the classroom teacher. Supervision of students remains the responsibility of the school at all times.

In line with the Zoo's emergency response plan, **no student or adult is to leave the group, walk through the grounds unescorted by a Zoo Camp Leader or sleep in any other area unless otherwise instructed.**

All teachers/adult helpers (School Supervisory Team members) are expected to be on site for the duration from the commencement of Zoo Camp. In addition, letting teachers, adults and students in and out of the grounds during camp is disruptive to the camp's proceedings and should be avoided.

Special note for teachers and adult helpers

Perth Zoo is a completely non-smoking venue, so any parents/teachers who smoke will need to abstain for the night. Alcohol is not to be consumed during your visit. This includes when students are sleeping.

The Program

We have a very full program and the Zoo Camp Leaders will guide you as to when activities will start and finish and how they will be organised. As we are working with both animals and children, there must always be room for some flexibility but a typical program is outlined below.

Evening Program

5:00-5:15 pm Welcome and Briefing

5:15-6:00 pm Race to Save - Zoo Orientation Activity

6:00-7:00 pm BBQ Dinner (provided and cooked by the school)

7:00-8:00 pm Conservation focused experience in Zoo Discovery and Learning Centre

8:00-8:45 pm Animal Enrichment Activity

8:45-9:00 pm Snack Break (provided by the Zoo)

9:00-10:00 pm Night Walk

10:00-10:30 pm Sleeping Preparations and Lights Out!

Morning Program

6:00-6:30 am Wake Up - Pack Up

6:30-7:15 am Breakfast (provided by the Zoo)

7:15-8:50 am Introduction, Keeper interaction, deliver enrichment items

8:50-9:00 am Farewell and Certificates

After Your Camp

Zoo Camp participants are welcome to stay in the Zoo after 9:00 am.

Please note that Zoo Camp activities start at 5:00 pm and finish at 9:00 am the following day. You are welcome to do your own self-guided visit at the Zoo after your camp for no extra charge. Additional Education Experiences may also be available to book the day after your camp but will be charged at the standard rate.

If you do intend to stay in the grounds after your camp you can request to store your camp gear at the Homestead camp site. A key to the storage area is available to teachers, with a driver's license as ID, from Monday to Friday. Please note that if you have a camp on a Friday night this arrangement is not available for you the following Saturday morning, as the Discovery & Learning Office is closed.

All Zoo Camp groups wishing to conduct their own self-guided visit in the grounds after their camp **will not have access to Zoo vehicles to transport teachers' or students' luggage/equipment from the Homestead.**

For any other queries regarding your booking or experience please contact Discovery and Learning on 9474 0365 Monday to Friday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

We hope that you have an enjoyable Zoo Camp Experience
and thank you for your support 😊