

HENRY VILAS



ZOO CAMP INFO

Come spend the summer at our inquiry-focused Summer Zoo Camp! Campers enjoy special animal experiences and behind-the-scenes opportunities while facing scientific challenges that put the campers in the shoes of keepers, vets, or zoo administrators and motivate campers to seek the information to solve real-life problems. Campers leave Zoo Camp with a greater awareness for the individual animals at the zoo and how to help animals in the wild, all while building their science skills and making new friends.

LOTTERY REGISTRATION INFO

The lottery registration period opens 8 am on January 17th, and closes at 12 noon on January 31st. You choose which weeks to enter the lottery, we randomly select campers for each camp week, and will notify you by February 8th. Those not selected will remain on the waiting list, and will be contacted if an additional spot opens up.

Kinderfari camp registration is not by lottery, and will open at 8 am on February 10th.

AGE GROUPS

- Kinderfari - 4 and 5 years old
- Explorers - 6 and 7 years old
- Scouts - 8 to 10 years old
- Jr. Zookeepers - 11 to 13 years old

CAMP HOURS

- Drop off: 8:00-8:30 a.m.
- Camp Activities: 8:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
- Kinderfari 1/2 day: 8:30-11:15 a.m.
- Pick Up: 4:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Kinderfari Pick Up: 11:15-11:30 a.m.

PRICING

- Kinderfari: \$215
- Explorers, Scouts, Jr. Zookeepers: \$370
- *Henry Vilas Zoo Members at the Family level or above receive a 10% discount*

QUESTIONS?

Email education@henryvilaszoo.gov

REGISTER

<http://henryvilaszoo.gov/summer-zoo-camp/>



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CAMP

2025 SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

	Kinderfari Ages 4-5	Explorers Ages 6-7	Scouts Ages 8-10	Jr Zookeeper Ages 11-13
Week 1 June 16-20 <small>*No Camp Thurs</small>	Creature Powers	Bon Appetit	Camp Pokemon	-
Week 2 June 23-27	Sensory Safari	Animals Have Class	Preventing Extinction	Animal Science
Week 3 June 30-Jul 3 <small>*No Camp Fri</small>	When I Grow Up	Animal Architects	Wildlife Heroes	-
Week 4 July 7-11	Animal Communication	Crafty Critters	Animals Are Wild	-
Week 5 July 14-18	I Like to Move It	Animal Agents	Who Will Win	Wild Careers
Week 6 July 21-25	Creature Powers	Bon Appetit	Camp Pokemon	-
Week 7 Jul 28-Aug 1	Sensory Safari	Animals Have Class	Preventing Extinction	Conservation Crew
Week 8 Aug 4-8	When I Grow Up	Animal Architects	Wildlife Heroes	-
Week 9 Aug 11-15	Animal Communication	Crafty Critters	Animals Are Wild	-
Week 10 Aug 18-22	I Like to Move It	Animal Agents	Who Will Win	Animal Trainers
Week 11 Aug 25-29	Creature Powers	Bon Appetit	Camp Pokemon	-

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2025 CAMP DESCRIPTIONS

KINDERFARI AGES 4-5

Creature Powers

Creatures sure do have some incredible powers, we'll learn about them and pretend to have some of those incredible creature powers! We will work on how we can save animals around the world and do some creature adventuring! Join us for this animal adaptation exploration.

Sensory Safari

Can you hear it, see it, or taste it? Animals have so many unique senses, and they use them in a lot of interesting ways! Let's explore how well red pandas smell and how far a lion can see! We will meet some animals that exhibit these incredible senses and use a few of our own senses along the way!

When I Grow Up

There are endless possibilities of what we can do when we grow up! Let's learn about some animal loving jobs and pretend to do the important things that those people do. What is it like to give medicine to a seal, and how can we help protect animals all around the world? We will problem solve and pretend play to find out what we could be when we grow up.

Animal Communication

Chatter, smells, and waves: animals "talk;" in lots of ways! Unfortunately we can't speak the same language as an orangutan or a meerkat, but we can see how they communicate. We will learn how zookeepers communicate with the animals they take care of, and how animals communicate with one another.

I Like to Move It

We'll jump, hop, slither, and stomp through the Zoo this week as we discover all the different ways animals move. How can a gecko climb glass? Do lemurs actually leap? Can bees really dance? Come move it, move it and learn along with us!



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EXPLORERS- AGES 6-7

Bon Appétit

Everyone needs to eat, but there are so many different ways to accomplish it! From fish to fruit and bugs to bamboo, we'll dish up some tasty treats for our Zoo animals this week. We'll learn all about the adaptations animals have to help them find their food, and we'll meet the Zookeepers who prepare the daily feasts for critters big and small!

Animals Have Class

We are going to get classy with taxonomy and learn how things are connected. Who's related to who? We'll find out with some classy biological discovery. We will take a look at some of our incredible bio-facts, compare them to animals at the Zoo, and discover how animals are related to one another.

Animal Architects

People aren't the only creatures around that can make some incredible structures. Animals have been modifying their habitats for millions of years! Let's learn about a few of these animal architects and get inspired to build a few things of our own.

Crafty Critters

It's a D.I.Y. crafting bonanza! We will build, craft, make, and create some animal inspired art and learn about animals who can also be crafty. Animals have inspired art for centuries, and some of our animals even create their own art! Let's paint, draw, invent, sketch, and color along with our animal friends.

Animal Agents

Your mission, should you choose to accept it, is to learn all about undercover animals. We will see the sneaky ways that animals can spy on one another without detection and evade capture. As agents we need to keep careful observations of all the animals we see and report back to HQ promptly. This message will self-destruct in 3...2...1...



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SCOUTS- AGES 8-10

Camp Pokémon

We want to be the very best like no camp was before, to learn about animals is our quest, to train them is our cause! Join us for this fun Pokémon camp as we compare Pokémon to our zoo animals, learn about their defense mechanisms, and how we train and care for them.

Preventing Extinction

It's not just the T. Rex that is extinct, we have lost species even in our lifetimes. But the amazing work done at Henry Vilas Zoo and other AZA zoos is helping to stop this loss and protect the animals we love! In this camp we will learn all about the science behind preventing extinction, and the work it takes to help a species survive.

Wildlife Heroes

Although they might not wear capes or have super strength there are some incredible wildlife heroes that we will learn about all week long. Learn about what people are doing around the world to protect animals and what you can do at home to become a wildlife hero.

Animals are Wild

Climbing on walls, holding your breath for 30 minutes, or sleeping underground all winter long animals have some truly wild adaptations. In this camp we will learn about some of the extreme things animals can do and how we care for these wild critters here at the zoo.

Who Will Win?

Based on the popular children's books 'Who Will Win' we will compare animal adaptations to see who would win in a fictional battle. Who's got the best defenses, or even the best attacks?

Which animal at the zoo would be the toughest of them all? Find out which animal has what it takes in this adaptations themed camp.



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JR. ZOOKEEPERS- AGES 11-13

****Jr Zookeepers is only offered 4 weeks of summer**

Animal Science

Chemistry, physics, psychology oh my! Who knew there was so much science at the zoo? Each day we will study a field of science and learn how we use scientific processes to care for our animals here at the zoo and their wild counterparts. Grab your beakers and binoculars, it's bound to be a scientific time.

Wild Careers

Do you want to make an impact and help save wild animals and the places they call home? Well then, take a walk on the wild side and learn all about careers in the field of wildlife! Get to learn from experts and get some experience practicing what these wildlife heroes do!

Conservation Crew

Join our Conservation Crew as we explore the jobs and people who are saving species. Let's learn about the conservation triumphs and battles of endangered species and what we are doing here at the zoo to protect animals locally and globally. We will discover ways to use your voice to be a champion for wildlife.

Animal Trainers

Open...Sit...paw! We train our animals to do all sorts of things that help us take better care of them. Join us as we learn what goes into training an animal and learn from a few of our trainers here at the zoo. We will get to train animals ourselves to learn more about the details of behavior science!

