



# edZOOcator

**EDUCATOR'S HANDBOOK FOR PROGRAMS AND  
FIELD TRIPS AT TAMPA'S LOWRY PARK ZOO**

# There is so much to do at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo

Know what's happening all the time—visit [LowryParkZoo.com](http://LowryParkZoo.com). Sign up for the “@ the Zoo” newsletter or find us on Facebook and Twitter.

Whether planning your class field trip or are visiting the Zoo yourself, there are many fun events throughout the year. Here are a few that take place annually in the fall and winter. Visit [LowryParkZoo.com](http://LowryParkZoo.com) for this year's event dates and times.

## Zoo Run Run

September 12

7th annual 5K run that winds through the Zoo and along the scenic Hillsborough River. Children can enter a special “Fun Run” which follows the 5K. Register now!

## ZooBoo

Select Nights in September & October

Come see what lurks after dark at ZooBoo! It's a ghoulish good time for all. Beware of things that go bump in the night as you meander through the shadowy darkness of haunted houses and spooky trails. A haunting good time for little ones and adults alike, with free unlimited Zoo rides.

## Zoofari

November 7

Known as one of the largest and “wildest” all-inclusive food festivals in the Tampa Bay Area, Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo invites food lovers to its annual Zoofari feeding frenzy. The event features food sampling from many restaurants, open bars, live music and the “Art Safari” wildlife art auction. Advance ticket sales will start in September.

## Wild Wonderland

Select Nights in December

Join the holiday fun at the Zoo after dark! See more than a million twinkling lights, live reindeer, holiday displays, visit Santa and much more.

## New! Drop and Shop this Holiday Season

December 12, 13, 19, 20, 2009

A great idea for parents, drop off your kids for a wild time at the Zoo while you put the finishing touches on your holiday shopping. The child's day will include Zoo hikes, an animal encounter and enrichment, a visit to see the Wild Wonderland reindeer, a recycled material holiday craft, and hot cocoa and cookies. Please provide your child with a snack, lunch, and bottle of water. Drop-off time: 9:30 a.m./Pick-up time: 3:00 p.m. Costs: \$30 for one child, \$25 each for two or more children. Ages: 3-8. Younger students must be potty trained.

## Noon Year's Eve

December 31

Countdown to noon and ring in the New Year with Radio Disney AM 1380 from 9:30-12:00 p.m.!

## Features

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## Planning a Field Trip

**SAVE TIME AND MONEY BY ORDERING LUNCH AND GIFT BAGS IN ADVANCE!**

### **Pre-Order Lunch Options**

#### **Box lunches (cold)**

\$4.50 per adult/child (prices subject to tax)

Your choice of Tuna Fish, Ham and Cheese, Turkey and Cheese. All cold lunches come with juice, potato chips, cookie.

#### **Buffet Style Lunches (hot)**

Group must be 75 people or more

\$4.95 per child/\$6.50 per adult (prices subject to tax)

Buffet may consist of Hamburgers, Hot Dog, Mac and Cheese, Fruit Salad, Chips, Brownies, Fruit Punch

### **Pre-Order Gift Bags**

The Zoo offers this successful program that allows students to get a souvenir without shopping in the gift shops.

\$3 Gift Bag includes:

- Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo pencil
- Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo postcard
- Surprise! (keychain, small toy, stickers, etc.).

For an additional fee, gift bags can feature specific animals and/or include a plush. Bags will be available for pick-up at the Main Gate Gift Shop the day of your field trip. Must be ordered in advance.

*All prices are subject to change.*



**To plan or schedule your field trip, see contacts in "Call of the Wild"**

# In-Zoo Programs

When you bring your class to the Zoo, you can tour on your own or choose from a variety of options to enhance your visit.

## Self-Guided Zoo Visits (Pre K-12)

- \$8 per student.
- Additional chaperones/teachers \$12

## Guided Tours

Your tour consists of exciting VIP adventures and behind-the-scenes information of the Zoo.

### Themes include:

#### Florida Boardwalk

Meet the original Florida natives, past present and...futures unknown.

#### Primate World

Bring your group of primates to meet ours and learn about Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo's efforts to save our closest cousins of the animal kingdom.

#### Asian Gardens

From unusual tapirs to the appealing white bengal tigers explore the extremes that Asia has to offer.

#### Safari Africa

The African Savannah is home to some of the world's largest land mammals. Come on an African Safari and meet Africa's amazing giants.

### Program Information:

- Ages 5 to adult
- 45-60 minutes
- Minimum total of 15 people, incl. chaperones
- Maximum total of 60 people, incl. chaperones
- \$4 per student with Zoo Admission
- \$7 per student without Zoo Admission
- Extra chaperones/teachers \$4 with Zoo Admission
- Extra chaperones/teachers \$7 without Zoo Admission
- Does not include Zoo admission
- 1 FREE chaperone/teacher per 10 students
- For Saturday and Sunday tours, please book early. Availability is limited.

## Scavenger Hunt/Team Building Activity

Heading to the Zoo soon and want to add some educational fun? Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo offers a scavenger hunt for your class, the entire school, or even teacher groups! At the end we will supply the winning group a prize.

### Program Information:

- Ages 5 to adult
- 60 minutes
- Minimum total of 15 people, including chaperones/teachers 15-30 participants \$75
- 31-60 participants; \$90
- 61-90 participants; \$110
- 91-120 participants; \$130
- 121-150 participants; \$165
- 151-200 participants; \$200
- Scavenger Hunts/Team Building Activity must be scheduled in advance.

## Animal Encounters

Come face to face with the animal ambassadors of Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo.

### Program Information:

- Ages 3 to adult
- 30 minute animal encounter
- Minimum total of 15 people, including chaperones
- Maximum total of 70 people, including chaperones
- \$150 flat fee

## Wetlands Connections

This program is designed for students learn the importance of wetlands to our natural environment. While at the Zoo, students will participate in a drainage run-off race experiment, an In- Zoo scavenger hunt and have an animal encounter.

### Program Information:

- Grades 4 – 8
- Minimum total of 15 people, including chaperones
- Maximum total of 60 people, including chaperones
- 10AM – 1PM
- \$12 per student
- Payment is due two weeks in advance
- Zoo access before and after is not included.
- Please see Self-Guided Zoo Visits pricing on the top of the page.

# Teacher Resources, and Adult Education Programs

## Field Trip and Pre/Post Visit Materials

Pre/Post visit materials are available for K-12th Grade on-line LowryParkZoo.com, click on the Education and Camps tab and then look under Educators and Field Trips. The curriculum is designed to prepare and enhance your students' learning at the Zoo.

## Team Leader Meetings at the Zoo

We offer classroom space for teacher meetings. Space is limited and reservations must be made in advance. Email [jennifer.bacon@LowryParkZoo.com](mailto:jennifer.bacon@LowryParkZoo.com)

## E-News Letter “@ the Zoo”, Facebook and Twitter

Stay updated! Sign up to receive the Zoo's monthly electronic newsletter, follow us on Twitter or become a fan on Facebook. Be the first to learn about new school and teacher programs, discounts, new animals, births and exciting Zoo events. Sign-up for “@ the Zoo” on the Zoo's homepage.

## Adult Education Classes

From August to March the Zoo School offers monthly continuing education classes for adults. Advanced registration required, schedule on-line at LowryParkZoo.com, click on the Education and Camp tab and then look under Programs for Adults.

## Teacher Workshop

August 29, 2009 from 9AM-12PM

Wetlands Connection Workshop for K-12th educators from private or public schools located in Plant City, Ruskin, Dover, Gibsonton, and Wimauma  
**\$100 stipend will be given to participant in this workshop.**

Teachers will receive pre/post activity packets, an outline of the critical needs of habitat preservation, specific guidelines and procedures to implement the pre/post-visit classroom activities, and the motivation/ techniques to supervise the students' field experience and encourage students' active participation in all program activities. An educator kit will be distributed to each teacher to allow teachers to engage both students who have participated in the field experience and those who have not, in the development of a practical action plan for water conservation. After completion of the course, teachers will be asked to submit a report detailing the course of action they chose to take with their students

Sponsored by a grant from the Alafia River and Hillsborough River Basin Boards of the Southwest Florida Water Management District and the Tampa Bay Estuary



# Zoo School's Auditorium Programs

## Auditorium Programs at the Zoo School

Your Auditorium programs consist of a power point presentation, live animal encounters, bio-facts (animal specimens) and interactive opportunities for the audience.

### Grade K-5

#### Animal Olympics

From the fastest to the loudest. Test your knowledge of these amazing record holders.

#### African Safari

Explore the diversity of Africa and the animals that call it home.

#### Amazing Australia

Learn about the truly unique animals in "the land down under."

#### Florida's Vanishing Wildlife

Learn to appreciate Florida's wildlife and the challenges facing their preservation.

#### Manatee Mania

Learn how you can help to protect the future of this mighty marine mammal. \*Does not feature animal encounter.

#### Rainforest Adventure

In this program we journey from the top of the canopy to the roots of the trees, exploring plants and wildlife that call the rainforests their home.

## Requirements for all Auditorium Programs

- 25-200 students
- 30 minutes
- 1:10 (1 free chaperone/teacher per 10 students)
- \$2 per student with Zoo Admission
- \$7 per student without Zoo Admission
- Extra chaperones/teachers \$2 with Zoo Admission
- Extra chaperones/teachers \$7 without Zoo Admission

" It was great! The children were interested and entertained. The instructor was wonderful, engaging and developmentally appropriate. "

All God's Children Preschool



## Grades 6-12

### Species Survival Plan

In a world where it is estimated that 100 animal species go extinct every day, many of the species seen at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo face uncertain futures in the wild.

### Magnificent Manatees

Learn why they are endangered and what you can do to help protect the future generations of this gentle giant. \*Does not feature animal encounter.

### Wildlife Careers

Discover what it takes to have an animal career and what steps to take to get you there.

### Native Florida (Designed for Grades 6-8)

Discover the native Florida wildlife living in your neighborhood and what you can do to help protect their habitats.

## Pre-K Play Groups

We can modify auditorium programs to accommodate your Pre-K play group. Please call 813-935-8552 ext.268 to schedule your playgroup.

- Prices \$3 per student with Zoo Admission
- \$7 per student without Zoo Admission
- 1:5 ratios
- Extra chaperones/teachers: \$3 with Zoo Admission
- Extra chaperones/teachers: \$11 without Zoo Admission



# Enter our Annual Conservation Contest

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is committed to excellence in education, conservation and research. Our mission is to "Connect People with the Living Earth." Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo, and other zoo and aquarium members of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), have made it their highest priority to help conserve wildlife through public education, scientific research, captive breeding for reintroduction, and fund-raising to support field conservation.

The AZA Species Survival Plan® (SSP) program has long played a crucial role in sustaining threatened and endangered species. Students will find more than 29 of these animals at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo. In an effort to help build awareness and education efforts, the Zoo sponsors these contests each year. Get involved and have your class enter today!

## K-3rd GRADE ART CONTEST

**OVERVIEW:** The Zoo is a home for many endangered species of animals. Select one or more of them and creatively depict them in their wild habitats.

### ART GUIDELINES:

- Be creative
- Art work must be no larger than 12x12 inches.
- Submit artwork by November 2, 2009.

## 4th and 5th GRADE ESSAY CONTEST

**OVERVIEW:** Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is a founding member of the Butterfly Conservation Initiative--dedicated to the conservation of threatened, endangered, and vulnerable North American butterflies, notably the Miami Blue butterfly. The Miami Blue was thought to be extinct after Hurricane Andrew hit Florida; however when a population of about 50 animals was found in the Keys, emergency action was taken to list this species as endangered. A captive breeding program was started and in 2008, 500 captive bred Miami Blue caterpillars were released into the wild.

As young adults your generation will play a critical role in the survival of many of the world's endangered species. Many times your actions directly affect the environment and the animals that share it with us. Small changes in your daily routines can often have huge impact to the living world around us.

### ESSAY TOPIC:

What are two ways that you can help the butterfly population in your neighborhood?

### ESSAY GUIDELINES:

- 300 word minimum- 600 word maximum
- Submit by November 2, 2009.

## 6th-8th GRADE ESSAY CONTEST

**OVERVIEW:** It has been estimated that twenty percent or more of the world's biological diversity may be lost within the next few decades. This extinction crisis is a result of massive habitat destruction and alteration around the globe. As young adults your generation will play a critical role in the survival of many of the world's endangered species. Your actions directly affect the environment and the animals that share it with us. Small changes in your daily routines can often result in large changes in the living Earth around us.

### ESSAY TOPIC:

- How can you help save the world's endangered species?
- To request a free copy of Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo newest Newspaper in Education called *Commitment to Conservation: How can you make a difference?* Please call 727 893-8884 or visit <http://tampabay.com/nie/zoo/order.html>

### ESSAY GUIDELINES:

- 300 word minimum- 600 word maximum
- Submit by November 2, 2009.



## 6th-12th ZOO DESIGN CHALLENGE

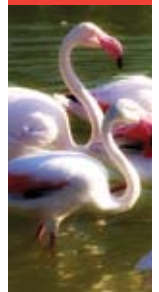
**OVERVIEW:** In a world where it is estimated that 100 animal species go extinct every day, many of the species seen at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo face uncertain futures in the wild. Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo along with other AZA accredited zoos and aquariums throughout world participate in the Species Survival Plan (SSP) with the goal of maintaining a healthy and self-sustaining population that is both genetically diverse and demographically stable. Currently, there are 113 SSPs covering 181 individual species. The SSP program supports efforts to prevent extinction. As young adults, your generation will play a critical role in the survival of many of the world's endangered species. Have your class or school group design a future zoo exhibit. Pick a new animal for Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo to display and plan their exhibit. Plan a budget for your exhibit and make sure to follow the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) guidelines for exhibit size.

### PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

- Class participation (up to 60 participants).
- One essay per Community Service project.

### DESIGN CHALLENGE GUIDELINES:

- Select a SSP animal NOT found at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo (located at [AZA.org](http://AZA.org)).
- Write a 300-600 word essay on the history of your SSP animal and why it would be a great addition to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo.
- Build a budget for the new exhibit and ways to generate revenue to pay for the new exhibit.
- Include a sketch of the new exhibit, no larger than 12 x 12 inches.
- Submit by April 1, 2010.



## 9th-12th GRADE GROUP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT

OVERVIEW: Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo plays an active role in conversation and issues affecting animals and their habitats throughout Florida and the world. In a world where it is estimated that 100 animal species go extinct every day, many of the species seen at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo face uncertain futures in the wild. As young adults your generation will play a critical role in the survival of many of the world's endangered species. Many times your actions directly affect the environment and the animals that share it with us. Small changes in daily routines can often have huge impact to the living world around you.

The purpose of the Group Community Service Challenge is for your class to design, plan and execute a community service project which has the goal of educating others on Florida environment and/or animal conservation issues.

### PROJECT REQUIREMENTS:

- Class participation (up to 60 participants).
- One essay per community service project.

Please include:

- List of location(s) that the community service project took place
- How many people in the class participated in the design and implementation of the group service project?
- How many people were reached at the location(s) your class presented the service project?
- Why did your class select this topic as a service project?
- What did your class learn from the experience?
- What challenges did the class face?
- Will the class be expanding on this service project in the future?
- Include your education materials, photos and any other project materials.

### COMMUNITY SERVICE GUIDELINES

Submit by April 1, 2010.

### PRINCIPAL, TEACHER AND PARTICIPANT GUIDELINES

Winning prize for student or group will be:

- Admission to the Zoo for student and 3 guests (one must be a chaperone, 18 years old or older.)
- An animal encounter where you and your guest will get up closes with the Zoo's animal ambassadors.

Information that must be included on essay to qualify for the contest:

- Participant's Name
- Participant's Email Address
- Participant's Grade and Name of Teacher
- Principal's Name
- School's Name
- Principal's Email Address
- Principal's Telephone Number

The above information will be used to notify and schedule contest winners.

Information for Principal or Teacher:

- Designs will be reviewed the week of November 3-6, 2009 (K-8th entries) or on April 5-8, 2010 (9th-12th entries)

- Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo representative will be contacting the winning students' principal to schedule the program on November 10, 2009 or April 14, 2010.
- Prize must be scheduled prior to May 29, 2010.
- *Please be advised transportation to Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo is not included and is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.*

Mail/FAX Entries To:  
Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo-Education Department  
Attn: Education Essay Contest  
1101 West Sligh Ave.  
Tampa, FL 33064  
(813) 933-7949

OR

Drop of at the Zoo School at Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo.

### 2008 ESSAY WINNERS

K-3rd – Art Contest – Draw your favorite endangered animal(s) at the Zoo, depicted in a wild habitat.  
Winner: Lauryn Moose, Lawton Chiles Elementary.



4-5 – Essay Contest – What are two ways you can help the butterfly population in your neighborhood?  
Winner: Cristina Caceres, FishHawk Creek Elementary.

6-8 – Essay Contest – How can you help save the world's endangered species?  
Winner: Austin Fantauzzo, Martinez Middle School.



# Sleepovers at the Zoo

Explore the Zoo after dark! Your exciting evening can include:

- Ages 6 through adults
- Up-close encounter with animals
- Behind-the-Scenes Tour
- Craft
- Pizza Snack & Lite Morning Breakfast
- 15 participant minimum
- \$35 per participant (1 free chaperone for every 10 participants)
- \$525 flat fee for groups under 15 participants
- Schedule 2 months in advance

**SPECIAL**  
Have a sleepover  
between 9/1/09- 5/1/10,  
Monday-Thursday night,  
and SAVE \$7 per person  
(only \$28 per person).

Exclusively for  
Public and Private  
School groups!



## Themes:

### African Safari

Go on safari and explore various animals from across the Savannah. Meet animals and learn about animal adaptations.

### Awesome Australia

Journey the land down under to discover the people, places, environments and wildlife of Australia.

### Manatee Rescue

Learn about what Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo does to save Florida's gentle giants. Tour our Manatee Hospital and sleep near the manatees in our air-conditioned Aquatics Center.

### Nocturnal Adventures

Find out who comes out when the sun goes down and experience life as a nocturnal animal. Stalk and slither your way through the Zoo to see the nocturnal animals in action.

### Rainforest Adventures

Explore the tropical rainforests to learn how the characteristics of jungle plants and animals allow them to survive in the rainforest layers.



" We appreciate everyone  
at the Zoo. We really  
love Tampa's Lowry  
Park Zoo! "

Wharton High School "Best Buddies"

# Zoo-To-You Animals Come to your Classroom

The Zoo-to-You “Zooventures” program from Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo, bring interesting animals to your school. With Zooventures, the excitement of live animals, incredible animal bio-facts and fun Zoo Keepers arrive ready to deliver an entertaining and educational program. Choose from one of the below programs or ask how we can customize programs to meet your class needs.

## Themes:

### Rainforest

Venture deep into the rainforest and meet the amazing animals that make this habitat their home.

### Nocturnal Adventure

What’s lurking in the dark? Encounter animals that go bump in the night. From owls to tarantulas, you’ll never look into the night the same way.

### Native Florida

Tampa’s Lowry Park Zoo staff specialize in native Florida wildlife. During this program you’ll meet animals that you might encounter near your own home.

### Scales, Feathers and Fur

How do animals survive in different habitats? What traits do they have that keep them thriving? Get up close and see for yourself.

### Be a Zoo Keeper

Do you have what it takes to be a Zoo Keeper? Ever wanted to know what the career entails? Meet a Zoo Keeper and some animal ambassadors in this enlightening program.



#### Program Information:

- Programs are 45-60 minutes
- Pre-K: Up to 50 students/ 30 minutes/ \$255 plus gas and mileage fee
- School and non-profit organizations: \$355 plus gas and mileage fee
- Gas and Mileage Fee: \$40 for travel 21-30 miles or \$50 for travel 31-40 miles away from the Zoo.

**GREAT VALUE IF YOUR  
SCHOOL HAS LIMITED FUNDS**

total cost of program  
\$395 / 150 students  
= \$2.63 per student



ZooVentures supported by:



**Teachers – Get group savings if you book ZooVentures on the same day in the same school.**

# Tips for an Enjoyable Visit

- After scheduling your field trip, call or email for your FREE Teacher Pass (free admission) to visit before the field trip.
- Take advantage of the FREE, self guided curriculum we provide. Use the material as pre/post activities to enhance your zoo experience. Download materials at LowryParkZoo.com, click onto the Education and Camps tab and scroll down to Education and Field Trips.
- Save time and pre-order lunch or gift bags for students. Please allow a week notification.
- On the day of your visit complete paperwork with the final headcount of children and adults. Bring the complete paperwork to the Zoo's Main Gate and pay admission for your group.
- Go over Zoo rules and regulations with chaperones on the bus prior to arrival. All information was emailed to you when you reserved your group online.
- Remember if your group scheduled a special program, a confirmation letter will be sent to you where your group is to meet the Zoo Instructor.
- For your entire group, provide school nametags and schools shirts. This is a great way to keep an accurate headcount. We strongly suggest not to write student names on the school nametags.

**Most of all—Have fun and enjoy the #1 Zoo in the USA as named by *Parent* magazine (May 2009) and *Child* magazine (2004)!**

**Parents  
10 BEST  
ZOOS**

## Call of the Wild

Tampa's Lowry Park Zoo offers many easy ways to get information to plan your class Field Trip.

### Schedule School Field Trips online:

LowryParkZoo.com/register  
Email: Jamie.Myers@LowryParkZoo.com  
Phone contact: (813) 935-8552 ext. 268

### Postpone/Cancel a Field Trip:

Email: Jamie.Myers@LowryParkZoo.com  
Phone contact: (813) 935-8552 ext. 268

\*leaving a voicemail is an acceptable way of canceling programs

### Download Free Curriculum:

LowryParkZoo.com, click onto the Education and Camps tab and scroll down to Education and Field Trips.

### Request your FREE Teacher Pass:

Email: Jamie.Myers@LowryParkZoo.com  
Phone contact: (813) 935-8552 ext. 268

### Programs:

Schedule Auditorium, Sleepovers, In Zoo, Animal Encounters, Teambuilding, Scavenger Hunts, Wetlands Connection programs by contacting:  
Email: Jamie.Myers@LowryParkZoo.com  
Phone contact: (813) 935-8552 ext. 268

### Pre-Order Lunch:

Contact Food Service Manger at (813) 935-8552 ext. 254

### Pre-Order Gift Bags:

Contact Gift Shop Manager at (813) 935-8552 ext. 215



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