

Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden GROUP PROGRAM MENU

We offer a wide variety of fun educational experiences for individuals or groups that wish to enjoy the zoo. Our programs can be enjoyed at the zoo, or we can come to you.

Classroom Programs

Our most popular outreach program, classroom style programs include a themed lesson that specifically targets learning objectives. They are well suited to a school classroom, but can also be booked at the zoo instead of, or in addition to, interpretation stations (see below).

WHERE: either zoo or your location

FOCUS: select academic content

FORMAT: structured lesson, demonstrations, activities, animal encounters

LENGTH: 45 min.

GROUP SIZE: up to 25

PRICE: At the Zoo: \$2/person (\$50 minimum) + group rate zoo admission;

At your location: \$2/person (\$100 min. up to 2 programs, \$50 min. per addtl. program

Or for 45 min. or more wait period in between programs)

Suggested school programs

K-3

- Animal Appreciation - Learn how to interact with animals.
- Globe Trotters - Learn about animals around the world.
- Jumping Jive! - Explore the different ways animals move.

4-8

- You Are What You Eat - How is an animal's food reflected in its shape?
- Food Webs - Track the flow of energy through animals in an ecosystem.
- Going, Going, Gone - How can you help species are at risk due to human impact?
- Amazing Adaptations - How do animals survive and thrive in their environments?

Scavenger Hunts

Self-guided scavenger hunts are offered to all audiences to enhance the zoo experience. Locate these for download from our website under "Educational Experiences >> Educational Resources".

WHERE: at the zoo

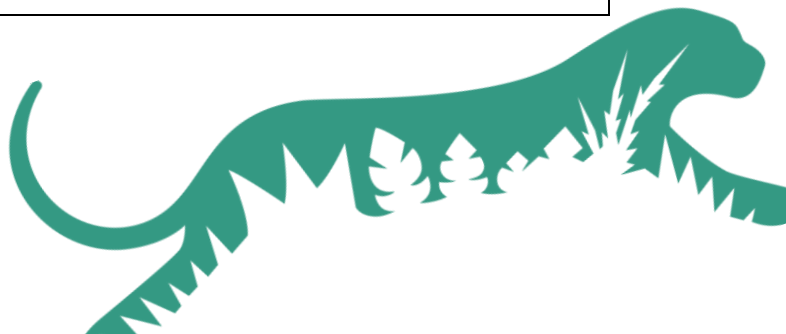
FOCUS: individually interactive learning experience

FORMAT: self-paced, informal experience

LENGTH: varies

GROUP SIZE: any

PRICE: FREE



Animal Encounters

Animal Encounters provides an encounter with our living animal ambassadors and tales of their stories. These encounters are more intimate and more interactive programs for small groups. Larger groups can schedule these, but will need to break into smaller groups and schedule multiple program times.

WHERE: at the zoo or your location

FOCUS: animal experience

FORMAT: informal animal encounters

LENGTH: 30 min.

GROUP SIZE: up to 25

PRICE: At the Zoo: \$2/person (\$50 minimum) + group rate zoo admission;

At your location: \$2/person (\$100 min. for up to 2 programs, \$50 min. per addtl. program
Or for 45 min. or more wait period in between programs.)

Interpretation Stations

Groups visiting the zoo can enjoy wander-through stationed experiences, which can include live animal encounters, interpretation of exhibits, interactive discovery tables, or hands-on activities or other options suited to your group's goals. The stations offer a closer view and more personal interaction, and will enhance the zoo experience for all ages.

WHERE: at the zoo

FOCUS: up close and personal learning experiences

FORMAT: self-paced, wander through, informal experiences, activities, animal encounters

LENGTH: 15 min.

GROUP SIZE: up to 15; larger groups can split and rotate

PRICE: \$2/person (\$25 minimum for each station) + group rate zoo admission

Example of interpretation stations on zoo grounds:

<u>Number of people</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>Stations</u>	<u>Groups rotating</u>
10	25	1	1 group of 10
25	25	1	2 groups of 10-15
50	50	2	4-5 groups of 10-15
75	75	3	5-6 groups of 10-15
100	100	4	7-8 groups of 10-15



Event Zoo Encounters

Zoo Encounters provide a sample of the zoo experience for events, including interactions with live animals and a hands-on discovery table with educational materials. These wander through interactions are perfect for large audiences, company picnics, and community events, where audiences will want to wander among many self-paced activities.

WHERE: at the zoo or your location

FOCUS: educational experiences; interactions with living animals &/or biofacts

FORMAT: self-paced wander through, demonstrations, activities, animal encounters

LENGTH: 1-3 hours

GROUP SIZE: unlimited

PRICE: At the zoo or your location:

Corporate Events: \$150 for 1 hour +\$50 each add'l half hour up to 3 hours (\$350 max.)

Community/ Charity Events: \$100 for 1 hour + \$25 each add'l half hour up to 3 hrs (\$200 max.)

Service trades for events may be possible.

Scout Programs

Scout workshops are offered for many levels to meet targeted badge or pin requirements. Badges or pins are not provided.

Girl Scout Badges:

Daisies: Between Earth & Sky, 3 Cheers for animals

Brownies: A world of Girls & Bugs Badge

Juniors: Legacy Naturalist Flowers Badge, Animal Habitats Badge

Cadettes: Tree Badge

Boy Scout Badges:

Cub Scouts: Wildlife Conservation Pin,

Naturalist Pin: Bird / Insect / Mammal / Reptile Study, Enviro. Science, Plant Science

WHERE: at the zoo

FOCUS: educational experiences that will meet badge requirements

FORMAT: structured lesson, demonstrations, activities, animal encounters

LENGTH: 2 hours

GROUP SIZE: 10 min. and 30 max.; special larger workshops can be arranged

PRICE: \$12/scout; \$5/tag along + group rate zoo admission for all attendees



TO SCHEDULE A PROGRAM

Our unique programs are popular and fill quickly. Please book your program at least 2 weeks in advance. We recommend booking at least 2 months in advance for the best availability, and even earlier if you wish to book a program during the spring - our busiest season.

To book a program at the zoo, visit our website to register your group using the [Group Visit Registration Form](#) online. Your group arrival date will be confirmed immediately, but your educational program is not guaranteed until you receive a confirmation and invoice via email.

To book a program away from the zoo, visit our website to access the [Outreach Registration Form](#) and submit it online. You will be contacted by our staff to discuss and confirm details. Your program is not guaranteed until you receive a confirmation and invoice via email.

For general questions, you can contact the Education Department at (812) 435-0809 or education@meskerparkzoo.com.

GROUP PROGRAM FEES

[Program Prices](#)

Prices quoted for programs on zoo grounds are generally in addition to zoo admission. Group admission rates for groups of 15+ are \$9 for ages 13+, \$8 for youth 3-12, and free for ages under 3. Zoo members always get free admission, as do youth group paid staff, teachers, and bus drivers. Adults are not charged for youth programs on or off zoo grounds.

[After Hours](#)

Programs scheduled outside of regular zoo hours (9 a.m.- 5 p.m. daily), require a \$25 surcharge.

[Mileage](#)

Prices for programs away from zoo grounds require a mileage fee if the program will be more than 20 miles from the Zoo. This covers travel time and expense outside of our normal service area. The mileage fee is \$1/one way mile (\$.50 /round trip miles) after 20 miles.

To calculate mileage fee-

The Zoo is located at 1545 Mesker Park Dr. Evansville, Indiana 47712. Map the Zoo from your location to get mileage one way. Subtract 20 miles. Multiply the remaining miles x \$1. This is the total mileage fee for the program travel, round trip.

Example-

Program is requested in Princeton, Indiana. Mileage from the zoo is 30 miles. Calculate: 30 miles - 20 miles (free) = 10 miles with mileage fee. 10 miles x \$1/mile = \$10 total mileage fee, roundtrip.

