Presented by Meijer

Grand Rapids Lantern Festival
Wednesday - Sunday
April 10 - June 16 7:30PM - 11:30PM
The Grand Rapids Lantern Festival is a truly breathtaking experience for all ages. John Ball Zoo is the first and only place you can see these incredible works of art in Michigan. The lantern festival features handcrafted Asian lantern displays that will illuminate the Zoo and tell the intersecting story of wildlife and Asian culture. Presented by Meijer

Party for the Planet
Saturday, April 20 9AM-6PM
Let’s celebrate this amazing planet we call home! Party for the Planet celebrates Earth Day at John Ball Zoo, where community partners engage with guests and encourage them to learn how to take positive action to help save native habitats for wildlife.

Michigan Wildlife Day
Saturday, May 25 9AM-6PM
Anna, Elsa and friends will be helping John Ball Zoo give Michigan’s native turtles and bird habitats with no kids!

Breakfast with the Animals
Start your morning on the wild side! Enjoy sunrise breakfast on the South American Boardwalk, followed by a guided tour to two animal exhibits of your choosing. Either choice will make for a fun way to start the day!

Dino Adventures
July 15 - November 10
Something BIG is coming to John Ball Zoo! Starting in July, over 20 life-size replica robotic dinosaurs will trample into the Zoo. You’ll be able to embark on a dino safari through the Zoo’s Forest Realm and learn about the dinosaurs that once roamed the Earth. Presented by Michigan First Credit Union

World Lion Day
Wednesday, August 7 9AM-6PM
We’re turning this into a feline festival! Authentic African dancers and music will be encouraging guests to learn how to “Protect the Pride” by your favorite felines.

Safety Celebration
Friday, August 16 9AM-6PM
It takes a real superhero to keep our community safe! Spiderman, Black Panther, Captain America, and Black Widow will be visiting as our local first responders put on fun activities. Who knew safety could be so much fun?

Monarch Day
Saturday, September 14 9AM-6PM
Join Mirabelle, Rapunzel, Tinkerbell, and Fawn for our pollinator party! Guests can help release monarch butterflies every hour to help improve populations in their natural environment.

STEAM Day
Saturday, September 21 9AM-6PM
Join STEAM Day as we highlight the exciting fields of science, technology, engineering, art, and math through fun hands-on activities that show how those fields are used in the Zoo every day!

Zoo Goes Boo
Friday-Sunday
October 11-13 | 18-20 | 25-27 10AM-5PM
Member only hour: 9AM-10AM
Your place for spooky kooky fun for the whole family is back! Enjoy bewitching decorations, twisted treat stations, and an endless supply of animal fun. Grab your best cape, and be captivated by magicians, fire performers, villains and more! A wickedly fun family tradition. Presented by Meijer

Rock, Roar & Pour
Rock, Roar and Pour is back by popular demand! Spend your summer nights at John Ball Zoo’s 21 and up concert series. Featuring local bands, themed entertainment, food trucks, and specialty drinks; all while strolling through animal habitats with no kids!

World Ocean Day
Thursday, June 20 9AM-6PM
Swim on by, the beach is coming to the Zoo! Join your favorite ocean adventurers Ariel, Moana, Pocahontas and even Captain Jack Sparrow, as they aid us in learning about the water and the many animals that live in it.

Pink Flamingo Day
Friday, July 19 9AM-6PM
Flamingo on over to John Ball Zoo for an exciting day that embraces all things pink. Learn about these iconic birds through keeper chats and activities. Rapunzel, Aurora, Elena, and Rosetta hope to see you donning your best themed apparel.

2024 EVENT CALENDAR

To purchase a membership, visit JBZOO.ORG
For questions, contact us at: 616.336.4312
member@jbzoo.org

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Rocky, Roar & Pour

World Ocean Day

Michigan Wildlife Day

Dino Adventures

World Chimp Day

Party for the Planet

Breakfast with the Animals

STEAM Day

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Zoo Goes Boo

WGVU KidsDay

WGVU Public Media, John Ball Zoo, and our supporting partners for a fantastic day at the Zoo! KidsDay is guaranteed to provide a packed day of fun, adventure, and entertainment for kids, families, and friends. Zoo admission is only $5 per person on KidsDay!