



VIRGINIA ZOO FIELD TRIP PACKET

3500 Granby St, Norfolk, VA 23504
virginiazoo.org



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Scan the QR code below to
book your field trip today.



Please contact the Program
Reservations Specialist with
specific questions.

✉ vazoo.reservations@norfolk.gov
☎ (757) 441-2374 x 229

FIELD TRIPS AT THE ZOO

Field Trips at the Zoo include: Large Group Programs, Close Encounters, Zoo Lab, or Self Guided. Find more information about these programs on upcoming pages.

COST \$12/student

TITLE 1 SCHOOLS \$7/student

Cost includes general admission to the Zoo.

ZOO TO YOU

Bring the Zoo to your school or group! Zoo to You includes: Large Group Programs, Close Encounters, or Zoo Lab. Find more information about these programs on upcoming pages.

LARGE GROUP PROGRAM \$400 flat rate & travel fee may apply
Info on page 4.

CLOSE ENCOUNTER \$350 flat rate & travel fee may apply
Info on page 5. \$210 for Title 1 schools

ZOO LAB \$180 flat rate & travel fee may apply
Info on page 6.

50% off available for consecutive programs

TRAVEL FEES

Travel fees may apply when you choose to host a Zoo program at your school. Fees are calculated by your campus's distance from the Zoo in miles. Travel is free for any program sites in Norfolk.

- Up to 15 miles: \$25
- 16-30 miles: \$30
- 31-45 miles: \$35
- 46-60 miles: \$45



LARGE GROUP PROGRAMS

Bring the whole grade or whole school together for a 30-minute auditorium-style program where they will meet and learn about 3 animal ambassadors!

WORLD TRAVELER

(GRADES PRE K - 2)

Join us on a global animal adventure! Your explorers will meet animal ambassadors from different continents and diverse habitats. Your students will learn how animals adapt to their environments and how we can help their populations thrive.

VA Science SOLs: K.7a; 1.5a,b; 2.5b

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.K.1.1, LS.K.1.2, LS.1.1.1

ZOO EDVENTURE

(GRADES 3-12)

Bring your whole group together to meet some of our animal ambassadors! Students will meet animals and discover how their unique adaptations help them survive in their habitats.

VA Science SOLs: K.7a; 1.5a,b; 2.5b; 3.4a,b; 4.2b; 4.3c; LS.6d; LS.7b; BIO.7c

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.K.1.1, LS.K.1.2, LS.1.1.1, LS.4.1.2, LS.4.1.2, LS.5.2, LS.8.2, LS.Bio.9.1

AT THE ZOO

Program Size

34 - 95 individuals*

**Larger groups of up to 200 can be accommodated in late spring.*

Program Time

Available at 10 am, 10:45 am, 11:30 am, or 12:15 pm.

Cost

- \$12/student
- \$7/student for Title 1 schools

Cost includes general admission to the Zoo.

AT YOUR SCHOOL

Program Size

Unlimited*

**Recommended for group sizes of up to 200 individuals.*

Program Time

Any time between 9:30 am and 2 pm

Cost

\$400 flat rate

- A travel fee may apply
- 50% off for consecutive large group programs



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

Close Encounters provide a more in-depth, up-close learning experience, meant for a single class. Each program will be 30 minutes and include 2 animal ambassadors. These programs offer several themes per age group listed below.

ANIMALS ON THE MOVE

(AGES 3-5)

Students will be able to observe how different animals move and try out those movements themselves!

VA ELDS: HPD2.1

COLORFUL ANIMAL KINGDOM

(AGES 3-5)

Students will learn how animals use their colors to survive.

VA ELDS: CD3.4

ONE, TWO, WHO'S AT THE ZOO?

(AGES 3-5)

Students will practice their counting skills with different animals.

VA ELDS: CD3.1

LIFE CYCLES

(GRADES K-2)

Students will learn about the different life cycles found within the animal kingdom.

VA Science SOLs: K.7; 1.5; 2.4a

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.2.1

SENSES

(GRADES K-2)

Students will learn how animals use senses to interact with their environment.

VA Science SOLs: K.5a,b, 1.5b

WILD ABOUT WEATHER

(GRADES K-2)

Students will learn how weather and seasonal changes impact habitats and the things that live there.

VA Science SOLs: K.9a,b; 1.7; 2.7a

NC Essential Science Standards: ESS.K.1, ESS.2.1

CATCH ME IF YOU CAN

(GRADES 3-5)

Students will learn how energy flows within a food chain and the differences between omnivores, herbivores, and carnivores.

VA Science SOLs: 3.5b; 4.3a,b

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.5.2.2

SECRETS OF SURVIVAL

(GRADES 3-5)

Students will explore the physical and behavioral adaptations in animals that help them succeed out in nature.

VA Science SOLs: 3.4a,b

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.4.1.2, LS.4.1.3

AM I IN THE RIGHT CLASS?

(GRADES 6-12)

Students will get a crash course on Linnean classification, learning every part of an animal's scientific name.

VA Science SOLs: LS.3c; BIO.6a,f

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.Bio.10.2

ANIMAL CARE

(GRADES 6-12)

Students will learn how we use science to provide the best possible care for our animals.

Concepts Covered: Animal Behavior; Zoo Careers; Nutrition

COMMUNITY (CITIZEN) SCIENCE

(GRADES 6-12)

Students will learn how everyday people can get involved to help scientists further our understanding of nature.

VA Science SOLs: LS.8, LS.9, ENV.12

NC Essential Science Standards: LS.Bio.5.2

AT THE ZOO

Program Size

15 - 33 individuals

Program Time

Available at 10 am, 10:45 am, 11:30 am, or 12:15 pm.

Cost

- \$12/student
 - \$7/student for Title 1 schools
- Cost includes general admission to the Zoo.

AT YOUR SCHOOL

Program Size

Up to 33 students

Program Time

Any time between 9:30 am and 2 pm

Cost

- \$350 flat rate, \$210 for Title 1 schools
- A travel fee may apply
- 50% off for consecutive classroom programs

ZOO LABS

Zoo Labs* provide a hands-on STEM learning experience meant for a single class. This is a 45-minute program.

*Program does not include an animal ambassador.

NATURE DETECTIVES

(GRADES 3-12)

Students will explore what it takes to be a wildlife biologist as they study animal tracks, scat replicas and more!

VA Science SOLs: 3.1, 3.4a,b; 4.1; 4.3b,d; LS.1; LS.3c; LS.6a,d; LS.7b; BIO.1; BIO.6a; BIO.7cf

NC Essential Science Standards: 5.L.2.2, LS.8.2.2, LS.Bio.9.1

SPECIES SURVIVAL PLAN

(GRADES 7-12)

In this interactive program, students will learn about tiger population genetics in the wild and use that knowledge to make conservation decisions about tigers in zoos.

VA Science SOLs: LS.1; LS.7b; LS.8b; LS.9a-c; LS.11a,c; BIO.1; BIO.7b,c

NC Essential Science Standards: 5.L.2.2, LS.8.2.2, LS.Bio.9.1, LS.Bio.10.2

SKULL LAB

(GRADES 3-12)

Students will investigate the relationship between physical and behavioral adaptations as they document the traits of mammal skulls.

VA Science SOLs: 3.1, 3.4a,b; 4.1; 4.3b,d; LS.1; LS.3c; LS.6a,d; LS.7b; BIO.1; BIO.6a; BIO.7cf

NC Essential Science Standards: 5.L.2, 8.L.3, Bio.2.1.2, Bio.2.1.3

AT THE ZOO

Program Size

15 - 33 individuals

Program Time

Available at 9 am, 10 am, 11 am, 12 pm, 1 pm, or 2 pm.

Cost

- \$12/student
 - \$7/student for Title 1 schools
- Cost includes general admission to the Zoo.

AT YOUR SCHOOL

Program Size

Up to 33 students

Program Time

Any time between 9:30 am and 2 pm

Cost

- \$180 flat rate
 - A travel fee may apply
- 50% off for consecutive classroom programs

SELF-GUIDED FIELD TRIPS

Explore the Virginia Zoo at your own pace! Schedule a self-guided field trip to receive discounted group admission to the Zoo.

COST

\$12/student (\$7/student for Title 1 schools)

SPECIAL EDUCATION + ADA

Free for all individuals with an ADA-recognized disability and one adult companion.



Scan to learn more about guided Zoo tours and virtual programming options.



FIELD TRIP ADD-ONS

LUNCH AT THE ZOO

The Virginia Zoo offers boxed lunches for \$10 each or meal vouchers for \$15 each, making lunch time easy and convenient.

Lunch orders can be purchased for a field trip up to 10 days before your trip. Please note that all groups must make advanced reservations to eat lunch at the Zoo, whether purchasing lunch here or bringing in outside food. The designated picnic spot is outdoors with no covered shelter.

ZOO TRAIN

Climb aboard the Virginia Zoo Express for a fun and informative journey around the Zoo!

Train rides are \$3 per individual over 2 years old. Because the train may close during inclement weather, train rides cannot be bought in advance and must be purchased upon boarding at the train station. Contact the Train and Gift Shop Manager at (757) 441-2374 ext. 260 with any train questions.

CLASS ZOOPTIONS

Symbolically adopt your class's favorite Zoo resident to support their care and conservation!

Every animal and garden at the Virginia Zoo is available for adoption at several donation levels.

Scan the QR code below to learn more about zoodoptions.



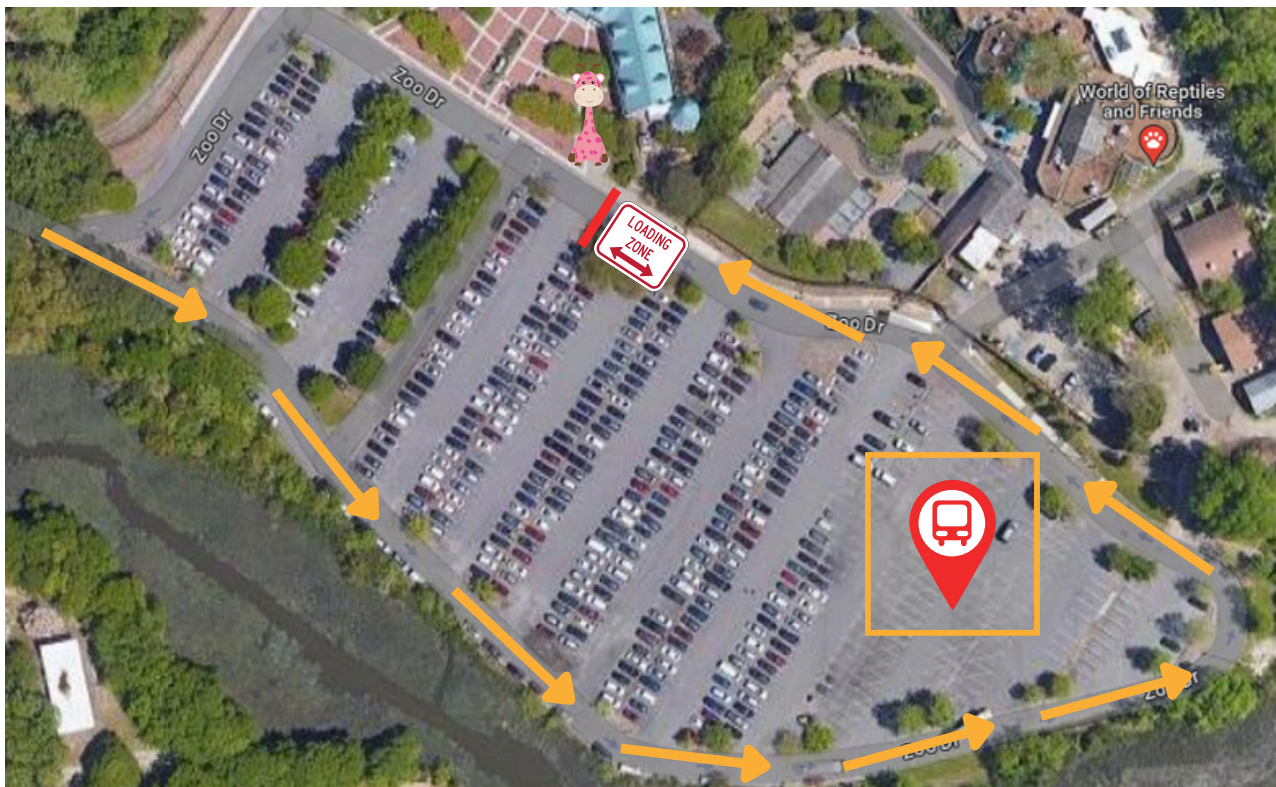
CHAPERONES

Chaperones must pay through the school to receive the field trip discounted ticket price. Schools that booked an education program will receive wristbands for all the adults that paid through the school. Any adult without a wristband will not be able to enter the program space. Please make sure chaperones are aware of your arrival time and the school's name.

Please provide a list of all paid chaperones that will be attending your school/group field trip. The list can be emailed to the Program Reservations Specialist at vazoo.reservations@norfolk.gov

BUS INFORMATION

To ensure everyone's safety upon arrival, if arriving by bus, please follow the below instructions unless otherwise instructed by a Zoo staff member:



- Drive the entire perimeter of the parking lot as marked on the map, and follow the posted signage to reach the drop-off location.
- Please stop for any parking attendants to state your organization's name and how many buses are in your group.
- Do not cut through the parking lot or block any gates
- Bus parking is in the back of the parking lot. Please exit the parking lot and re-enter at the yellow cones to turn around.

*Bus Drivers, please bring your badge up to the ticket booth to redeem your complimentary admission ticket.

TEACHER RESOURCES

Scan the QR code below each item to learn more.

COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIPS

A Community Membership will allow your organization to visit as often as you'd like for an entire year. It allows access for up to 15 guests per visit (one of which must be an adult), allowing different people to visit each time.



<https://virginiazoo.org/community-memberships/>

BEHIND-THE-SCENES TOURS

Have a small group of 10 individuals counting yourself? We offer group behind-the-scenes tours here at the Virginia Zoo. Check the schedule to see what we have available.



<https://virginiazoo.org/behind-the-scenes-tours/>

TEACHER DISCOUNTS FOR GENERAL ADMISSION AND MEMBERSHIP

Visit the Virginia Zoo anytime and get \$2 off discount on your general admission ticket as our way of recognizing your hard work as a teacher. And if you want to visit the Zoo year-round, you receive \$10 off any level of Zoo Membership when you sign up in person! Please bring in a valid Teacher ID.

DIGITAL RESOURCES

Explore your wild side with our digital and printable resources. Catch up on your reading with the Zoo blog or binge a couple of our entertaining and educational videos.



<https://virginiazoo.org/school-programs/digital-resources/>

CONSERVATION YOUTH TEAM

The Virginia Zoo's Conservation Youth Team (CYT) is a volunteer and youth development program for ages 13 to 17 who are interested in learning more about wildlife and conservation, earning community service hours, and spending their time at the Zoo!



<https://virginiazoo.org/school-programs/conservation-youth-team/>



FAQ

CAN CHILDREN WHO ARE INCLUDED IN THEIR FAMILY'S MEMBERSHIP VISIT FOR FREE?

Members only receive free admission for self-guided Field Trips. If schools are booking a program, everyone participating in the program must be included in the count.

IF I'M BOOKING AN ANIMAL PROGRAM, DO I GET TO PICK THE ANIMALS?

No. The ambassadors participating in the animal presentation will be chosen by staff at the Virginia Zoo based on animal health and safety.

DO I NEED TO MAKE A RESERVATION FOR MY ADA GROUP?

We recommend all ADA groups to contact the Program Reservations Specialist to make a reservation. ADA individuals will receive free admission with one free chaperone if attending as a Self-Guided field trip.

CAN I USE THE GOLF CART OR A CART TO HELP TRANSPORT OUR LUNCH TO THE LUNCH LOCATION?

No. Groups can rent one of our school wagons in our Membership office to help with transportation. Once your group is finished, you'll head back to the Membership Office to return the wagon.

WHERE DO I GO IF I NEED A WHEELCHAIR?

Wheelchairs can be rented for the day on a first come, first-serve basis. They can be rented from the Zoo's Gift Shop or at the Stroller Shack, located just outside the shop. Regular wheelchairs: \$16

CAN SCHOOLS PAY BY CHECK?

Yes. Checks should be made out to the Virginia Zoo.

CAN I CHANGE THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS COMING?

Yes. You can update your group size through the reservation portal or by contacting the **Program Reservations Specialist** at (757) 447-2374 ext. 229.

CAN I RESCHEDULE/CANCEL MY FIELD TRIP?

In order to reschedule, you must give us notice at least 3 weeks from the original date. Reschedule requests are subject to the availability of the new date requested. Refunds will only be issued under special circumstances.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHAPERONE IS RUNNING LATE AND NEEDS TO FIND A SCHOOL GROUP?

It is the responsibility of the school to let chaperones know where to meet if they arrive late. The Virginia Zoo will not be able to provide late arrivals with this information.

ARE WE ALLOWED TO BRING OUR OWN LUNCH?

Yes. Group lunch spot locations are at Flora Point, which is next to Turtle Oasis, and the Elephant Statue, which is outside the entrance gates. Groups are not allowed to utilize the tables inside or around the restaurants.

WILL THE TRAIN BE RUNNING? WILL THE FOUNTAINS BE ON?

The train will operate when the high temperature is above 55*. Fountains are on from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The train and fountains will close during inclement weather. The Train may also close for maintenance.

CAN I JUST SHOW UP AND RECEIVE THE FIELD TRIP DISCOUNT AT THE TICKET BOOTH?

Field trips must make a advanced reservation online to receive the group discount. Groups that show up without a reservation will have to pay general admission costs.

IS THE VIRGINIA ZOO SENSORY INCLUSIVE?

The Virginia Zoo is certified sensory-inclusive facility through KultureCity. Sensory backpacks and weighted lap pads are available in the membership office for checkout at no cost to those visiting the Zoo.

WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE IS INCLEMENT WEATHER ON THE DAY OF MY TRIP?

The Virginia Zoo is a rain or shine attraction. Please provide at least 24 hours notice if rescheduling due to weather. We may not always be able to accommodate your desired rescheduled date.

IS THERE A GIFT SHOP AT THE ZOO?

Yes. The Virginia Zoo Gift Shop is open daily. Shop a wide variety of items for Zoo lovers of all ages, many of which support conservation efforts around the world. We ask that only 1 group of 10 students with a chaperone enter at a time.

WHY AM I GETTING CHARGED A FEE ON MY INVOICE?

Ticket prices include our \$2.05 Conservation and Technology fee. For our record keeping, it will show separately on your invoice/receipt. This fee is not a tax and can not be exempt from your invoice.

A non-refundable \$2.05 Conservation and Technology Fee applies to each ticket. Part of this fee directly supports the Zoo's Conservation Fund that protects wildlife and wild places locally and around the world through research, education, breeding programs and other initiatives. The Technology Fee will enable the Zoo to provide a seamless reservation and entry experience for guests and members.

CAN I SCHEDULE A FIELD TRIP ON A WEEKEND?

Our field trip experiences are only offered on weekdays.

FIELD TRIP GUIDELINES

ALL TEACHERS MUST READ AND SIGN THIS FORM PRIOR TO YOUR RESERVED FIELD TRIP DATE.

- We acknowledge that we are responsible to inform any additional staff/adults attending about the Field Trip Guidelines and Zoo Policies.
- We acknowledge that the Zoo opens at 9:30 am and closes at 4:00 pm. And will arrive at our scheduled time.
- We acknowledge that we need to arrive at least 15 minutes before our scheduled educational program.
- We acknowledge that we will wait on the bus until a Virginia Zoo staff member tells us to disembark the bus.
- We acknowledge that school check-in will be held at the front of the Zoo entrance gate near the giraffe statue.
- We acknowledge that full payment is due once we arrive, and tickets are non-refundable. All sales are final. Should an attendee be unable to attend the field trip, the purchase will be considered a donation.
- We acknowledge that the Conservation and Technology Fee is not a tax and is not exemptible.
- We acknowledge that the field trip rate is only available through our reservation order and additional tickets cannot be purchased through Daily General Admission.
- We acknowledge that all students under the age of 16 are required to always have an adult with them.
- We acknowledge that only the preapproved number of participants and chaperones will be able to enter the educational program. Pre-approved individuals will receive a wristband as their ticket into the program from our Group Lead.
- We acknowledge that we are responsible for informing our chaperones of our field trip itinerary. And provide a list of paid chaperones names to the Program Reservations Specialist.
- We acknowledge that if our reservation must be rescheduled/canceled for any reason, the Program Reservations Specialist must be contacted at least 3 weeks prior to the originally scheduled reservation. Reschedule requests are subject to the availability of the new date requested.
- We acknowledge that to preorder lunches we must place and pay in full 10 days before the schedule trip.
- We acknowledge that the Zoo is open rain or shine.
- We acknowledge the Zoo Policies: As a guest, we agree to comply with the Virginia Zoo's code of conduct and safety rules and heed all warnings. Please see the Zoo rules at www.virginiazoo.org/zoo-rules/



Scan the QR code to digitally sign this form.



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