

Alexandria Zoo

Summer Safari Counselor Description



General Summary

Summer Safari counselors will have the opportunity to gain experience in environmental and conservation education by utilizing the Zoo as an active, living classroom.

This is a seasonal position that runs from June through the end of July (off the week of July 4th) with a 20-25 hour per week commitment. Summer Safari/Teen Trek serves roughly 300 children. Summer Safari children are divided into groups based on grade levels (Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st/2nd Grade, 3rd/4th Grade, 5th/6th Grade), and Teen Trek is 7th/8th grade. Each group has one teacher and one counselor in addition to teen volunteers. The teacher to student ratio is 1:20 (1:15 for Pre-K & Kindergarten).

This position requires a high level of enthusiasm and energy, creativity, flexibility, and the ability to work with groups of all ages in both in and outdoor settings.

Primary Duties and Responsibilities

- Program facilitation and preparation: set-up and break-down of facilities and materials in assigned classrooms and other in-zoo sites used in camp programs.
- Assist Summer Safari teachers in daily instruction of weekly camp programs for ages 4-14.
- May have the opportunity of working closely with Education Curator in an administrative role.
- Abide by all Alexandria Zoo policies and procedures, including safety protocol and wearing appropriate Zoo uniform.
- Inform Education Curator or supervisor on duty if any emergencies arise.
- Assist with camper drop-off and pick-up.
- Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications

- Must be at least 18 years of age.
- Enjoy working with children and around animals.
- Good communication and leadership skills.
- Ability to lift 50 pounds and willing to work outside.
- Commitment of the entire Summer Safari term (6/1 – 7/27), 5 days/week (Monday through Friday) from 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
- Attendance at Summer Safari Orientation required.
- Able to work cooperatively with staff and volunteers.
- Interest and passion for conservation, biological diversity, conservation education, and the natural world.
- Candidates should be enthusiastic, creative, and self-motivated.

Work Environment

Exposure to outdoor central Louisiana weather conditions such as heat, humidity, and rain will be required.

Physical Demands

- Able to remain on feet and walk for extended periods of time.
- Frequently bend, stoop, reach, lift heavy objects, and climb.

Supervision

The position reports directly to the Education Curator.

Salary

Summer Safari counselors receive \$8 per hour.

Applying

Applicants can visit www.thealexandriazoo.com/JobOpenings.html to download an application.

E-mail resume and completed application to the
Alexandria Zoo's Education Department

Email: zoo.education@cityofalex.com
(Subject Line "Summer Safari applicant")

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Alexandria Zoological Park

"Promoting understanding and conservation of the
natural world in which we live"