

JOHN BALL ZOO NEWS

March 2020

Spring and Summer Camp Edition



NEW | Bricks!
Meerkats
Entry Valley



JOHN BALL ZOO NEWS

Volume 37 Issue No. 1
March 2020

Mission Statement:

We inspire our community to be actively engaged in the conservation of wildlife and our natural environment.

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**ASSOCIATION
OF ZOOS &
AQUARIUMS**



MARCH 2020

DEAR FRIENDS,

What an exciting season we are about to embark on in 2020! I can hardly wait for you and other guests to see and enjoy the amazing transformations, experiences, programs, and events we have planned.

With a focus on conservation, we have built a first in the nation meerkat habitat that is SITES centered. By building a meerkat habitat to SITES certification, we are reducing water demand, filtering and reducing storm water runoff, providing wildlife habitat, reducing energy consumption, improving air quality, improving human health and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities

Our goal is to be certified in spring 2020 with SITES' Gold Certification. This certification will make John Ball Zoo the first zoo in the country to receive this and the first 2.0 v SITES in Michigan!

We are also pleased to have added a Conservation Manager to the team who is dedicated to championing and growing these efforts at the Zoo, in the Great Lakes region, and around the world. John Ball Zoo has a stated long-term goal that 3% of total revenue will support field conservation work. In 2020, we will be contributing more than \$200,000 towards this work with a minimum of 51% going towards conservation efforts in the Great Lakes region.

Along with the inclusively designed playground that was completed last fall, we are excited for guests to be greeted with a new entry with a gently curving, inclusively designed entry valley pathway! This will eliminate the steep hill guests faced when first entering the Zoo, and will make the Zoo more accessible for everyone.

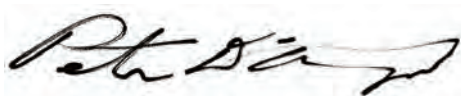
I'm proud of our team as this project is currently the first and only commercially registered Living Building Challenge project in Michigan.

Arriving May 1st is BRICKLIVE Animal Paradise. This amazing exhibit features more than 40 life-sized animal sculptures created with building bricks. These sculptures of endangered animals will not only entertain but also educate children and families about the importance of the preservation of endangered species.

And, we hope you are making plans to join us on Friday, June 12th for RendeZoo. While enjoying a fun evening of music, a cash bar and a silent auction, get your taste buds ready for a special strolling dinner provided by local restaurants and caterers!

We look forward to seeing you at John Ball Zoo this season because all of these wonderful endeavors would not be possible without your generous support!

Sincerely,



PETER D'ARIENZO

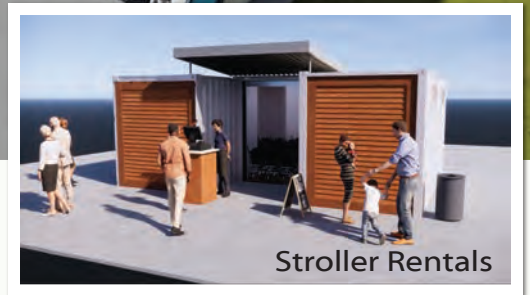
Chief Executive Officer



YOUR ZOO... A ZOO FOR ALL



Tickets and Guest Services



Stroller Rentals

We are excited for this upcoming season as guests will be greeted with a new entry with a gently curving, inclusively designed pathway! This will eliminate the steep hill guests faced when first entering the Zoo, and will make the Zoo more accessible for everyone.

Along with the new pathway, guests will also be greeted with a new admission and guest services building, restrooms with two family restrooms and a respite room, along with a new concessions location. Some favorites have remained including the iconic John Ball statue, Gifts of the Wild Gift Shop and the lower depot for the funicular.

The first phase of this project has many vital improvements though that you won't see. These vital investments will help our conservation efforts in the collection and reuse of storm water run-off, and improve our infrastructure as we prepare for future animal habitats.

The overall entry valley project is designed and constructed with the goal of achieving the Living Building Challenge commercial certification. Many are familiar with LEED certification that has a 'do less harm' objective, while a Living Building Challenge (LBC) certification has a 'fix the damage' objective.





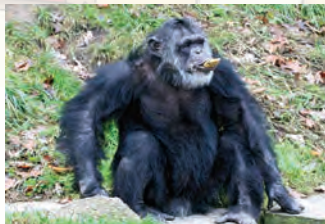
LIVING BUILDING CHALLENGESM

LBC is the world's most rigorous green building standard. It is a holistic approach to building that requires life cycle impact of design, construction and operation. It focuses on regenerative design maximizing the positive impacts to place, community and culture. For example, the materials from the leveled former guests services building must either be reused, salvaged or recycled. Not a single drop can end up in a landfill!

This project at John Ball Zoo is currently the first and only commercially registered Living Building Challenge project in Michigan.

One of this project's major highlights is the ability to manage a 100 year rain event. Our goal is to divert storm water coming from the Zoo where it will be filtered to remove oil, debris and sediment. This water will then replenish the Zoo's pond, where in the past city water was used to maintain its level.

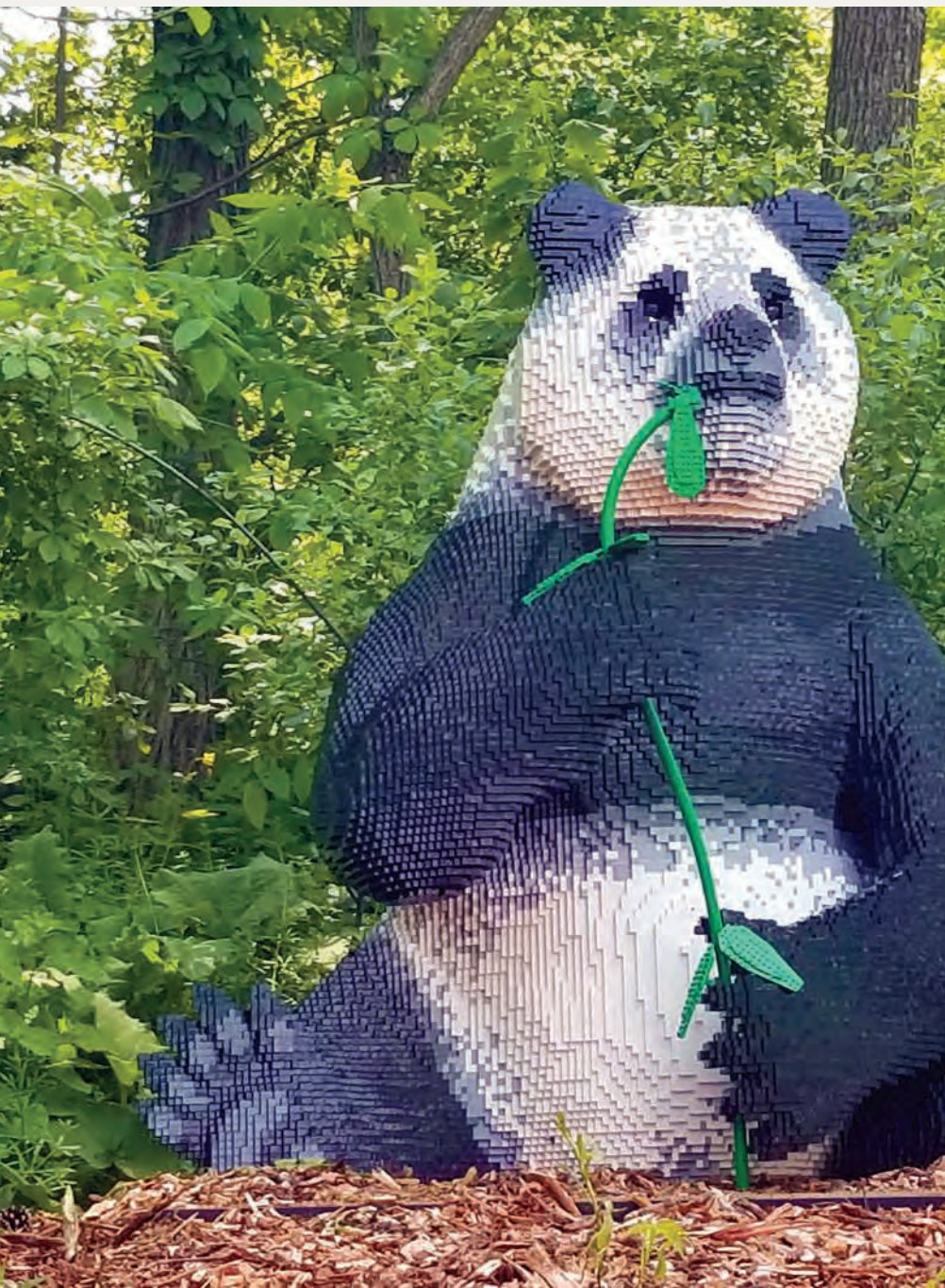
This new entry valley is the last major pathway of the Zoo to become inclusively designed and ADA accessible while continuing in our mission to create a Zoo for all.




Opening Day APRIL 3

With so many exciting things happening in 2020, we can hardly wait for the opening day of the 2020 season on Friday, April 3rd!

With the start of Spring Break for many, make plans for a visit to see the Zoo. You'll be greeted by our new inclusively designed front entry valley. You can then make your way through the Zoo to visit the chimpanzees, African lions, red pandas, and all of the Zoo's animal family! We are excited to greet you!



BRICKLIVE[™]
ANIMAL PARADISE



trumpeting elephant, a leaping dolphin, a majestic giraffe – these are animals you might not expect to see on a visit to John Ball Zoo. However, this summer, guests will have the chance to see these animals in an entirely different and unique way at BRICKLIVE Animal Paradise.

We are excited to bring this international traveling exhibit to Michigan. The exhibit, which opens May 1 and continues through September 7, features more than 40 life-sized animal sculptures created with over 1.8 million individually colored building bricks. The life-sized giraffe sculpture alone took over 96,000 building bricks to construct and measures over 12 feet tall.

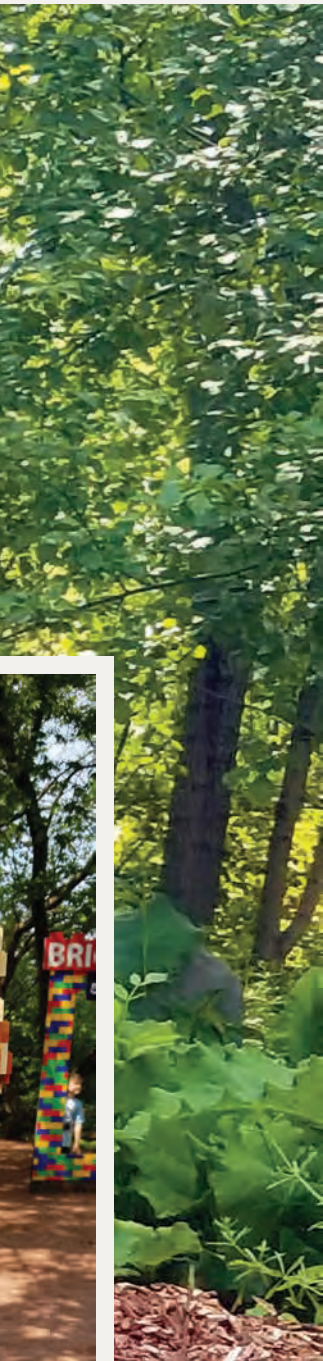
The exhibition of sculptures will be located throughout the Zoo for guests to enjoy. Along with sculptures of animals not at John Ball Zoo, there are many Zoo favorites like the African lion, snow leopard, and ring-tailed lemur. After checking out these amazing sculptures, guests can then visit their live counterparts who reside at the Zoo.

BRICKLIVE Animal Paradise features sculptures of endangered animals to not only entertain but also educate children and families about the importance of preserving endangered species.

The world's wildlife has sadly declined in the last generation. Oceans, ice caps, jungles, rivers and forests are struggling to cope with the growing pressure upon them. With the ongoing environmental threats in the world we live in, BRICKLIVE Animal Paradise brings important animal and habitat facts and statistics to life in a fun brick built environment.

This exhibition will allow our guests the opportunity for a S.T.E.A.M (science, technology, engineering, art and math) experience. This unique approach to learning and education inspires children to become creators, thinkers, problem solvers, doers, innovators and inventors. The sculptures will also feature facts such as the size of each sculpture, how many bricks were used, and the amount of time it took to create.

To commemorate a visit to BRICKLIVE Animal Paradise, guests can take a selfie in the Safari Jeep created from building bricks or behind a life-size photo frame. You can also visit our gift shop or retail stand near the Aquarium to purchase building bricks to take home. At the retail stand, there will be two brick play tables where kids can build whatever their imagination inspires!



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New to John Ball Zoo in 2020 is our Conservation Circle!

Donors who support the mission of the Zoo at \$500, or more, annually will be offered opportunities to experience the Zoo in new and meaningful ways! Including exclusive Conservation Circle events, a membership to the Zoo and much more!

For more information, please contact Maggie Smitt, Donor Relations and Stewardship Coordinator, at 616.336.3309 or msmitt@jbzoo.org.

PICNICS & PARTIES

**The Zoo is your playground!
Rent the whole Zoo.**

Want a unique experience for your corporate picnic or event? After hours on summer evenings, you can rent the Zoo with animals, experiences, facilities and food! Our experienced staff will help you host a memorable event for you and your guests.



Let us cater a picnic for you!

Planning a reunion, company picnic, family celebration or church outing at John Ball Zoo or Park this summer? We offer group discounts and can accommodate groups from 25 to 1,000+.

Let us prepare the food! We can cater for large or small groups. From boxed lunches to hot off the grill dogs and hamburgers, we'll make it easy and delicious!

For more information, email facilityrental@jbzoo.org or call 616-336-4307.



Animal SPONSORSHIP

Help care for animals at John Ball Zoo and animals around the world with an animal sponsorship!

Visit jbzoo.org/support/animalsponsorship to see all the benefits and options.

RENDEZOO2020

A WILDLIFE CELEBRATION!

What a wild ride the last 30 years of RendeZoo have been!

As the Zoo's largest fundraiser of the year, we are excited to introduce some innovative changes to this classic favorite.

Enjoy the fun summer evening you've come to expect with music and entertainment, a cash bar and the popular silent auction. Plus, get your taste buds ready for a special strolling dinner provided by local restaurants and caterers. As a beloved community organization for more than 125 years, we hope you will join us in celebration of wildlife and our environment.

Your support helps us meet our greatest needs and strengthen our core values; Conservation, Education, Community, and Celebrate. For more information, please visit jbzoo.org/rendezoo or contact Katie Kawall at kkawall@jbzoo.org.

PLEASE NOTE: In the last Zoo News, we had the incorrect date for RendeZoo 2020. Please change those calendar holds for **Friday, June 12th**. It will be a wild party!



FRIDAY **JUNE 12**



We are super excited to have meerkats join the Zoo family. This season you will not only see and learn about these socially dynamic animals, you will also experience them in a habitat that is unique to Zoos in America.

The habitat creates an awesome viewing of the meerkats and their habitat partner the African cape porcupine, but what you don't see or recognize is what makes the meerkat's habitat unique.

With a focus on our pillar of conservation, John Ball Zoo designed and built a habitat that is SITES centered. If you're not in the construction world, you might wonder what that means.

Our goal is to be certified in spring 2020 with SITES' Gold Certification. This certification will make John Ball Zoo the first Zoo in the country to receive this and the first 2.0 v SITES in Michigan!



The Sustainable SITES Initiative is a comprehensive rating system for developing sustainable landscapes, similar to LEED. By building a meerkat habitat to SITES certification, we are reducing water demand, filtering and reducing storm water runoff, providing wildlife habitat, reducing energy consumption, improving air quality, improving human health and increasing outdoor recreation opportunities.

We are achieving these through manual irrigation on an as-needed basis using 100% native plantings. Some of the plants are growing from locally harvested seeds from Plaster Creek Stewards. We are utilizing rain gardens and leaching basins for storm water. Along with being aesthetically appealing, we have also installed a green roof and solar panels on the canopy to offset outdoor lighting needs. And, whenever possible built with recycled content. Plus, there are no CO2 emissions through the use of an ERV (Energy Recovery Ventilation unit).

This innovative habitat also integrates play for children to mimic meerkat behavior, along with a pathway that is accessible.

Thank you to our donors and supporters who helped make this environmentally innovative habitat a reality!



MEERKATS

A FIRST IN THE NATION HABITAT



JUMP

EVOLVING & GROWING

In 1998, the John Ball Zoo JUMP program was piloted and has since welcomed thousands of families to the Zoo.

Ruth Jones, a former John Ball Zoo board member and principal for Grand Rapids Public Schools, founded the program in an effort to make the Zoo accessible to families regardless of income. All while encouraging an enriching, educational, and cultural experience.

The JUMP program helps remove financial barriers families may face by providing free admission to John Ball Zoo, opportunities for meaningful family experiences, unstructured play and fun, and interactive learning that we hope will seed a life-long love for nature and wildlife.

JUMP has gone through several iterations since it started in 1998. Initially it focused on providing free admission to families of school-aged children in Kent County who qualified for the Free and Reduced Federal Lunch Program.

From there, the program expanded to Ottawa and Allegan counties through the support of new, generous donors in those regions. During this time, the distribution of JUMP was primarily done by providing passes directly to schools in these counties which were then disbursed to qualifying children and families. At the height of this model, JBZ saw more than 48,000 individuals attend for free.

In 2017-18, the JUMP program further evolved by streaming the distribution of JUMP passes to those who qualified. Passes were mailed to homes in Kent, Ottawa and Allegan counties of qualifying families. In 2019, approximately 22,000 individuals attended with a JUMP pass.

Earlier this year, we had the opportunity to engage with nineteen nonprofits and cultural organizations throughout West Michigan, along with thirty-seven other AZA-accredited organizations, to identify opportunities for improvement. Through this work, we learned that there were many unintended barriers to providing accessibility. Examples include language and culture, homelessness (3,471 homeless children in Kent County alone), changes to home environments through a school year, and increasing distribution costs. In addition, families without children, those who are not yet school aged, and senior citizens were all excluded from the previous JUMP program model.

We are excited to announce that in 2020 we are making an exciting change to the JUMP program as a way to enhance the accessibility of John Ball Zoo for all families. This year John Ball Zoo will provide free admission to anyone who possess a MI Bridges Card in the State of Michigan, and up to nine family members.

In today's numbers, a family of four whose household income is \$33,000 per year or less qualifies for MI Bridges benefits. This next evolution of the JUMP program is a significant step toward a world where anyone who chooses to can experience the joy, magic, and education that comes from visiting John Ball Zoo and fulfilling the vision of JUMP founder Ruth Jones.

**Thank you to all who have supported this important program over the more than 20 years since its beginning.
Thank you for sharing the joy of the Zoo with our families and communities!**



MEET BILL

We are excited to announce the addition of a Conservation Manager to the John Ball Zoo team! While the position is new, the person is a familiar face at the Zoo. Many of you know Bill Flanagan as one of the Zoo's Area Curators and he has now transitioned to become the Zoo's first Conservation Manager.



Bill (right) doing fieldwork for copper-bellied watersnakes with Greg Lipps, Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Coordinator for the Ohio Biodiversity Conservation Partnership at Ohio State University.



Bill is showing a baby turtle hatched on Zoo grounds and soon to be released into the pond. Identifying, monitoring and protecting the turtles in John Ball Park is an ongoing conservation project.

Conservation is one of John Ball Zoo's core values, and with the opportunity to have a Conservation Manager we have a person dedicated to championing and growing these efforts at the Zoo, in the Great Lakes region and around the world.

Bill is originally from Dayton, Ohio. He discovered his passion for animals and wildlife when he started volunteering at the Dayton Museum of Natural History at age 8. He has worked at the Cincinnati Zoo, the Toledo Zoo, the Detroit Zoo, Lincoln Park Zoo, and landed at John Ball Zoo as a zookeeper in 2011. Bill has always had a special interest in herpetology and has been involved in various conservation programs including frog call monitoring, Wyoming Toad Recovery, Aruba island rattlesnake Species Survival Plan, Project Golden Frog, and many more.

Bill has always been drawn to wildlife conservation and considers himself lucky to continuously work at conservation-oriented organizations. "John Ball Zoo already has strong conservation programs," Bill says, "it's just about building off of that and being willing to try different strategies." He has a strong commitment to putting boots on the ground and doing anything we can to help. "Zoos have a unique set of resources that other organizations don't necessarily have," he added.

Bill hopes to expand on our current programs, build a diverse portfolio of projects and dedicate more of our efforts to Great Lakes conservation. "I want people to take away that conservation is something that they can do in their own lives. Whether it's citizen science, sustainability, or supporting local organizations. I hope people feel empowered to take conservation into their own hands."

He says that one of his biggest challenges is getting people to feel hopeful about wildlife conservation, and getting people to celebrate even the littlest victories, like helping a turtle cross the road or helping monarchs by planting native flowers.

Spring Youth and Family Programs



Spring program registration begins February 1

Kid's Night Out

Parents enjoy a kid-free evening while kids enjoy a zoo adventure! Pizza dinner is included. Participants must be 4 to 10 years of age.

\$25/child, \$20 for each additional child living in the same household.

Fridays, 5:30pm to 9:00pm

April 17 - Noses Know

May 1 - Fantastic Frogs

May 22 - Animal Architects

June 5 - Tall Tails

Twilight Tours

Families - experience the Zoo in a new 'light.' Bring your flashlight and a sense of adventure for this guided tour of the Zoo as the sun goes down. Learn how to use your senses at night and how animals are adapted to life in the dark. Program includes animal encounters and hands-on activities for ages 5 years and up.

\$10/Member \$11/Non-member

Friday, April 3 7:30pm to 9pm

Saturday, April 11 7:30pm to 9pm

Saturday, April 18 7:30pm to 9pm

Saturday, May 2 7:30pm to 9pm

Spring Break – Day Camp

Can't wait for summer camp to start? Join us for Spring Break Camp. Enjoy all the fun of camp; games, animal encounters, and interactive trips into the Zoo and park. For students in kindergarten through 5th grade.

Day camps are 9am to 4pm

\$110/Member/class \$115/Non-member/class

Zooocation Monday and Tuesday, April 6 & 7

Just Zoo It Wednesday and Thursday, April 8 & 9

Spring Break – Overnight

For students in 3rd through 5th grade

\$55/Member \$60/Non-member

Starlight Safari – Friday, April 10, 5:30pm to Saturday 9:30am



For full class descriptions and registration information
visit jbzoo.org/kidsandfamily

Camp Overview

What is Zoo Camp?

A unique, fun, hands-on learning experience for children 3 years old to those entering 9th grade.

Classes may include hands-on animal demonstrations, behind the scenes tours, keeper talks, games, stories, educational crafts, songs, and role-playing. All classes spend time in both the Zoo and the park.

Class sizes are limited to provide a high quality experience. Student to teacher ratios are 5:1 for 3-year olds, 7:1 for 4 year olds, and 8:1 for 5 years and older. Expect your child to have a safe and fun learning experience!

Zoo Member Benefits

Enjoy discounted rates and early registration for Summer Camp as a Zoo Member. Memberships must be current and apply only to the children covered at the membership level, not those listed as "Plus" level guests.

To renew your membership or join: 616-336-4312 or jbzoo.org.

Registration Information

- Register online at jbzoo.org.
- We cannot accommodate phone registrations.
- Refunds for changes or cancellations (less a \$20 processing fee) are ONLY granted if written notification is received two weeks prior to the start of class.
- Please register your child for no more than 3 day camp classes.
- Reasonable accommodations will be made for students with special learning, medical, or dietary needs if we are notified in advance.
- Students must be self-sufficient in the bathroom; diapers and pull-ups are NOT permitted.
- **Member registration begins on March 16, Non-member registration begins March 25 for all summer camp sessions.**
- Questions? Call 616-336-4302 or visit us online at jbzoo.org.

Summer Camp Overnights

Friday 5:30pm to Saturday 9:30am
\$55/Member/overnight \$60/Non-member/overnight

For students entering grades 3-5 this fall.

Night Owls

What goes bump in the night? Come discover which animals are awake at night right here in Michigan and visit the zoo creatures that are usually sleeping during daytime visits. Find out what it takes to survive as a creature of the night!

Biggest of the Big

Discover what life is like for some of the biggest carnivores at the Zoo! What do cats like to do at night out in the wild? Are bears really carnivores? Learn all this and make more discoveries on this overnight focusing on some of the Zoo's most lovable and amazing animals.

For students entering grades 6-8 this fall.

Keeper Night Shift

Start your evening adventure on the Zipline! So you want to be a zookeeper? Help the staff close the Zoo at night and open it the next morning. Get your hands dirty in between with some daily keeper duties. It will be an educational and fun taste of zookeeper life.

Zoo Scene Investigation (ZSI)

Start your evening adventure on the Ropes Course! Whodunnit?!?! There's a wildlife mystery to be solved at the Zoo and we need your knowledge and skills to solve it. Put on your detective hat and follow the clues that animals and people leave behind to solve a wildlife mystery worthy of Sherlock Holmes.

June 12	June 19	June 26	July 10	July 17	July 24	July 31	August 7	August 14	August 21
Keeper Night Shift Grades 6-8	Night Owls Grades 3-5	Z.S.I. Grades 6-8	Biggest of the Big Grades 3-5	Keeper Night Shift Grades 6-8	Night Owls Grades 3-5	Z.S.I. Grades 6-8	Biggest of the Big Grades 3-5	Keeper Night Shift Grades 6-8	Night Owls Grades 3-5

Summer Zoo Camp 2020

JUNE 15 - 18	JUNE 15 - 18	JUNE 22 & 23	JUNE 24 & 25	JUNE 29 - JULY 2	JUNE 29 - JULY 2	JULY 6 & 7	JULY 8 & 9	JULY 13 - 16	JULY 13 - 16
4 Day 9 - 11:30am	4 Day 1 - 3:30pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	4 Day 9 - 11:30am	4 Day 1 - 3:30pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	4 Day 9 - 11:30am	4 Day 1 - 3:30pm
Critter Tales 3 yr. olds	On the Move 4 yr. olds	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Critter Tales 3 yr. olds	Critter Coverings 4 yr. olds	Jungle Journeys Grades 1-2	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K	Sensory Zoo 3 yr. olds	Fancy Feet 4 yr. olds
Critter Coverings 4 yr. olds	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K	Animology Grades 1-2	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Sensory Zoo 3 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Animal Survivor Grades 1-2	On the Move 4 yr. olds	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K
Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Tropical Treasures Grades 3-4	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4	Fancy Feet 4 yr. olds	Animology Grades 1-2	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4	Around the World Grades 3-4	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2
Jungle Journeys Grades 1-2	Animal Survivor Grades 1-2	Wildlife Explorer Grades 5-6	Grossology Grades 5-6	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Jungle Journeys Grades 1-2	Operation Zoo Grades 5-6	Grossology Grades 5-6	Animal Survivor Grades 1-2	Jungle Journeys Grades 1-2
Walk on the Wild Side Grades 3-4	Animals in Action Grades 3-4	Zoo Vet Grades 7-9	Jr. Keeper A Grades 7-9	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Animals in Action Grades 3-4	Jr. Keeper B Grades 7-9	Jr. Keeper A Grades 7-9	Animals in Action Grades 3-4	Around the World Grades 3-4

3 YEAR OLDS*

For children 3 years of age by the first day of class.

SENSORY ZOO

Have a sense-sational time at the Zoo as we explore using our senses. We'll smell, see, hear, and touch our way through the Zoo, discovering lots of different animals along the way.

CRITTER TALES

Come discover the animals in the Zoo that have helped inspire some of our favorite stories! Each day will introduce a new story and a zoo adventure to meet the real critter from our animal tale.

4 YEAR OLDS*

For children 4 years of age by the first day of class.

FANCY FEET

Webbed, padded, feet with claws, sticky toes, two feet, four feet, and many feet...feet are neat! Why do different animals have different feet and move in different ways? You'll be head over heels about this class.

ON THE MOVE

Can you swing like a monkey? Hop like a wallaby? Slither like a snake? Animals can get around and you will too as we jump into this fun-filled and moving exploration of locomotion.

CRITTER COVERINGS

Fuzzy fur, fluffy feathers, sturdy scales, or slippery slime...which would you choose? Animals are protected by their unique body coverings. This is a hands-on approach to learning about our favorite animal groups: fish, amphibians, birds, reptiles, and mammals.

BRICK BUILDING CLASSES: July 8 - 16

In partnership with Bricks 4 Kidz, we're offering three camp sessions in July which include special Lego brick building sessions.



It's a great way to participate in the Bricks exhibit on display throughout the Zoo for all to enjoy.

5 YEAR OLDS - KINDERGARTEN*

For children 5 years of age by the first day of class or those entering kindergarten this fall.

NOW YOU SEE ME, NOW YOU DON'T

Animals play the ultimate game of hide and seek and so will we! Explore the different ways animals hide. Discover who's using camouflage, mimicry, and warning colors to survive.

UNHUGGABLES

You know the ones...they might be prickly, stinky, slimy, or have a face only a mother could love. Let's change that "eww!" to a "wow!" and go beyond the surface to find out why these animals deserve our respect and admiration...even if from a distance.

ZOO MENU

What does a lion eat? What will a monkey munch? We'll learn how animals are adapted to getting and eating specific foods in the wild and see special foods zoo animals eat to stay healthy.

HOME SWEET HOME

Do barn owls really live in barns? Do tree frogs like trees? Animals can live in some unusual places. Discover what makes a good home for wildlife in nature, and in your backyard.

1st and 2nd GRADE

For students entering 1st or 2nd grade this fall.

ANIMOLGY

Animals abound as we discover mammals, birds, reptiles, fish, and amphibians. What makes each of them unique? How do they fit in the animal kingdom? This is a class with class...classification.

ANIMAL SURVIVOR

Camouflage, defenses, food, shelter...living in nature is challenging, even for animals. Play a thrilling game of camouflage, put your opossum skills to the test, and learn what it takes to be an animal survivor!

JUNGLE JOURNEYS

Travel with us as we take a special look at jungle animals from around the world. Some live in the treetops while others scurry along the forest floor. We'll find an array of colorful animal species and diverse habitats on our journey.

MASTER TRACKER

Have you ever walked in a lion's footsteps or tried to find an owl in the treetops? We'll learn to read the tracks and signs that animals leave behind as we follow them around the globe to learn what they eat and where they live.

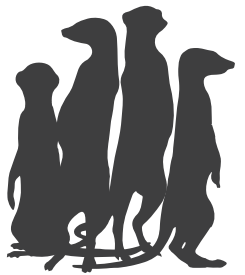
FANTASTIC FELINES

Join us as we jump into the amazing world of felines. Are all cats alike? Why do lions roar and house cats meow? Are all spots the same? If you are curious about these questions we've got the purrrfect class for you.

* Proof of age is required with registration for children 3, 4 and 5 years old.

➤ **Members:** early registration begins March 16

➤ **Non-members:** registration begins March 25

JULY 20 & 21	JULY 22 & 23	JULY 27 - 30	JULY 27 - 30	AUGUST 3 & 4	AUGUST 5 & 6	AUGUST 10 & 11	AUGUST 12 & 13	AUGUST 17 & 18	AUGUST 19 & 20
2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	4 Day 9 - 11:30am	4 Day 1 - 3:30pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm	2 Day 9am - 4pm
Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Critter Tales 3 yr. olds	On The Move 4 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K	Animal Survivor Grades 1-2	Master Tracker Grades 1-2
Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Sensory Zoo 3 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Animology Grades 1-2	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Animology Grades 1-2	Animals in Action Grades 3-4	Walk on the Wild Side Grades 3-4
Animology Grades 1-2	Animal Survivor Grades 1-2	Fancy Feet 4 yr. olds	Animal Survivor Grades 1-2	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4	Around the World Grades 3-4	Tropical Treasures Grades 3-4	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4		
Tropical Treasures Grades 3-4	Walk on the Wild Side Grades 3-4	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Jungle Journeys Grades 1-2	Operation Zoo Grades 5-6	Wildlife Explorer Grades 5-6	Grossology Grades 5-6	Photo Safari Grades 5-6		
Photo Safari Grades 5-6	Operation Zoo Grades 5-6	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Around the World Grades 3-4	Jr. Keeper B Grades 7-9	Zoo Vet Grades 7-9	Jr. Keeper A Grades 7-9	Jr. Keeper B Grades 7-9		

3rd and 4th GRADE

For students entering 3rd or 4th grade this fall.

TROPICAL TREASURES

Arr matey, stretching around the Earth's middle latitudes, the tropics are host to a treasure trove of animal species. We be head'n out on a scavenger hunt to discover tropical animals of both land and sea, it's a pirate's life for thee!

AROUND THE WORLD

We're going global! It's nonstop fun as we explore the wilds, animals and cultures of the world while learning how the Zoo reaches out to help wildlife around the world. No passport required!

ANIMALS in ACTION

Help keep our animals at the top of their game. Discover how zookeepers use enrichment to keep them thinking and moving. We'll design our own tools to use and create new ones for the animals. This class will keep everyone's mind moving!

WALK on the WILD SIDE

Embark on a journey through the wilds of John Ball Zoo. Explore the park as we track turtles, find frogs, and inspect insects. Head into the Zoo to ogle at otters, spy on sloths and track tigers. This class is sure to be a wild time!

NATURE'S GOT TALENT

From the runway to extreme makeover: home edition, animals have got talent! Discover who has the most amazing voice and which animals have great dance moves in the best reality show of all....nature!

5th and 6th GRADE

For students entering 5th or 6th grade this fall.

PHOTO SAFARI

See the Zoo through a different lens. Learn the basics of wildlife photography and go "on assignment." Frame and take home your favorite photo. Personal cameras are recommended but not required.

OPERATION ZOO

So you want to run a zoo? Take the role of zoo director as you pick a species, create a plan, and design a new exhibit! We'll investigate different animal diets, size, habitats, social groups, and physical features to understand what it takes to create the best new home for your animal.

GROSSOLOGY

Prepare to be grossed out as we explore the gross and disgusting science of the animal world! Why do some animals shoot out their guts, eat their poop, or have slime on their bodies? This class is oozing with interaction.

WILDLIFE EXPLORER

Come explore the world of wildlife biologists in a hands on class. Discover how biologists catch, tag, and follow animals in the wild. We will get the chance to use our new skills and try out our GPS, radio telemetry, and motion sensor equipment as we track animals in the park.

7th, 8th and 9th GRADE

For students entering 7th, 8th or 9th grade this fall.

JUNIOR KEEPER A

Get ready to get dirty! Find out what it takes to care for some of the Earth's most amazing creatures. Students will get a chance to make diets, monitor animals, and clean exhibits just like a zookeeper!

JUNIOR KEEPER B

A keeper's job doesn't end with cleaning and feeding. Go beyond the broom as we learn how keepers train the animals here at the zoo and how they keep them physically and mentally engaged with enrichment!

*Campers do not have to take Jr. Keeper A to sign up for Jr. Keeper B.

ZOO VET

It's time for a check-up and you get to be the vet! Using the tools of the trade, learn what our veterinary staff does to keep our animals healthy through hands-on experiences with animals at the Zoo.

QUESTIONS:

Call 616-336-4302
Or visit us at jbzoo.org

Camp Fees

4 Day - am or pm	\$85/Member	\$90/Non-member
2 Day - 9am-4pm	\$110/Member	\$115/Non-member
Brick 4 Day	\$91/Member	\$96/Non-member
Classes: 2 Day	\$116/Member	\$121/Non-member

Many
Thanks!

Thank you to everyone who supported our year end fundraising efforts. Because of you, we achieved our matching gift challenge of \$45,000 offered by the Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA). Together, you helped us raise more than \$180,000.

Because of this, we can make vital improvements to our Van Andel Living Shores Aquarium where we care for more than 500 species of animals. We will make necessary upgrades and improvements so we can continue to provide the highest quality of care for our animals and grow our collection.



Your support and your confidence in our work make everything we do possible. Thank you!

MEMBERSHIP

Members visit free for the whole season!

They also receive free or reduced admission to more than 150 reciprocal zoos and aquariums in the USA. They enjoy invitations to members only events as well as discounts on food and beverage purchases, experiences and education classes.

Memberships start at just \$50. Please check our website for a full list of membership levels and all the benefits.



JOIN US!

Visit us at jbzoo.org or call 616-336-4312.

Zoo Events CALENDAR Join Us!

We begin a new season; celebrate planet Earth, wildlife and great friends all season long.

Opening Day

Thursday, April 3rd

Join us as we celebrate the opening of John Ball Zoo for the 2020 season!

PikaZoo

April 3 - 30

A fun joint event between JBZ, WMCAT and Cook's Art Center. As guests make their way through the Zoo, they search and find original Pokémon inspired characters and newly-designed characters from the imaginations of teen artists from the West Michigan Center for Arts + Technology (WMCAT) and The Cook Arts Center. A map with character locations will be available at entry.

Superhero Day

Saturday - April 11

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Superhero Day at John Ball Zoo! Come dressed as your favorite superhero and meet amazing superheroes!

Party for the Planet

Saturday - April 18

Join us at the Zoo, along with many conservation minded, Earth friendly, recycling friends. Learn how we can help wildlife and wild places – all over the world – by doing small things at home at in our neighborhoods.

World Penguin Day

Wednesday - April 25

Celebrate penguins! Special penguin demonstrations and zookeeper talks.

BRICKLIVE Animal Paradise

May 1 - September 7

This unique exhibit features more than 40 life-sized animal sculptures created with over 1.8 million individually colored building bricks.

Amway River Bank Run

Saturday - May 9, 7 am - Noon

Endangered Species Day

Friday, May 15

Let's help save our world's wildlife. Come learn about endangered species and what you can do to help them. Extra activities throughout the day.

Spring Members Night

Thursday, May 21

Enjoy keeper talks, along with special offerings and extra discounts.

World Turtle Day

Saturday, May 23

Let's shell-ebrate our favorite shelled reptiles. Be here to learn about turtles in Michigan and around the world. Learn what you can do to help them.

Princess Day

Saturday - June 6

Meet your favorite princesses! All princesses, princes, and knights are welcome. Come dressed as your favorite characters. Members enjoy a special time to meet the princesses beginning at 8:00 a.m. before everyone else! Plus, tickets will soon be available for a special princess breakfast at the Bissell Tree House.

RendeZoo

Friday - June 12, 6-10:30 pm

Enjoy the great summer evening you've come to expect with entertainment and music, a cash bar and the popular silent auction. Plus, get your taste buds ready for a special strolling dinner provided by local restaurants and caterers! Find out more at jbzoo.org/rendezoo.

World Oceans Day

Saturday - June 13

Celebrate our planet's oceans and all the animals they support. Learn about what we can do to keep marine habitats clean and aquatic species safe.

Star Wars Day

Saturday - June 20

Join us and meet your favorite Star Wars characters. Come dressed as your favorite Star Wars character or other cosmic traveler.

Rock, Roar + Pour

Thursdays - June 25, July 23, August 27

This casual (adults only) happy hour in the Zoo is a great place to spend a summer's evening. This summer series features a different band on each date PLUS animals, craft beer and wines, along with a special gourmet concession menu.

Check our website - jbzoo.org - for more details as we get closer.

Special Member Exclusives in April

GRAM

Take in the arts at the
Grand Rapids Art Museum



Lakeshore
Museum Center

10% off gift shop purchases



Experiment at
Impression 5 Science Center

John Ball Zoo members receive free general admission.
Be sure to bring your Zoo membership card and photo ID for entry.



JOHN BALL ZOO

1300 W Fulton St.
Grand Rapids, MI 49504

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Details inside