

FIELD TRIP GUIDE



presented by



THANK YOU...

For bringing your school group to the Oregon Zoo. This guide is intended to help make your field trip the best experience possible.

Please review and if you have any questions or need to change your field trip date please call the Admissions Office at **503-226-1567** or email **schoolgroups@oregonzoo.org**



BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

Teachers will be sent a wristband for every paid admission. Make sure students, chaperones and teachers have a wristband and are wearing it before arriving at the zoo.

Wristbands are valid only on the day of your scheduled field trip and are non-refundable.

Additional tickets may be purchased online at the school group rate up until two weeks before your scheduled field trip or the order is paid in full. After this but before the day of your field trip, additional tickets may be purchased, if space is available, at the school group rate by calling the Admissions Office at 503-226-1567. **School rates are not available day of your visit. Admissions purchased on the day of your field trip will be offered at \$14.36 for adults and \$10.36 for youth 3-11.**

Chaperone Info - Prepare chaperones to lead their assigned students before you leave your classroom.

Bus Driver Info - Please make sure the bus driver knows where to unload/load the buses.

September–March: Buses unload and load at the main gate

April–June: Buses unload at Gate E and load at the main gate

Additional information for bus drivers can be found at **bit.ly/zoobusdriver**

Remember—parking of buses in zoo lots is not permitted. To avoid bus congestion, consider riding MAX to the zoo. For information contact TriMet at **trimet.org** or **503-238-7433**.

Emergency Info - Be sure to bring student emergency contact information.

Field Trip Activity Guide - Print out one of the fun-filled guides to enhance your students' experience. Go to **oregonzoo.org/field-trips**; scroll down to step 6 for a complete listing.

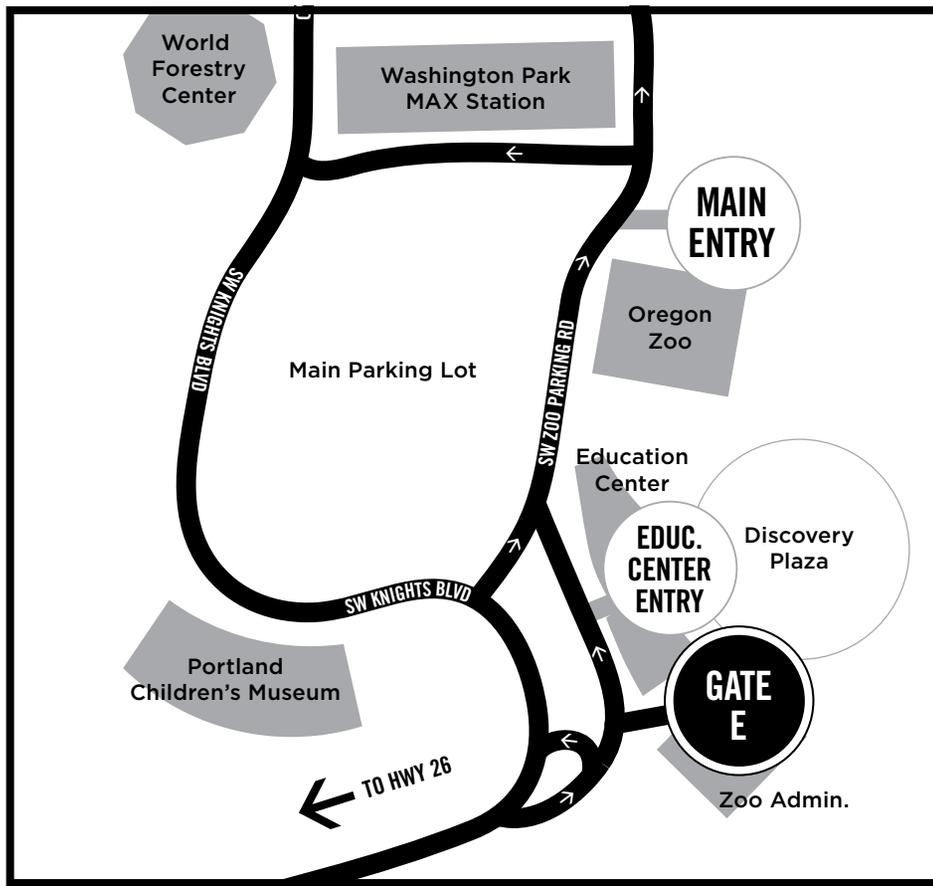
Parking - Parking is limited and space cannot be guaranteed. Remind anyone parking their personal vehicle at the zoo that they will need to pay for parking. Go to **washingtonparkpdx.org** to get updated information.

Lunches - Space for lunch storage is limited. For convenience, consider having students or chaperones carry lunches in a backpack.

WHEN YOU GET HERE

- Unload your bus and proceed quickly to the appropriate entry gate. See map for details.
- If you need to purchase additional admission, please have one person go to the ticket window to purchase them. **Remember: The school group rate is NOT available on the day of your field trip. Admissions purchased on the day of your field trip will be offered at \$14.36 for adults and \$10.36 for youth 3-11.**

Note: Membership benefits are only valid at the zoo's main gate.



RESOURCES TO MAKE YOUR TRIP MORE EDUCATIONAL

Zoo School

Make the most of your visit. Join education staff in one of the zoo's classrooms for hands-on activities and animal presentations. Then take your new knowledge out on the zoo grounds for your own self-guided safari. **A separate fee is charged for all Zoo School presentations.** Visit our website at oregonzoo.org/zooschool or call **503-220-2781** for class descriptions and pricing information (must be booked two weeks in advance). Payment is separate from field trip tickets.

Field trip activity guides

These handy guides help your chaperones get the most out of your visit. Guides offer a variety of themes with guided discovery activities aligned to core academic standards to use as you travel around the zoo. Download from the zoo's website at oregonzoo.org/field-trips.

For current events and/or programs visit:

oregonzoo.org/today

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

In the event of an emergency, first aid need or lost student, call the zoo's emergency number at **503-505-5454** or ask any uniformed employee for assistance. Lost student should be instructed to do this as well. Please have a complete clothing and appearance description of the lost student.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Lunches

Does the zoo offer school lunches?

YES, the zoo offers school lunches. You can choose from two options—turkey or cheese sandwich. Each includes potato chips and milk. The cost is \$5.50/each. Lunches must be ordered online 5 days in advance.

Where do I pick up my pre-ordered lunches?

Lunches can be picked up at the AfriCafe at your pre-scheduled time.

Can my students purchase a lunch on-site?

YES, you also can purchase items ala carte at one of our concession stands on the day of your visit. Please allow extra time to purchase food on-site.

Is there a place to store our lunches if my students bring their own?

YES, there are shelves available on a first-come, first-served basis in Elephant Plaza and behind Coffee Crossing. They are not lockable. If you choose to pack your own lunches, please be aware that the zoo has limited availability for group lunch storage. The zoo cannot guarantee a storage area will be available, so be prepared with alternative arrangements for managing lunches.

Can you help us transport our lunches?

NO, but you may rent a stroller at our gift shop.

Where can we eat our lunches? Are there covered areas?

You can eat lunch on the concert lawn, Elephant Plaza and at Congo Ranger Station in Africa Rainforest, but please note these areas may or may not be covered or equipped with picnic tables or benches. Be prepared for an outdoor dining experience. Please help us keep our exhibit areas open for viewing by not having your group eat at or in close proximity to animal exhibits or in the main walkways.

Tickets

May I purchase additional tickets at the school group rate the day of my visit?

NO. The school group rate is NOT available on the day of your field trip. Admissions purchased on the day of your field trip will be offered at \$14.36 for adults and \$10.36 for children 3-11.

If I have unused tickets at the end of the day, can I get a refund?

NO. Unused admissions (wristbands) are non-refundable.

Can parents use their zoo membership for trip admission?

NO. This special offer cannot be combined with member benefits.

Chaperones

Are teachers considered chaperones?

YES, teachers are chaperones and need paid wristbands.

Can bus drivers be chaperones?

NO, bus drivers cannot be chaperones since they are required to park off-site.

Do chaperones have to stay with students on the zoo grounds?

YES, students must be chaperoned all times (including in the gift shop).

I have students that are over 18 years old, can they be chaperones?

NO, high school students cannot be chaperones for other students.

Parking

Do chaperones parking their personal cars at the zoo need to pay for parking?

YES, all guests who park at the zoo will be required to pay for parking. For more information visit: washingtonparkpdx.org

Are chaperones guaranteed a parking space when they drive their personal cars to the zoo?

NO. Parking is limited and available on a first-come, first served basis. During the spring, the parking lot often fills by 10:00am. Don't be caught off-guard, plan accordingly.

Lost students

What should we do if we lose a child?

Contact a zoo employee. Instruct your students to look for a uniformed zoo employee if they get separated from their group.

Buses

Why can't buses park at the zoo?

Unfortunately, there is not adequate space for every bus. In fairness to all schools and our neighboring facilities, the Children's Museum and World Forestry Center, we can't allow buses to park on-site.

Gift Shop

May my students visit the gift shop?

YES, but they must be accompanied by a chaperone (one adult for eight students). Large bags and backpacks are not allowed in the shop.

GUIDELINES FOR CHAPERONES

Respect our animals, the zoo grounds and other visitors.

Please remind students to:

- take turns watching the animals;
- keep voices low;
- walk rather than run;
- keep food and other objects out of the exhibit;
- write only on appropriate surfaces;
- and deposit unwanted items into the trash or recycling bin.

Encourage curiosity and exploration. Help your students learn and explore by asking questions that keep them involved; responding positively to their answers and ideas; and encouraging them to learn by observing.

Demonstrate appropriate behavior. Students learn by copying your behavior. Modeling appropriate behavior and attitude is the most powerful type of teaching.

Keep students focused. Make sure students are participating in activities, and gently redirect them if they are having trouble focusing.

Keep the group together. Chaperones are expected to stay with their group at all times, regardless of student age and independence.



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