



YOUTH BADGE PROGRAMS

Surrounded by animals and plants from around the world, the Toronto Zoo is the perfect location to explore wildlife themes and environmental issues while having fun. All programs are designed to follow the badge requirements as outlined in the respective Guide, Brownie, Spark, Scout or Cub manuals.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS

The Toronto Zoo offers the following programs designed to cover specific requirements (actual badges not included).

GUIDES

Water

Many plants and animals spend all or part of their lives in water. Even for land dwelling creatures, water is still a critical component to survival. Take the plunge to learn more about where water comes from, how it can become polluted and ways that you can help to improve water quality and aquatic habitats for wildlife.

Bird Watching

Brush up on your "observation" skills as we attempt to identify different species of native birds and learn some interesting facts about them. Discover more about specific characteristics that all birds share, how adults take care of their young and which birds migrate for the winter.

Conservation

Step into the outdoors to learn more about our natural resources and why it's important to protect them. From keeping our waterways clean and protecting various other habitats to community service projects, discover what's happening to help preserve the environment and what you can do to become a conservationist.

Naturalist

Step into the great outdoors to learn how to identify plants, mammals, birds, invertebrates, their diets and varying methods of reproduction. From one season to another you'll learn to recognize natural changes that take place and the special adaptations animals have developed in order to survive.

Endangered Species

Polish up your magnifying glass and take a look at some of the world's vanishing species. Discover why many plants and animals are becoming endangered, the importance of habitat protection and ways that zoos and other organizations around the world are trying to help.

Ecology

What happens when natural habitat is turned into a subdivision of homes? Why are some animals considered pests and how can they be controlled? All creatures play an important role in the complex web of life. Discover more about the connections in nature as we take a closer look at the relationships between living things and their physical surroundings.

Plants and Animals

The Zoo is the perfect setting to enhance your knowledge of plant and animal science. Through a variety of activities, discussions, and on site tours you'll learn more about: how plants grow and what they need to survive, similarities and differences between various animals, why certain animals look the way they do, and how naturalists use patterns, behaviours, or calls to identify individual animals.

BROWNIES

Wondrous Walks

Step into the outdoors and use your senses to see, hear, smell, and touch your way through nature. Together we'll discover what kinds of plants and animals share our backyard and the places they seek for shelter. This program will also cover aspects of "Bird Watcher."

Saving Our Plants & Animals

Through a presentation, tour, and a variety of activities we outline ways that wildlife becomes endangered. You will find out how the Toronto Zoo and other zoos work to conserve and protect plants and animals, why it is important to protect them, and what you can do to help.

Water, Water Everywhere

Where do we get our water and how can we keep it clean and safe? Take the plunge and discover how a wetland, conservation area, or body of water helps provide water for your community and investigate the plants and animals that rely on these watery habitats for survival. This program will also cover aspects of "Water All Around."

SPARKS

Going Camping

Camping is a great way to learn about plants and animals in their natural habitats. Join us around our campfire for a closer look at camping from the Zoo to all over the world. Girls will learn some 'Zoooper' camp songs and chants, tell a camping story, and play lots of camping games and activities along the way. ***Please note that program does not include a sleepover or a camp snack. Girls should also have their 'be prepared kits' in advance for their hike.**

Going Outside

Head outside with us to take a closer look at some of the natural areas at the Zoo and the amazing plants and animals you can find here. Learn outdoor games and activities and get new ideas about what you can do to enjoy the outdoors all year round. ***Please note: this program will not fulfill the "Picnic" requirement of the Keeper, but you are welcome to have a picnic at the Zoo during your stay.**

SCOUTS

Naturalist

Explore the natural world through a variety of activities. Learn how to identify individual components within our local ecosystem and how they relate in the great web of life. Learn more about your niche in the community, use the many organisms you identified to build your own food web, and discover different kinds of trees that animals depend on.

CUBS

Naturalist

Take a closer look into the natural world where both plants and animals rely on their senses and special defenses for survival in the wild. Learn more about the types of strategies predators use for catching their prey, how different forms of camouflage help to protect prey from predators, and special adaptations that plants and animals have developed for protection from seasonal changes and other forces of nature.

Observer

Learn how to become a good observer and use your keen sense of sight to recognize a variety of wildlife. Through a short presentation, activities and a tour of the Zoo, learn how to recognize the difference between a carnivore and a herbivore, ways in which birds have adapted to what they eat, how to distinguish different animal tracks, insects, trees, and much more.

World Conservation

Join us at the Zoo for closer look at different habitats from around the world and the kinds of wildlife that call these places home. Explore the connections between plants, animals and their environment (land, air, water). Discover what it means to be an endangered species, threats to wildlife survival, and how projects at the Zoo and YOU can help.

**The Toronto Zoo also welcomes all
Beavers.**

Join us for a themed guided tour to learn more about wildlife around the world.

For more information, please call

(416) 392-5947



Program Details

Badge programs are 2.5 hours in length and are offered on Saturdays OR Sundays, either MORNING (9:30 am to 12 noon) OR AFTERNOON (1:00 pm to 3:30 pm) from October to May.

Programs are held on the Zoo site and take place rain or shine. Each program features exciting activities, special tours, and biofacts to complete specific badge requirements. As all sessions involve some walking, comfortable shoes and clothing are essential. Groups may bring their own lunch or may use the restaurants on site – Harvey's, Pizza Pizza or Peacock Café.

Program Fees

(This price includes admission to the Zoo)

\$15 per youth

\$8 per adult

***NOTE:** A minimum of \$180 (12 youths) is required to book a program. Payment for leaders, supervisors, and chaperones will be in addition to this amount. A maximum number of 30 youths plus leaders or supervisors can be accommodated. Additional children accompanying the group who are not part of the group will be charged the regular admission rates and are not included in the minimum \$180 youth payment. *(Prices subject to change)*

Payment for Zoo Members

Leaders or supervisors and chaperones who are Zoo members may accompany their groups free of charge. If the minimum youth payment is met, any remaining youth who are members pay only the program fee of \$9. *(Proof of membership required)*

How to Register

Please complete the attached registration form. A non-refundable deposit of \$50 is required at the time of booking. We accept Master Card, VISA, AMEX, cash, or cheque payable to:

**Toronto Zoo – Education Branch
361A Old Finch Ave.
Scarborough, ON
M1B 5K7**

The balance of your fee (less the \$50 deposit) is payable at Guest Services - (located to the left of the admission gates), upon your arrival at the Zoo. *note that submitting a registration form is not a guarantee of registration. Groups will be contacted with a confirmation.

**For more information please call 416-392-5947,
e-mail to: programs@torontozoo.ca or visit our
website at torontozoo.com**