Oakland ZooCamp 2023

Camp Themes and Group Information

Oakland ZooCamp is designed for campers entering Kindergarten through 8th grade. All sessions are aligned with California Next Generation Science Standards and have unique themes. Each lesson is focused on topics that campers will encounter in the upcoming school year.

Campers may attend one of each session theme (A and/or B) for their grade group. These sessions do not have to be back-to-back and can be done in either order.
Oakland ZooCamp 2023 Session Themes

Busy Beasts – Kindergarten

**Theme A: We put the ‘Zoo’ in ‘Zoomies’!**

Hop, skip, and climb your way over to ZooCamp where we will learn all about how animals move! From swinging apes to swimming otters, your Kindergartener will spend their week learning the different ways critters get themselves around.

**Theme A Sessions:**
- S1: June 5-9
- S3: June 19-23
- S5: July 10-14
- S7: July 24-28

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**Theme B Sessions:**
- S2: June 12-16
- S4: June 26-30
- S6: July 17-21
- S8: July 31-Aug 4

**Theme B: “Caw”-“Moo”-“Neigh”-cation**

Ever wonder how other species communicate? Some animals talk by vocalizing, moving, smelling, touching and more! Your camper will spend their week discovering ways creatures chat with each other.
Furry Friends – 1st Grade

Theme A: There’s No Place Like Habitat
Where in the world do you find this animal? This week will be focused on all things habitat: where they are, what makes them special, and who lives within them.

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- S1: June 5-9
- S3: June 19-23
- S5: July 10-14
- S7: July 24-28

Theme B Sessions:
- S2: June 12-16
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Theme B: Why the Long Trunk?
All species are built different - and for a good reason! Learn about how animals have adapted to suit their needs and survive in their home environment.
Animal Adventurers – 2nd & 3rd Grade

Theme A: From Tadpole to Toad

Some animals can run the day they’re born. Others start life without legs and grow them later. Why are they all so different? This ZooCamp week dives into the distinct ways these unique species develop.

Theme A Sessions:
- S1: June 5-9
- S3: June 19-23
- S5: July 10-14
- S7: July 24-28

Theme B: Life on Land

Earth is filled with vastly different creatures living in every corner of the planet. This week will be filled with what makes all land animals so special. Join us to investigate insects, amphibians, mammals, and more land critters!
Eco Explorers – 4th & 5th Grade

Theme A: Lend a Helping (or Hindering) Hand

Do animals have friends? Enemies? Frenemies? From mutualism to parasitism and everything in between, we will dive into some wildlife drama as we learn about different species and their relationships to one another.

Theme A Sessions:
- S1: June 5-9
- S3: June 19-23
- S5: July 10-14
- S7: July 24-28

Theme B Sessions:
- S2: June 12-16
- S4: June 26-30
- S6: July 17-21
- S8: July 31-Aug 4

Theme B: Prides, Pods, Packs, and Posses

From lone wolves to social butterflies, animals have different social needs. ZooCampers will explore why some animals prefer to be solitary while others do not, when those preferences might change, and how it all helps them survive in the wild.
Conservation Crew – 6th-8th Grade

Theme A: Day in the Life: Zoo Crew

Does your camper aspire to work at the Zoo one day? This week at ZooCamp, your middle schooler will interact with members of different departments here on site to see what it takes to become a part of the team.

Theme A Sessions:
- S3: June 19-23
- S5: July 10-14

Theme B Sessions:
- S4: June 26-30
- S6: July 17-21

Theme B: Day in the Life: Wildlife Biologist

What native wildlife live on our property? How does the Zoo help these animals who are not in our care? Explore the habitats outside of the Zoo borders and the creatures that live there by making observations in our natural spaces.