

ZOOcation - APRIL 2010

(For children in **Years 2 to 6**)

(Kindy and Year 1 description is on the following page)

The following provides a brief summary of the Zoocation sessions currently being offered at the National Zoo & Aquarium. Each day includes animal encounters, reptile handling and animal feeds. Please read the following section on **Zoocation Groups**.

Remember, you can save time on your first day by downloading and completing the Indemnity Form.

SENSE-SATIONAL ANIMALS

Discover who are the masters at sensing the world around them.

April 12th & 19th

NOSES AND TONGUES: BEAR VS HUMAN

- Does chocolate taste good to all animals? How does a bear smell out food? These and other questions will be explored on this fun filled day.
- Meet and feed Bears, Cougars and more.
- Plus; fun games, craft and science experiments.

April 13th 20th &

EYES: BUGS VS LIONS

- Just what do bugs see? Why are some animal eyes on the side of the head and some on the front?
- Find out just how animals see.
- Meet and feed Lions, Elands, Stick Insects and more.
- Plus; games, craft and science experiments.

April 14th & 21st

TOUCH AND VIBRATION: SHARKS VS TIGERS

- How do sharks sense their prey? How do fish swim together so well?
- Discover some little known facts about sharks and other animal's sense vibrations.
- Meet some sharks, fish, alligators and tigers.
- Plus; games, craft and science experiments.

April 15th & 22nd

EARS: GIRAFFES VS FROGS

- Who can hear better, a giraffe or a frog? Learn about all the different ways animals can hear.
- Meet and feed our giraffes, frogs and more.
- Plus; fun games, craft and science experiments.

April 16th & 23rd

ELECTRICITY & MAGNETISM: SNAKES VS BATS

- Learn about some senses that humans don't have! Find out how some animals use electricity, magnetism and echolocation to help them survive.
- Meet and feed animals such as snakes, fish, otters and others.
- Plus; fun games, craft and science experiments.

Animal encounters may vary due to circumstances beyond our control.

ZOOcation JUNIOR - APRIL 2010

(For children in Kindergarten and Year 1 only)

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ZOOCATION GROUPS

WHAT ARE THE ZOOCATION GROUPS?

To ensure that all children have a fun and enriching experience at the Zoocation, children are divided into three groups – Red, Yellow and Blue. Children are grouped according to the year they are attending at school. As craft and various other learning activities are part of their day, we try to ensure children are with others of similar social and developmental levels. This way, they will not become frustrated or struggle with the activities. There are usually 19 children in each group with two staff members.

HOW DO I KNOW WHICH GROUP MY CHILD IS IN?

When your child arrives at Zoocation they will be given a coloured bandana to indicate which group they will be in for the day.

Generally, children in Years K and 1 are in Red, Years 2 – 3 are in Yellow and Years 4 to 6 in Blue. Sometimes, according to daily enrollments, adjustments are made to how the groups are divided.

CAN MY CHILD BE WITH THEIR FRIENDS OR SIBLINGS?

As much as possible we make all efforts to make sure friends are grouped together. However, if there are large age differences, this becomes difficult during activity time. For example, the Blue group has more complex activities than the Red and Yellow groups. A young child may become frustrated at not being able to participate at the same level as others. We want all the children to experience success and have a fun time at the zoo.

All children are together during lunch, snacks and some free time

If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Zoocation Staff.