

DEAR TEACHER,



We are so excited that you and your class are coming out to the zoo! We get over 130,000 visitors each year... so here some tips and information to help you have a successful field trip!

What you will need on the day of your trip:

- The exact number of students, bus drivers, school staff, and teachers your school is paying to enter the zoo. Fill out the bottom portion and cut it off to bring when you visit!
 - Our admissions staff needs an accurate account of visitors each day. Admissions fees are due on the day of your visit.
 - Admissions pricing: School rate - \$2.00 for any student or adult admission paid for by the school, including teachers, bus drivers, school staff, etc. (this pricing is discounted pricing from a normal zoo visitor)
 - Homeschool groups receive the group rate of 50% off admissions fees
- Advise parents/chaperones (the school is not paying for) to tell the admissions clerk that they are attending with your "(name of school)'s field trip", and they will receive 50 % off their admission fee for accompanying the trip!

Siblings attending with discounted parents also get 50% off (ages 4 and up) & Children 3 and under are free
- The Z&OO Railroad train is outside the zoo in the park and is separate from the zoo. To set up a train ride for your class and current pricing, you can visit: www.lufkinlions.org
- Buses must park in the EXPO parking lot next to the zoo. Ask the admission clerk for more information.

TIPS:

***Plan to bring your lunch?! You can reserve a pavilion by calling the admissions window at (936) 633-0399. If a pavilion is not available, there is plenty of space out in Ellen Trout Park including two playgrounds, restrooms, and picnic tables.

***We recommend closed-toed shoes when visiting the zoo

***Review our Zoo Manners with staff, parents, and students:

Please do not feed our animals - it could harm them. Our animals are on special diets.

Please walk within the designated areas and do not cross barriers or reach across them.

No running, bicycles, skateboards, rollerblades, or skates.

Please do not touch, chase or feed the peafowl.

In case of an emergency, find the closest zoo employee or go to the admissions window

We prefer classes to walk around with a 10-student to 1 teacher/chaperone ratio to help avoid crowding at exhibits.



HOPE YOU HAVE A WILD TIME! - ETZ STAFF!

Please give this to the staff at the admissions window!

Date of Visit: _____

Total # of students the school is paying for: _____
((\$2.00 each)

School Name: _____

Total # of adults the school is paying for: _____
(including teachers, bus drivers, and chaperones) (\$2.00 each)

Contact Person: _____

Total number of tickets paid for by school: _____

Total amount paid for by school: \$ _____

SELF-GUIDED ACTIVITIES



Use this list of the open-ended questions to help your students explore and learn by observing while at the zoo.

GRADE K & 1: CLASSIFICATION – WHAT COVERS AN ANIMAL'S BODY.

Find an animal that has fur or hair. What color is their fur or hair? Are there mammals that don't have thick fur?

Find an animal with feathers. What color are their feathers? Do all birds fly? Can you find a bird at the zoo that doesn't fly?

Find an animal with scales. What kind of reptile is it? Where can the reptile go to get warm?

GRADE 2 & 3: HABITATS AND ADAPTATIONS.

Find an animal exhibit that looks like a desert. What is special about the plants and animals in a desert?

Find an animal exhibit that looks like a grassland. What other animals would share this habitat?

Find an animal exhibit that looks like a lake/pond. What other animals would share this habitat?

Find an animal exhibit that looks like a forest. What other animals would share this habitat?

Find an animal with bright colors and an animal with dull colors. How do their colors help them survive?

Find an animal with webbed feet. Where is it? On the ground? In the water? In a tree? Does this animal stay in the water all the time?

Find a bird with a large beak. How is the bird using its beak? What other shapes and sizes of beaks are at the zoo?

GRADE 4 & 5: FOOD WEB AND ECOSYSTEMS

Pick one exhibit. What are the living and nonliving parts? How do they affect each other?

Find a large carnivore and a small carnivore. How could their size help them catch their prey?

Find a small prey animal and a large prey animal. How do they escape predators?

Find an herbivore. Are they a grazer (eating grass) or a browser (eating shrubs and bushes)?

Find an omnivore. How can being an omnivore help this animal survive?

Find an exhibit with more than one kind of animal. Why can we let those animals live together?

Can you see the food, water, shelter, and space in their exhibit?

Find an aviary. How do the birds share the space? Are some closer to the ground? Are some in the trees?