

# JOHN BALL ZOO NEWS

March 2019

New arrivals in 2019



Spring and Summer  
Camp Info Inside



# JOHN BALL ZOO NEWS

Volume 36 Issue No. 1  
March 2019

## **Mission Statement:**

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

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Design and layout by Susan Hinkle



Photo: Kat Wille, JBZ





March 2019

## DEAR FRIENDS,

An important piece of legislation for Michigan Zoos was passed at the end of 2018 allowing the breeding of large carnivores in Michigan with proper qualifications. The changes to the Large Carnivore Act in HB 5778 promote the responsible breeding of wildlife, including endangered species, for future generations.

John Ball Zoo fully supports the passage of HB 5778 so that we and other zoos across the state can preserve endangered species, including large carnivores, such as Amur tigers, snow leopards, and lions.

The changes to the Large Carnivore Act are an important step toward better public safety along with enhanced animal welfare. And, most importantly, a positive step forward in the conservation of endangered species. These changes mandate that institutions requesting to breed large carnivores must meet strict criteria of public safety, animal welfare, and responsible conservation minded breeding.

The passage of the changes to the Large Carnivore Act allows us to be a more active participant in the conservation of endangered species such as our endangered Amur tigers. We already have a top-notch facility with the opening of the Crawford Tigers Realm in 2014. Anticipating a day when we could breed tigers, the habitat already has a cub den ready for babies.

We are very excited at the prospect of breeding Amur tigers but know that this is a process. We are beginning the application process with the state of Michigan, have informed the Species Survival Plan of our ability to now breed, and begun internal implementation plans. We anticipate the process to take a few years.

The passage of HB 5778 was a true concerted effort by many who understand the act's positive implications. John Ball Zoo would like to specifically thank Representative Thomas Albert for sponsoring the bill, along with former Governor Rick Snyder, former Lieutenant Governor Bryan Calley, Senator Joe Hune, Senator Tom Barrett, and Diane Thompson CEO of Binder Park Zoo for their efforts.

Sincerely,



**PETER D'ARIENZO**

Chief Executive Officer



# New Arrivals

We have many new animals joining us throughout 2019 and are excited to introduce them to you!

## Toco Toucan

This beautifully colored bird is recognized as the largest species in the toucan family. They flaunt the biggest bill in regard to body size of all birds. The large yellow-orange colored bill with a distinct black marking at the tip is the bird's most noticeable feature. They will make their appearance at JBZ in late spring or early summer.



## Meerkats

These small, charismatic mongoose are certain to be a guest favorite! Their habitat's construction begins this spring in the hope that they can join us later this year. With a weight of only 1 or 2 pounds and a height of 10 to 12 inches, these engaging animals are highly social and live in groups called mobs.



## Cape Porcupine

Joining the meerkats will be a cape porcupine. They are terrestrial, nocturnal and the largest rodents in Africa. Cape porcupines are covered with flat, bristly hairs and have both quills and spines. Their spines are up to 20 inches long and their quills can be 12 inches long.



## Red Panda

You are reading correctly! Our favorite red panda, Wyatt, will have a female red panda joining him. Bringing her own unique personality and traits, we are very excited to have her meet Wyatt later this summer. And, yes, we hope to announce in the future the arrival of red panda cubs!



## Six-banded Armadillo

This scaly mammal is already making her home in the Treasures building where she has been a big hit with Zoo staff. Joanna is actively digging and exploring her habitat which she shares with Linus, our Linnaeus's two-toed sloth.





## Giant Anteater

As its common name suggests, the giant anteater is the largest of four anteater species. An adult can get to be more than six feet long. Their unusual snout houses a long, sticky tongue which can measure nearly 20 inches and it's really useful for slurping up insects. We are in the planning stages now and hope for the anteater's arrival this summer.



## Giant Pacific Octopus

Joining us again in 2019 is the giant pacific octopus. True to its name, it is the largest of all octopus species. Average weight for an adult is over 30 pounds. They are considered one of the most intelligent of all invertebrates and they have very acute vision. Come see this amazing animal when we open in March.



## Observation Bee Hive

Peer into the world bees inhabit! The enclosed hive will be on the Waterfall Trail where you can see more than 2,000 bees hard at work. Bees will enter and leave the hive at a point far away from zoo visitors. You can learn the biology of bees, their important role in our ecosystem, and what you can do to support their conservation. This unique viewing opportunity will open this summer.



## Von der Decken's Hornbill

Named after German explorer, Baron Karl Klaus von der Decken, the Von der Decken's hornbills are ungainly looking birds with large bills - black on females and males have a red and cream colored bill. They can reach 2 feet in length which makes them one of the smaller species of hornbills. They will land at the Zoo early this summer.



## Geoffroy's Spider Monkey

Endangered Geoffroy's spider monkeys will be swinging into the Zoo this summer. They are recognized for their extremely long, spidery limbs and prehensile tail which acts like a fifth limb. They are native to Central America where they live in forests. Look for their arrival this summer.



## Lake Sturgeon

With a life span of over 100 years, this armor-clad fish has an interesting story to tell. They are the oldest and largest native fish in the Great Lakes and a threatened species in Michigan. The timing for their arrival in the Aquarium is still in planning stages but we hope it will be this season.



# RENDEZOO 2019

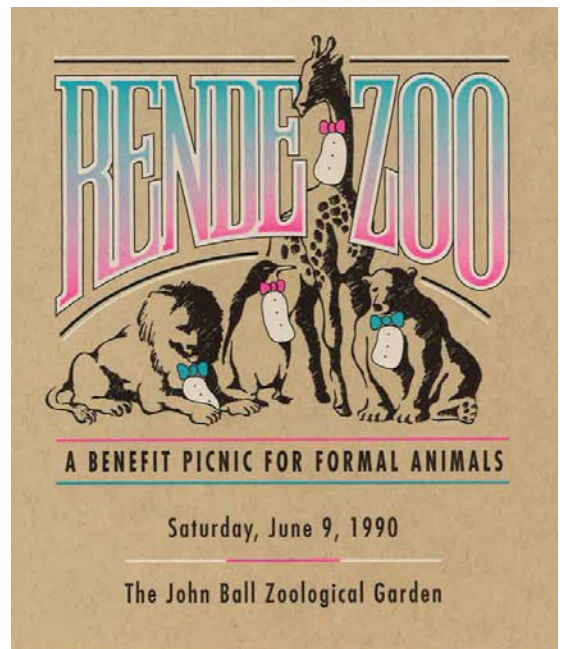
## Celebrating 30 Years of the Wildest Party in Town

In 1990, a small group of Zoo Society employees and volunteers dreamt up a wild event that would entertain guests while raising important funds for the Zoo. Now, as we prepare for the 30th annual celebration, RendeZoo is our longest-running fundraising event and remains an important source of support for our beloved Zoo.

Each year, RendeZoo celebrates different themes oftentimes incorporating Zoo projects or animals. Some of our favorite themes are Zoo Bayou 1993, Realm of the Dragon 2004, The Great Catsby 2014, and Let's Flamingle 2017.

RendeZoo proceeds have supported projects like the chimpanzee habitat, the Forest Realm, animal hospital, and the JUMP program. Thank you to our sponsors, donors, and members who have attended RendeZoo and contributed to these monumental achievements.

This year, we will celebrate the 30th RendeZoo! We invite you to join us on June 14 for a fun evening filled with food, live entertainment, and animal encounters. To find out more about RendeZoo please visit our website at [www.jbzoo.org/rendezoo](http://www.jbzoo.org/rendezoo). See you there!



The first RendeZoo invitation from 1990



## Matching Gift Challenge

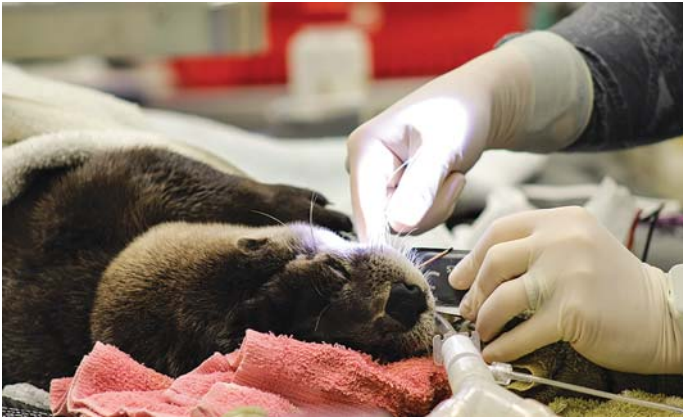
Thank you so much to everyone who supported our year end funding efforts. Your gift has made an incredible difference. Because of you, John Ball Zoo achieved the matching gift challenge of \$77,000 offered by the Michigan Council of Arts and Cultural Affairs (MCACA).

In all, you have helped us raise more than \$154,000. Because of this we can create a dedicated Intensive Care Unit, add needed new equipment to the examination and surgical room, reconfigure and equip the necropsy and pathology suite, and upgrade the quarantine areas of the veterinary hospital.

These improvements allow us to do even more for the animals and ensure that we can continue to provide top level veterinary care.

**From Dr. Ryan Colburn, our  
hard working veterinary staff,  
and all of us at John Ball Zoo...**  
*"Thank you so much for supporting us!"*





## Who knew dental work could be so adorable?

During an annual exam, our vet staff discovered that Slyde, our male river otter, had fractured the tip of a canine tooth. That can be a serious health risk if bacteria gets in and causes infection. We asked Dr. Lynn Happel of Easttown Veterinary Clinic to assist us by performing a root canal on Slyde.

Dr. Happel has extensive specialized training in veterinary dentistry and has performed root canals for several of our animals here at the Zoo.

# OTTER DENTISTRY

The procedure consisted of removing all of the contents of the tooth's pulp canal, flushing and disinfecting the canal, then filling and sealing it to prevent infection. We are happy to report that Slyde was a perfect patient and his procedure was a success. He has recovered very smoothly.



# Bake Sale



**Thank you,  
Charlotte!**

## What's better than some freshly baked treats?

Freshly baked treats and red pandas, of course! For her very first fundraiser, 3-year-old Charlotte knew exactly who she wanted to raise money for - her favorite zoo friend, Wyatt the red panda!

Charlotte's mother, Kelly, is the owner of Le Bon Macaron, a cafe and bakery in East Grand Rapids. Charlotte ran her own treat stand in the cafe during Shop Hop, an annual holiday shopping event. By selling holiday cookies, hot chocolate, caramel corn, and other treats, Charlotte raised over \$650 for Wyatt! "I wish she could grasp how amazing that is!" said her mother Kelly, "I told her it's like three Barbie dream houses!"

Charlotte is now an official red panda sponsor and we are so honored she chose to raise money for Wyatt.





# Zoo's Wildlife Conservation Fund Reaches Worldwide

From the Gulf Coast of Florida to Sulawesi, Indonesia, John Ball Zoo helped advance fieldwork, research, and education. The Wildlife Conservation Fund was started in 1985 by John Boyles and Dick Faber of Mr. Fables Restaurants. Since then it has provided small grants to over 160 projects.

The Fund is still supported through donations. Your sponsorship in our Animals! Animals! program makes conservation happen. Think about helping by sponsoring one of our animals today. The 2019 funds will help support the worthy work being done for wildlife listed below.

## Maun Animal Welfare Society - Botswana

This project aims to prevent the transference of the fatal canine distemper virus (CDV) to African Wild Dogs. The vast majority of domestic dogs in Botswana live on unfenced properties and roam freely in search of food. With no sterilization, uncontrolled breeding perpetuates the cycle of disease, illness and its ease of transference. Over the past 30 years CDV has made the jump from domestic animals to a wide range of hosts including the African wild dog. With only an estimated 3,000 animals left in Botswana (5,000 worldwide). MAWS aims to vaccinate 70% of domestic dogs (3,000-4,000) surrounding the Okavango Delta, creating a "ring fence" of vaccinated dogs to stop the disease from spreading.



## Forsten's Tortoise - Indonesia

Severe habitat destruction combined with collection for the bushmeat and pet trades have reduced the population of this species dramatically. Surveys are in progress to accurately determine their distribution and to address the need for status updates and increased protection. The project initiates community-based species monitoring programs which track daily activities like foraging, nesting and reproductive behaviors to help determine the ecological requirements of the species. A captive breeding program will be developed and a release site has been identified. Once staff are sufficiently trained and the area is improved, project leaders will initiate the release of animals, employ the monitoring program and begin captive breeding.



## Tsavo Cheetah Project - Kenya

This project works to scientifically inform the Kenya Wildlife Service, the Kenyan Highway Authority and construction companies for environmental assessments and alignment and passageway recommendations. A six lane mega expressway is being built that will run through east and west Tsavo National Parks. The purpose of the project is to provide security and passageways to protect cheetahs and other wide ranging animals like elephants and wild dogs. The project employs camera traps, Cheetah Scouts and research to advise on the placement of passageways and work with the local communities to mitigate animal-human conflicts.





### **Primate Care Training - Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA)**

The Pan African Sanctuary Alliance (PASA) is the largest association of wildlife centers in Africa. Its 23 member organizations across 13 countries are securing a future for Africa's primates and their habitat. PASA member wildlife centers are leaders in the rescue, rehabilitation, and reintroduction of great apes and monkeys. They work closely with government agencies and law enforcement to combat wildlife crime and trafficking. Collectively, PASA member centers care for over 3,000 primates, most of whom have been confiscated from wildlife traffickers or bushmeat poachers. This grant will provide professional training, crucial to the welfare of the animals, who often need specialized treatment to recover from the trauma they have experienced.



### **Gulf Bee Project Auburn University - Alabama**

There has been little effort to preserve these bees as sand dunes continue to be converted into urban beachfronts. This project will use demography and habitat data to examine how we can preserve these small populations. To do this requires that efforts concentrate on helping small, often isolated populations grow. The goal is to determine the mix of floral ecotypes that work best to maintain the bee populations at their current sites. State and federal land managers can use the resulting seed mix recommendation as a low-cost tool to support current populations. There are also Gulf bee populations in less suitable habitat near developments - specific seed mixes in these areas can directly improve those habitats.



### **Limbe Wildlife Center, Green Project - Cameroon**

The Green Project is a long-term community-based project that provides alternative incomes and sustainable livelihoods to indigenous, ex-hunting communities. Local people are engaged to harvest and provide high-value foods through sustainable agriculture that enhance the diet, health and well-being of the primates (14 or more rare species) in rehabilitation at the Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC). The project is a priority because it not only contributes to animal welfare and hunting reduction, but significantly contributes to poverty alleviation and better prepares the animals for being released into the wild.



### **Empowering Community for Wildlife Conservation - India**

There is sharp rise in leopard mortality caused by conflict with villagers in Jaipur, India. This is Rajasthan's unique community participation project for leopard conservation in Jaipur District. This project empowers 165 Rural Community Members to become wildlife Defenders who closely monitor poacher activity. Legal empowerment of rural members will strengthen a grassroots network and put a check on wildlife crime in the region. This project will revive the age old Indian tradition and cultural practices of healthy sustainable coexistence with nature and wildlife.



Have you included John Ball Zoo in your will or are you thinking about doing so? Please let us know.

## LEGACY GIVING SOCIETY

The Legacy Giving Society recognizes your generous expressions of caring and support for our Zoo.

Please contact  
Eric Constant at 616-336-3036  
or [econstant@jbzoo.org](mailto:econstant@jbzoo.org)



## Animals! Animals!

By sponsoring an animal through Animals! Animals!, you not only help in the care and feeding of our zoo animals, you also support conservation programs near and far.

**Come celebrate wildlife conservation on these special days!**

Apr 25 - World Penguin Day

May 25 - Turtle Day

Jul 27 - International Tiger Day

Apr 27 - Party for the Planet

Jun 8 - World Oceans Day

Aug 24 - Monarch Day

May 17 - Endangered Species Day

Jul 13 - World Snake Day

Sep 21 - International Red Panda Day

**Sponsor an animal at [jbzoo.org](http://jbzoo.org).**

## PICNICS and PARTIES



### The Zoo is Your Playground - Rent the Whole Zoo

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

Just want to bring a group? Call for group discounts. We can accommodate groups from 25 to 1,000+.

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

Email [facilityrental@jbzoo.org](mailto:facilityrental@jbzoo.org) for more information or call 616-336-4314.



# Mark Your CALENDAR

Join us as we celebrate planet Earth, wildlife and great friends all season long.

## OPENING DAY

**Saturday - March 9 10am to 4pm**

The 2019 season begins! The animals and staff are eager to see you and there are new animals to meet.

## SUPERHERO DAY

**Saturday - April 13 10am to 3pm**

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Superhero Day at the Zoo. Grab your cape or mask and come celebrate the characters who inspire us. Some of your favorite superheroes will be here to greet you.

## WORLD PENGUIN DAY

**Wednesday - April 25 10am to 3 pm**

Celebrate penguins! Special penguin demonstrations and zookeeper talks.

## PARTY FOR THE PLANET

**Saturday - April 27 10am to 3pm**

Join us at the Zoo along with our 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 and in our neighborhoods.

## MAY THE FOURTH BE WITH YOU!

**Saturday - May 4 10am to 3pm**

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

## AMWAY RIVER BANK RUN

**Saturday - May 11 7am to Noon**

## SPRING MEMBERS NIGHT

**Thursday - May 23 5 to 7:30pm**

Enjoy keeper talks and extra discounts at Members' Night. Meet our new toco toucans and other special offerings.

## WORLD OCEANS DAY

**Saturday - June 8 10am to 3pm**

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

## PRINCESS DAY

**Saturday - June 8 10am to 3pm**

At World Ocean's Day, you can also meet some of your favorite princesses! All princesses, princes, and knights are welcome. Come dressed as your favorite characters. The visiting Princesses will be announced soon!

## RENDEZOO 2019 - 30th Annual

**Friday - June 14 6 to 10:30pm**

Join us for the wildest party in town! RendeZoo is a fun summer night for adults, featuring live music, entertainment, strolling dinner and cash bar. The silent auction features some very unusual items and experiences. Find out more on our website: [jbzoo.org/rendezoo](http://jbzoo.org/rendezoo).

## ROCK, ROAR & POUR

**Thursdays - June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26**

This casual, adults only, happy hour in the Zoo is a great way to spend a summer evening. The series features a different band on each date - PLUS - animals, craft beer and wines, and a special concession menu.

## Special Member Exclusives in April and May



**GRAM**

Take in the arts at the  
Grand Rapids Art Museum  
in APRIL



*Be curious.* GRAND  
RAPIDS  
PUBLIC  
MUSEUM

Explore at the  
Grand Rapids Public Museum  
in MAY



**IMPRESSION 5**

Play at  
Impression 5 Science Center  
in MAY

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

# Spring Youth & Family Programs

Spring program registration begins February 1

## Sprouts

The Sprouts Series is for the youngest zoo enthusiast. These classes are designed for the child only and offer a fun and enriching learning environment where 3 and 4 year olds can explore the animal world.

\$18/Member/class \$20/Non-member/class  
Thursdays and Fridays 9:00am to 11:30am

March 7, 8 - **Animal ABC's**

March 14, 15 - **Animal 123's**

March 21, 22 - **Move with the Animals**

March 28, 29 - **Animal Tales**

## Kid's Night Out

Parents enjoy a kid-free evening while kids have an after hours 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

March 22 - **Who's Hoot'n**

April 19 - **Under the Sea**

May 17 - **Wild & Rare**

June 7 - **Night Hikers**

For full class descriptions and registration information  
visit [jbzoo.org/kidsandfamily](http://jbzoo.org/kidsandfamily)



## 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, March 15** 7pm to 8:30pm

**Friday, March 29** 7:30pm to 9pm

**Saturday, April 6** 7:30pm to 9pm

**Friday, April 19** 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

\$105/Member/class \$110/Non-member/class

**Zoocation** Monday and Tuesday, April 1 & 2

**Just Zoo It** Wednesday and Thursday, April 3 & 4

## Spring Break - Overnight

For students in 3rd through 5th grade

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

**Starlight Safari** - Friday, April 5 5:30pm to Saturday 9:30am





# 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](http://jbzoo.org).

## Registration Information

- Register online at [jbzoo.org](http://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 March 18, Non-member registration begins March 27 for all summer camp sessions.
- Questions? Call 616-336-4300 or visit us online at [jbzoo.org](http://jbzoo.org).

## Summer Camp Overnights

Friday 5:30pm to Saturday 9:30am

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

*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 just what it takes to survive as a creature of the night!

### A Night In The Rainforest

Do you ever wonder what a rainforest is like at night? Is it noisy or quiet, still or busy? We'll visit rainforest animals here at the zoo to learn what goes on after dark from the forest floor up to the canopy. No umbrella needed for this rainforest adventure!

*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.

### Just Zoo It!

Start your evening adventure with a ride on the Ropes Course! Explore some of the nooks and crannies of John Ball Zoo. We'll see where the keepers make all the food, where some of the animals sleep at night and explore some of the zoo's wild park spaces. This is your VIP ticket to the zoo!

June 21	June 28	July 5	July 12	July 19	July 26	August 2	August 9	August 16	August 23
Keeper Night Shift	Night Owls	Just Zoo It!	A Night in the Rainforest	Keeper Night Shift	Night Owls	Just Zoo It!	A Night in the Rainforest	Keeper Night Shift	Night Owls
Grades 6-8	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 3-5	Grades 6-8	Grades 3-5

# SUMMER ZOO CAMP 2019

JUNE 17 - 20	JUNE 17 - 20	JUNE 24 & 25	JUNE 26 & 27	JULY 1 & 2	JULY 3	JULY 8 - 11	JULY 8 - 11	JULY 15 & 16	JULY 17 & 18
4 day 9-11:30am	4 day 1-3:30pm	2 day 9am-4pm	2 day 9am-4pm	2 day 9am-4pm	1 day 9am-4pm	4 day 9-11:30am	4 day 1-3:30pm	2 day 9am-4pm	2 day 9am-4pm
Critter Tales 3 yr. olds	On the Move 4 yr. olds	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Creative Connections For students age 5 yrs. - 6th grade Sign up is by individual age/grade level	Critter Tales 3 yr. olds	Critter Coverings 4 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K
Critter Coverings 4 yr. olds	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K	Animology Grades 1-2	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Hooray for Habitats Grades 1-2		Sensory Zoo 3 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2
Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Extreme Animals Grades 3-4	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4		Fancy Feet 4 yr. olds	Animology Grades 1-2	Animology Grades 1-2	Superman-imals Grades 1-2
Hooray for Habitats Grades 1-2	Superman-imals Grades 1-2	Wildlife Explorer Grades 5-6	Grossology Grades 5-6	Operation Zoo Grades 5-6		Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Hooray for Habitats Grades 1-2	Around the World Grades 3-4	Walk on the Wild Side Grades 3-4
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	Jr. Keeper B Grades 7-9		Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Animals in Action Grades 3-4	Photo Safari Grades 5-6	Operation Zoo Grades 5-6

## 3 YEARS OLD\*

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 YEARS OLD\*

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 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.

## CREATIVE CONNECTIONS - July 3

For students age 5 yrs. - 6th grade  
Sign up is by individual age/grade level.

Nurture your creative side as we explore the connections between animals and the many forms of art. Students will be inspired by the animals to discover their favorite creative way of connecting with nature by painting, singing, dancing, and reading their way through the zoo.

## 5 YEARS OLD - 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.

### ANIMOMOLOGY

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

### SUPERMAN-IMALS

Faster than a peregrine falcon, more powerful than an alligator, and able to leap tall trees! Come learn all about animals and their super adaptations. Whether it's leaping, chomping, or soaring, we'll discover why animals are the real superheroes.

### HOORAY for HABITATS

Let's hear it for habitats! We will swing into the rainforest, stalk through savannahs and touch at a tide pool while discovering the creatures that call these habitats home.

### 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 18**    ➤ **Non-members: Registration begins March 27**

JULY 22 - 25	JULY 22 - 25	JULY 29 & 30	JULY 31 & AUG 1	AUGUST 5 - 8	AUGUST 5 - 8	AUGUST 12 & 13	AUGUST 14 & 15	AUGUST 19 & 20	AUGUST 21 & 22
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	2 day 9am-4pm	2 day 9am-4pm
Sensory Zoo 3 yr. olds	Fancy Feet 4 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Critter Tales 3 yr. olds	On The Move 4 yr. olds	Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K	Superman-imals Grades 1-2	Master Tracker Grades 1-2
On The Move 4 yr. olds	Un-huggables 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Animology Grades 1-2	Sensory Zoo 3 yr. olds	Now You See Me... 5 yrs.- K	Fantastic Felines Grades 1-2	Animology Grades 1-2	Walk on the Wild Side Grades 3-4	Animals in Action Grades 3-4
Zoo Menu 5 yrs.- K	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4	Extreme Animals Grades 3-4	Fancy Feet 4 yr. olds	Superman-imals Grades 1-2	Nature's Got Talent Grades 3-4	Extreme Animals Grades 3-4		
Superman-imals Grades 1-2	Hooray for Habitats Grades 1-2	Operation Zoo Grades 5-6	Wildlife Explorer Grades 5-6	Home Sweet Home 5 yrs.- K	Hooray for Habitats Grades 1-2	Grossology Grades 5-6	Photo Safari Grades 5-6		
Animals in Action Grades 3-4	Around the World Grades 3-4	Jr. Keeper B Grades 7-9	Zoo Vet Grades 7-9	Master Tracker Grades 1-2	Around the World Grades 3-4	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.*

#### EXTREME ANIMALS

They are the biggest, fastest, smartest, ugliest, and sometimes they break the rules. Nature's champions are built to survive, even in the harshest environments. Join us as we meet some of these extreme animals up close.

#### 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 616-336-4300

Or visit [jbzoo.org](http://jbzoo.org)

**CAMP FEES:** 4 Day - am or pm \$80/Member \$85/Non-member  
2 Day - 9am-4pm \$105/Member \$110/Non-member  
1 Day - 9am-4pm \$55/Member \$60/Non-member



**JOHN BALL ZOO**  
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