



# **ASSINIBOINE PARK ZOO**

## **GUIDED FIELD TRIP GUIDE**

### **REGISTRATION**

- All groups must pre-register to insure placement in a program.
- Space is limited and spots are filled on a first-come, first-served basis.
- To insure a placement in one of our programs, please phone to book your visit at least two to four weeks in advance for non-peak months and two months in advance for the peak months of April, May and June.
- All policies are subject to change without notice. Please check [www.zoosociety.com](http://www.zoosociety.com) for updates prior to your program.
- Additional program specific information (theme, content, program length) can be found on your registration form.

### **PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT TO THE ZOO**

Thank you for reserving a trip with the Zoo Education Centre. Please review this checklist to help you prepare for your visit.

- All groups must pay a program deposit of \$60 upon registering, please make sure yours is paid. Groups who fail to pay their deposit in a timely manner will automatically lose their time slot – no exceptions.
- The balance owing (total minus deposit) is due the day of your program. We will not accept group invoices between June 15 and September 6.
- Payments can be made to the Zoo Education Centre with cash, credit card or cheque.
- Your fee includes admission to the Assiniboine Park Zoo.



zoological society of manitoba  
**The Zoo Education Centre is a department of the Zoological Society of Manitoba, which is a non-profit organization**

# AT THE ZOO...



## WHEN YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

- All buses or parent caravans should enter the zoo's South Gate parking lot on Corydon Ave as the Zoo Education Building is at this gate.
- Unless indicated, our programs include an outdoor tour component so please make certain each participant is dressed for the weather and that proper walking shoes are worn.
- So that our guided tour is not repetitive, please wait for the end of your program before visiting the animals at the zoo that are relevant to your program theme.
- Please have payment (cash, cheque or credit card number) ready upon arrival. We will not accept group invoices between June 1 and September 6.
- Fees for education programs are to be paid directly to the program instructor. Please do not pay the gate attendant.

## ARRIVAL TIMES

- Tours and programs run between 60 to 90 minutes, depending on content and season. Please check your registration for program length.
- Please arrive 5 to 10 minutes before your scheduled time.
- Groups arriving late (on or after their start time) will still finish their program as scheduled and will not have their program extended. This is to insure other groups who arrive on time receive their full program and are not penalized for another group's tardiness.

## LUNCH AND SNACK TIME

- The Zoo Education Centre is unable to provide lunch storage. We encourage all students to carry their own lunch in a backpack. Classes may rent or bring their own wagons for students to carry their own belongings.
- For your convenience there are several seasonal picnic areas in addition to our main restaurant, the Animal Tracks Café. The Café has a school lunch program available year round. If you would like more information please call 982-0667.

Zoological Society of Manitoba, 54 Zoo Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3P 2N8

# WHAT, WHERE, HOW?



## WHAT DO WE DO?

- The Assiniboine Park Zoo's Education Centre, managed by the Zoological Society of Manitoba, is a facility designed to promote the concepts of endangered species and wildlife conservation through public education and interactive learning.
- We specialize in walking and trolley tours for children, adults and seniors. We also run indoor programs on specific themes for those groups looking for more in depth knowledge on a subject.
- We do not offer programs in French at this time.

## WHERE IS THE EDUCATION BUILDING?

- All activities will start and end (unless otherwise arranged) at the Zoo Education Centre, a year-round facility used to conduct talks, camps, workshops and meeting.
- We are located at the Corydon Avenue (South Gate) entrance of Assiniboine Park Zoo. On occasion requests may be made to meet the group at the Main Gate next to the Zoo Gift Shop.
- The South Gate is closed to the general public from the September long-weekend to the May long-weekend but is open for education programming year-round. A staff person will meet your group at the gate.

## DO YOU NEED TO CANCEL OR RESCHEDULE?

Contact [zooeducation@zoosociety.com](mailto:zooeducation@zoosociety.com) or 204-982-0664 as soon as possible. Education staff will work with you to find another date or time that works well for you and the zoo.

- We would ask that you cancel a booking no less than 10 business days in advance of the scheduled program. Cancellations with fewer than 10 business days notice will be charged a \$30 administrative fee.
- Cancellations with less than three business days notice will forfeit the booking deposit of \$60.
- We reserve the right to cancel or reschedule any program. A full refund will be issued if the Zoo Education Centre cancels a program.
- As a general rule, all programs run regardless of rain, snow or shine, with the exception of severe weather conditions (e.g. thunderstorms, high wind-chills, unsafe travel conditions, school closings). Contact us about possible cancellations on the day of your program if you are unsure, and please dress appropriately.

# CHAPERONES & STUDENT BEHAVIOUR

## CHAPERONES – THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL VISIT

- Chaperones provide safety and help guide your students' educational experience at the Assiniboine Park Zoo. Chaperones (whether teacher, group leader or parent volunteer) should take an active role in their children's program and leave the socializing until after.
- One adult per five students (1:5) will be allowed into the zoo free of charge.
- Additional adults above the 1:5 ratio will be charged regular zoo admission. Zoo Society memberships cannot be used to attend registered education programs.
- Every group visiting the Education Centre should have at least one adult per ten students regardless of the student's age. We do not encourage a ratio greater than 1 to 5.
- 1 adult/1 special needs student admitted free.
- Due to space and program content, neither younger siblings, nor extra parents are permitted in an education program booked for your students.



**Zoological Society of Manitoba**  
**54 Zoo Drive, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3L 1J4**  
**P: 982-0664; F: 982-0673; zooeducation@zoosociety.com**

## STUDENT BEHAVIOUR EXPECTATIONS

Please share with your students the following appropriate behaviour expected of all students, regardless of age (this includes adults!).

### **Stay with chaperones at all times.**

- Students are not allowed to leave their assigned chaperones while at the zoo.

### **Observe animals with your eyes and ears only.**

- Please respect that the zoo is home to our animals. Please do not chase or touch any live animal on zoo grounds. Banging on the glass of animal exhibits is disruptive and not allowed.

### **Feeding the animals is not allowed.**

- Human food can and has caused illness to zoo animals. Throw away (or recycle) your garbage after you're done.

### **Respect other zoo animals and zoo visitors.**

- Walking and speaking softly ensures all guests enjoy their visit as running and screaming just sends the animals hiding. Please do not go past the fences to get a better look – they are there for everyone's safety.

### **Leave certain things at home.**

- The Assiniboine Park Zoo does not allow you to bring the following items into the zoo for the safety and well being of the animals and other visitors: skateboards, roller blades, scooters, flying discs, balls, balloons, straws, iPods.