

## Frequently Asked Questions

# Zoo On Wheels and Little Zoo on Wheels

### ***What type of vehicle to you drive?***

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 or purchase order.

### ***What time will you arrive?***

Traveling naturalists arrive 15-20 minutes early to set up for their program. In the event that they encounter traffic, we will contact you with estimated arrival time.

### ***Can I have a Zoo on Wheels or Little Zoo on Wheels show in my home?***

Zoo on Wheels and Little Zoo on Wheels programs are designed for the school or institutional setting. We recommend Zoo on Wheels birthday or Zoo on Wheels custom party programs for programs in your private residence.

### ***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 and teacher.

### ***Do you take requests?***

Little Zoo on Wheels and Zoo on Wheels programs utilize different animals depending on topic. (ie: Outrageous Reptiles features 4 live reptiles and Radical Rainforest features species indigenous to rainforest habitats). We can usually accommodate specific requests from the teacher or school administrator to meet the needs of your students.

### ***Are we going to be touching live animals?***

We bring touchable animals such as rabbits, chinchillas, ducks and chickens for Little Zoo on Wheels and Tiny Tots programming. This creates a positive learning environment for early learners who need tactile stimulation and explore their world through touch and smell. Generally speaking, larger and more exotic animals like birds of prey, parrots and porcupines are not touchable and these animals go out to larger and older audiences. In all school programs, we bring animal artifacts and biofacts that can be touched by students.

Guests should follow the naturalists' instructions to ensure the safety of people and animals. The naturalist may elect to have the audience touch artifacts rather than animals at any time.

### ***Do you present animals outdoors?***

We may do outdoor presentations in a shaded area during the months of May-September, weather permitting. The traveling naturalist may elect to present animals indoors if the outdoor conditions are not favorable. In general, we require outdoor temperatures between 70-85 degrees.

### ***What do I need to have ready at my school for Zoo on Wheels?***

- 6 or 8 foot long table for presentation.
- Approximately 6-10 feet buffer space between audience and presenter for Zoo on Wheels, 4-5 ft buffer for Little Zoo on Wheels.
- Parking for the Zoo on Wheels vehicle (medium sized passenger vehicle) within 100 yards of your school.
- Adequate teacher supervision for all classes attending the program.
- If you have students with special needs, please let us know in advance so that we can effectively reach all of your students. Many of our educators are trained presenting animals to special needs audiences.
- Name and cell phone number of a contact person who will be onsite on the day of the program.

***Why do I need to provide directions?***

Our staff utilizes GPS units and Mapquest directions. Please provide details that may be helpful for our educators (ie: proper entrance to use, information about 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 require a response to ensure that you received it and all details are correct. Please reply to the email or call the Zoo on Wheels office at 215-243-5353 to confirm receipt.

***What to do in inclement weather?***

In the event that inclement weather is predicted, please provide a contact number to the Zoo on Wheels team so that we may confirm that your site will be open. If the zoo is closed due to inclement weather, we will reschedule your program at no additional charge within the same school year.

***Do you provide pre and post materials for teachers?***

We include supplementary materials for teachers in your confirmation packet. Additional materials can be found in the “Teachers Lounge” section of our website.

[www.phillyzoo.org](http://www.phillyzoo.org).

***Do your classes meet academic standards?***

We address state standards for biology, environmental science and other subjects in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. Please see the education guide for specific standards that are addresses in each lesson.

***Do you have proof of insurance and wildlife permits?***

All educators travel with a certificate of liability for the Philadelphia Zoo, Health Permits for traveling animals and necessary permits for animals being presented in PA, NJ and DE.