



PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
215-243-1100
philadelphiazoo.org

Thank you for inviting Zoo on Wheels to your Birthday Party!

Enclosed in this packet, you will find information about your party, including our requirements for live animal presentations, frequently asked questions and animal request form. Please feel free to contact us if you have questions or concerns.

You will receive an email confirmation with details of your program one week prior to your party. Please read this carefully as the information enclosed is important to ensure that everything runs smoothly. **We ask that you respond to this email to confirm receipt. You may also call the Zoo on Wheels hotline at 215-243-5353 to confirm receipt.**

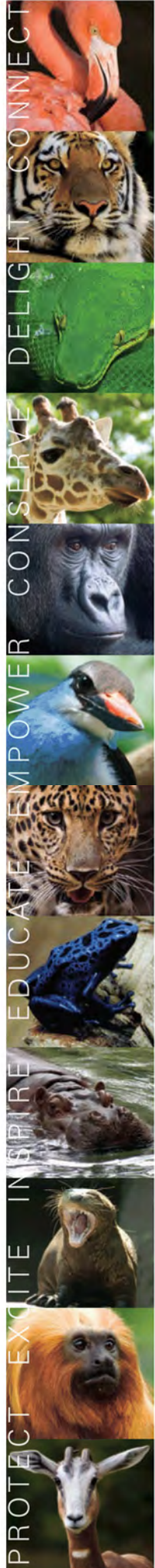
Approximately one week after your program, you will receive an email with a link to an online survey. We love feedback because it helps us improve programs in the future, so please respond and let us know how things went.

Thank you from the entire Zoo on Wheels Team!

Philadelphia Zoo

215-243-5353

Zoonwheels@phillyzoo.org



Philadelphia Zoo on Wheels Requirements for Live Animal Presentations

The Philadelphia Zoo is committed to the highest standards of animal care and presentation. Please carefully review this document about our basic requirements for animal presentations. This protocol have been developed by the Philadelphia Zoo in accordance with veterinary requirements, State and National permits and standards for accreditation set by the Association for Zoos and Aquariums.

Administrative Requirements

Please provide the name and cell phone number of a responsible person who will be onsite and available to assist on the day of your program. Clients will not be permitted to assist with transport of live animals.

Zoo on Wheels uses GPS units for directions to your home. Please provide us with information about road closures, detours and where to park and enter your program location.

Animals can be presented at a public institution, school or corporation. We require additional staff for programs at a private residence or other public spaces and reserve the right to pass this cost along to the client.

Live Animal and Veterinary Requirements

Please provide animals and staff access to fresh water.

A long table (6 or 8 ft. standard table is best). The table should be sturdy enough to hold heavy objects (up to 50 lbs.). The area behind the table should be inaccessible to all but Zoo staff. This space is used to store carriers, artifacts and sensitive AV equipment.

One approximately 10'x10' ft open space with plenty of room for guests to view animals at a safe distance.

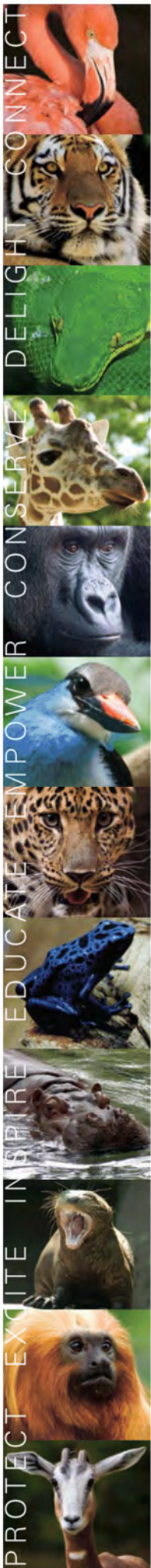
Animals can be presented in an outdoor shaded area (weather permitting) between the months of May and September.

Parking for the Zoo on Wheels vehicle within 100 yards of your location.

Animals must be kept at a safe distance from any hazards, including unruly crowds, amplified music or excessive temperatures.

If there are live animals at your facility or home (this includes all household pets) they must be secured in a separate location away from the Philadelphia Zoo on Wheels animals.

A secure, temperature-controlled space for animals to rest if there is a layover or long break period between presentations.





PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
215-243-1100
philadelphiazoo.org

Great Green Birthday Party

This 90 minute, ultimate ecofriendly party features animal ambassadors from the Philadelphia Zoo! Should you choose this party, you will assist us in our mission to help animals, one party at a time! Your birthday child will become a true ZOOPER hero and along with their guests will complete activities that will help save animals across the globe.

Traveling Naturalists arrive 15-20 minutes before your party time to introduce themselves to the party child, set up and secure animals in the quiet room.

Itinerary

Face Painting:

Upon arrival, guests are invited to have their faces painted by our Traveling Naturalists. Guests can choose a design from our sample sheet. All face paints are easily removed with soap and water.

Zoo Games and Songs:

Traveling Naturalists dive right into their bag of tricks and engage children in Zoo songs, game and interactive activities. Since this is a transition activity between face painting and animal presentation, specific games vary depending on time, space and age of children.

Birthday Present:

Traveling Naturalists present the birthday child with their very own birthday gift (a Zoo on Wheels T-shirt) from their friends at the Philadelphia Zoo. This cotton Zoo on Wheels T-shirt is available in youth and adult sizes. Additional T-shirts can be purchased in advance for \$10 each. Additional gifts are available through the Zoo's retail shop online.

Animal Presentation:

The highlight of your Zoo on Wheels Birthday party! Four live animals, touchable artifacts and a lively presentation.

Craft Activity*:

Each child will make a take-home critter craft made from recycled materials. *We recommend that if you are providing birthday cake or food for your guests, to do this AFTER the craft activity*

Goodbyes:

Traveling Naturalists give party favors to the host and settle any additional paperwork, payment for additional guests, etc.

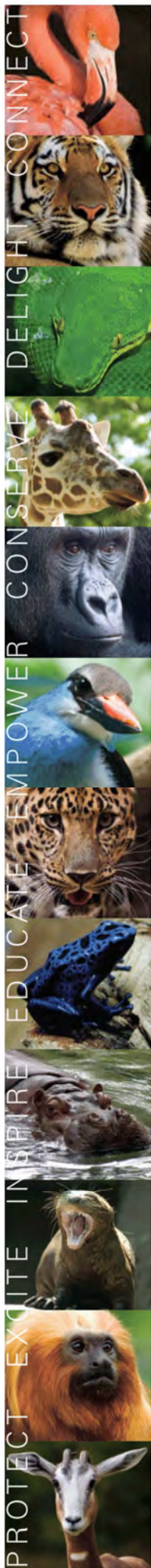
Great Green Birthday Parties include an eco-friendly gift for the birthday boy or girl, eco-friendly party favors for each guest containing one free Zoo general admission ticket and of course, lots of fun!

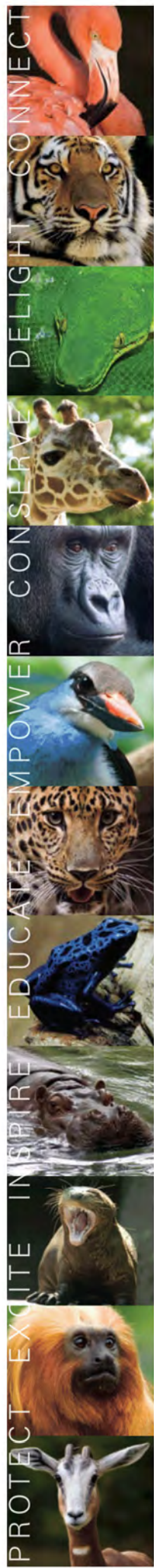
\$425 for Zoo Members, \$450 for non-members.

Cost includes 12 guests; additional guests may be added for \$10 each.

Maximum 25 guests per party.

Additional mileage fee based on your distance from the zoo.





PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
215-243-1100
philadelphiazoo.org

Zooper Hero Live Animal Show

Choose this party and you will experience the best part of zoo on wheels...live animals! This 60 minute presentation includes a live animal show, question and answers session and eco-friendly gift for the birthday boy or girl.

Animal Presentation

The highlight of your Zoo on Wheels Birthday party! Four live animals, touchable artifacts and a lively presentation.

Birthday Present

Traveling Naturalists present the birthday child with their very own birthday gift (a Zoo on Wheels T-shirt) from their friends at the Philadelphia Zoo. Additional T-shirts can be purchased in advance for \$10 each. Additional gifts through the Zoo's retail shop online.

\$375 for Zoo Members

\$400 for non-members

Includes live animal presentation and a t-shirt for the birthday boy or girl.

Maximum of 40 guests.

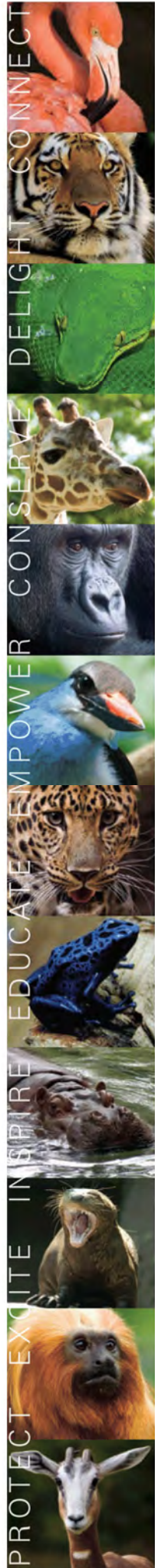
Mileage fee based on your distance from the zoo is included with each party.

Custom Birthday Parties

Are you young at heart? Looking for something different? The zoo realizes that sometimes, one size does NOT fit all! We can create a customized party package for an additional fee. Please contact the Zoo on Wheels hotline for more information at 215-243-5353.

Can't bring the zoo to you?

Share your child's love for animals by hosting their birthday party at the Zoo! Our **Birthday Zoofiesta package** is guaranteed to turn any birthday into an unforgettable experience. Bring your own food or find the convenience and ease of letting ARAMARK cater your party with kid friendly treats. Please contact ARAMARK catering at 215-243-5239 to discuss your menu and menu options. (Please note: the Zoofiesta package does not include the cost of catering). For additional questions call 215-243-5657 or email at Zoofiesta@phillyzoo.org.



PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
215-243-1100
philadelphiazoo.org

Animal Invitations!

We are excited to hear that you're having a birthday party and inviting your closest friends to enjoy Zoo on Wheels!

Zoo on Wheels animal ambassadors are busy, traveling around the Delaware Valley to teach people about animals and what we can do to help them!

Four live animals will come to your party, including a bird, a mammal, a reptile and a surprise animal. Please choose four preferred animals that you would like to invite and we will make sure that at least one of your four choices makes a special appearance.

Please remember that we make every effort to honor requests but we are rarely able to send all four invited animals. We will always send 4 animals and ensure that at least one of your requests is honored.

Suggested animals for 1-to-4 year olds

Birds: duck, chicken, guinea fowl, small parrot, small owl, dove, cockatiel.

Mammals: armadillo, rabbit, hedgehog, rat, sugar glider, short tailed opossum, chinchilla (*chinchilla not available for summer outdoor programs*).

Reptiles: snake, lizard, box turtle, tortoise.

Misc: Madagascar hissing cockroaches, frog

Suggested animals for 5-to-8 year olds.

Birds: small/medium parrot, small owl, duck, chicken, dove, cockatiel

Mammals: armadillo, rabbit, hedgehog, sugar glider, short tailed opossum, chinchilla (*chinchilla not available for summer outdoor programs*).

Misc: Madagascar hissing cockroach, frog

Suggested animals for 9-to-12 year olds

Birds: small/medium parrot, macaw, kestrel, small/medium owl, small hawk, dove

Mammals: armadillo, rabbit, hedgehog, chinchilla (not available for outdoor summer programs).

Reptile: snake, lizard, tortoise

Misc: Madagascar hissing cockroach, frog

Animal invitations can be submitted to:

Zoonwheels@phillyzoo.org

215-243-5353.

Frequently Asked Questions

What if my child is under 4 years old?

We recommend Zoo on Wheels birthday parties for children 4 and above. If you child is under 4 but the other children are older, please let us know in advance. We can also customize a party for children under 4 years old.

What type of vehicle do you drive?

A Honda Element or other non-commercial sized vehicle.

How do I pay for the party?

Full payment is due at the time of booking and we accept all major credit cards. Payment for additional children (maximum 25 children) can be made on the day of the program by check or credit card.

Should I tip the staff?

Zoo on Wheels is an educational program and our staff is instructed not to accept gratuities. Any additional funds will be donated to our Footprints program to help plant trees and offset our carbon footprint. You can find out more about this program on our website.

What time will you arrive?

Traveling Naturalists arrive 15-20 minutes before the party to set up for your program. In the event that they encounter traffic, we will contact you with an estimated arrival time.

What animals will come to my home?

Small to medium sized program animals that are handled by trained Zoo on Wheels staff. We do not travel with large carnivores or primates.

Will you present a Zoo on Wheels birthday party at my child's school?

Yes! We do birthday parties at schools, YMCAs and other venues. We require contact information for your child's school or teacher.

Are we going to be touching live animals?

There are many touchable animals in our collection, such as rabbits, chinchillas, ducks, chickens and Madagascar hissing cockroaches. Typically, larger and more exotic animals are not touchable. Guests should follow the Traveling Naturalists instructions to ensure the safety of people and animals. The Traveling Naturalist may elect to have the audience touch artifacts rather than animals at any time.

Do you present animals outdoors?

We can do outdoor presentations (weather permitting) in a shaded area between the months of May and September. The Traveling Naturalist may elect to present animals indoors if outdoor conditions are not favorable. Generally, we require outdoor temperatures to be 70-80°F.

Do I need to provide directions?

Our staff uses GPS units for directions. Please provide details that may be helpful to our staff (i.e., proper entrance to use, information about any detours, or road closures).

Should I call to confirm my program?

The Zoo on Wheels team will email FINAL confirmation one week prior to your program. We do require a response to ensure that you received it and that the details are correct. Please reply to the email or call the Zoo on Wheels office at 215-243-5353 to confirm receipt.





PHILADELPHIA ZOO

3400 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
215-243-1100
philadelphiazoo.org

Zoo on Wheels Birthday Party Checklist

What do I need to get ready for the party at my house?

- ✓ A temperature-controlled, quiet and secure area to rest animals while our staff is doing face painting and activities. Suggested places are a spare bedroom, laundry room or basement storage area.
- ✓ A table and four chairs for face painting and the animal show.
- ✓ All household pets must be secured in a separate location during the entire time of the party. This is a veterinary and safety requirement to protect both your pets and our collection animals.
- ✓ Parking for the Zoo on Wheels vehicle within 100 yards of your home.

Want to take it a step further?

Tips for **GREENING** your Birthday Party!

Save paper! (and avoid writers' cramp!) by sending out invitations via email.

Be a smart shopper! Purchase plates, cups and utensils that are made from biodegradable materials that can be composted. These items are now readily available at many stores or can be purchased online.

Plant a Tree! Encourage your guests to plant a tree to help offset their carbon footprint in lieu of gifts. Trees turn carbon dioxide into fresh air for animals and people to breathe! Planting a tree can save up to 5,000 lbs of carbon a year! You can calculate your carbon footprint by logging onto the Philadelphia Zoo's website:

<http://www.philadelphiazoo.org/phila/Conservation---Travel/Calculate-Your-Carbon-Footprint.htm>

Buy Local! Snacks and gifts that are made locally help to support your local economy and travel shorter distances, resulting in fewer carbon emissions.

Choose Organic! Organic foods do not use chemicals that can harm the environment.

Get Outside! Host your party outdoors to reduce the amount of heating and cooling for your guests! This also makes clean-up much easier!

Consider adopting an animal from the Philadelphia Zoo!

Animals Depend on People Too! By ADOPTing a Zoo animal, you share your love for animals by helping ours receive the best possible care. As an ADOPT parent, your child will receive a certificate of parentage, fact sheet, color photo, an invitation for two to ADOPT day the first Saturday of October! For questions or to find out more call 215-ADOPT-ME or email at ADOPT@phillyzoo.org. [ADOPT an Animal TODAY!](#)

