



**toronto**  
**ZOO**

# **FIELD TRIP PLANNER**



**EDUCATOR RESOURCE GUIDE TO THE TORONTO ZOO**  
Curriculum-based field trips for preschool, elementary, & secondary students.



# EXPLORING NATURE'S CLASSROOM AT THE TORONTO ZOO

## BENEFITS OF A TRIP TO THE ZOO

- Making real-world connections through observation, inquiry, & critical thinking.
- Coming face-to-face with over 5,000 animals.
- Ignites a sense of wonder and curiosity.
- Connecting with nature, getting active, and exploring 10 km of walking trails.
- Inspires students to take action and protect wildlife.



## TORONTO ZOO FIELD TRIPS - AT A GLANCE

### SELF-GUIDED VISIT

Enjoy the flexibility of exploring the Zoo on your own, while discovering the amazing wildlife that call the Zoo home.

**EDU-TREKS** Toronto Zoo Staff and Volunteers will guide your students through the Zoo on an exciting, 1.5 hour tour, connecting wildlife and the Zoo to your chosen curriculum-linked topic. Spend the rest of your visit exploring on your own.

### VIRTUAL WORKSHOPS

Delivered by Toronto Zoo educators, school programs are a unique and exciting way to bring the curriculum to life. Virtual Visits range from a 15- minute animal Meet & Greet to a 40 - minute Guided Visit with bonus resources!

## SCHOOL GROUP ADMISSION RATES STUDENTS & SUPERVISORS\*

Licensed Child Care Centres**	\$9
Elementary (K-8)	\$9
Secondary (9-12)	\$10
Post-secondary	\$11

1 teacher per class receives **FREE** admission.

Kindergarten: 1 teacher + 1 ECE per class receive **FREE** admission.

Zoo Memberships are honoured for student & supervisor admission. Proof of membership required.

## SUPERVISOR RATIO

Grades PreK - 3	1 supervisor per 5 students.
Grades 4 - 8	1 supervisor per 10 students.
Grades 9 - 12	1 supervisor per 20 students.

\* All rates subject to change without notice.

\*\* Licensed Child Care Centres must be registered with the Ministry of Education and pay for a minimum of 10 children. Valid on P.A. Days, but excludes other school holidays.

HST included in all rates - HST#119216398

## BOOK YOUR FIELD TRIP TODAY

*Please book at least two weeks in advance.*

The Zoo is open year-round! Self-guided visits can be booked on any day. School programs (September to June) fill up quickly, so don't miss out - book early!

### Information required at time of booking:

- Date of visit
- Contact teacher's name, email, & cell number
- School name, address
- Estimated time of arrival
- Number of participants, both students & supervisors
- School program or guided tour choice (if applicable)

## HOW TO BOOK

### Self-guided Visit

Email [groupbooking@torontozoo.ca](mailto:groupbooking@torontozoo.ca)

### Edu-Treks

Email [schools@torontozoo.ca](mailto:schools@torontozoo.ca)

### Virtual Workshops

Email [programs@torontozoo.ca](mailto:programs@torontozoo.ca)

[torontozoo.com/educationandcamps/schoolprograms](https://torontozoo.com/educationandcamps/schoolprograms)

## DISCOVER THE ZOO

Students will be amazed by the diversity of wildlife as they explore:

- African Rainforest
- African Savanna
- Americas
- Australasia
- Canadian Domain
- Eurasia Wilds
- Indo-Malaya
- Kids Zoo
- Tundra Trek

## CURRICULUM-LINKED RESOURCES

*FREE to download*

Self-guided tours, lesson ideas, activity guides, assignments, and more are available for elementary and secondary students from [torontozoo.com](http://torontozoo.com).



## ACCESSIBILITY

The Zoo has many features to make it accessible for all students, including complimentary admission for support persons providing one-on-one support for health and/or safety reasons. School programs and guided tours can also be modified to meet the varying abilities of students. For more information, visit [torontozoo.com/explorethezoo/accessibility](http://torontozoo.com/explorethezoo/accessibility).



## LUNCH

Picnic tables are available throughout the Zoo and students can bring litterless lunches or purchase food at a restaurant. To arrange a pizza or boxed lunch, please contact Compass Foods at **416-392-6003** prior to visit.

\*50% off picnic site rentals during the school year for school groups. Contact [groupevents@torontozoo.ca](mailto:groupevents@torontozoo.ca) for more information.

## PROGRAMS

### EDU-TREKS

\$4 + admission per student.

Get outside the classroom and join us at your Toronto Zoo! A knowledgeable Zoo Staff and Volunteer will lead your class on a 1.5 hour, curriculum based tour. Explore the Zoo, discover wild facts about your favourite animals, participate in interactive activities, and enhance what you're learning in the classroom.

Tours are available for elementary and secondary students and are available to book at 10:00am or 12:30pm, Monday to Friday. Pre-booking is required. Please note: this experience does not involve going behind the scenes.

### ELEMENTARY

Grade 1 • Characteristics & Needs of Living Things

Grade 2 • Classification

Grade 3 • Plant & Animal Interactions

Grade 4 • Habitats & Human Influences

Grade 5 • Animal Digestive Systems

Grade 6 • Biodiversity & Classification

### SECONDARY

• Climate Change

All tours can be adapted for students with special needs or English as a second language.

### SECONDARY LEVEL ASSIGNMENTS

*FREE to download from website.*

Challenge your students to observe, read, think, record data, and make their own discoveries at the Zoo.

- Anthropology
- Biodiversity
- Evolution
- Climate Change
- Environmental Science
- Sustainable Ecosystem
- Urbanization
- Biomes

### ZOO SCHOOL

Students can earn their grade 11 biology credit (SBI3U) in the summer at the Toronto Zoo!

This unique experience incorporates behind-the-scenes tours, close animal encounters, career discussions with Zoo staff, interactive classroom discussions, and memorable projects.

### SELF-GUIDED TOURS

*FREE to download from website.*

Download a curriculum-linked, self-guided tour script to support and enhance your students' learning.

### EDUCATOR RESOURCE BOOKLETS

*FREE to download from website.*

# EXTEND LEARNING AT THE ZOO

## ADOPT-AN-ANIMAL

By adopting an animal, your class can contribute towards its care and on-going conservation efforts. Adoption packages include certificate, animal fact sheet, and informative newsletter. Packages begin at \$25.

To find out how your students can become Zoo "parents," call 416-392-9114 or email [development@torontozoo.ca](mailto:development@torontozoo.ca).



## ADOPT-A-POND WETLAND CONSERVATION GRADES 1 - 12

Our mission is to conserve wetlands and wetland wildlife through research, education, and stewardship. Utilizing our resources, your classroom can get involved with creating, restoring, and protecting wetland biodiversity.

FREE

Curriculum-linked resources are available online for the following topics:

- Eastern Massasauga rattlesnakes
- Turtles
- Wetlands

Order posters, species identification guides, and Ontario Turtle Tally, FrogWatch Ontario, & Turtle Island Conservation brochures by emailing [aap@torontozoo.ca](mailto:aap@torontozoo.ca).



## GREAT LAKES PROGRAM - GRADES 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 11

Curriculum-linked & virtual presentations delivered across Ontario!

Grade 1 & 2 • Discover our local fish species.

Grade 4 • Explore the role of fish in the Great Lakes ecosystem.

Grade 6 • Investigate the impact of humans on biodiversity in the Great Lakes.

Grade 7 • Explore the importance of natural water resources and maintaining healthy aquatic ecosystems.

Grade 11 • Examine the diversity of living things and water quality in urban settings.

A great way to engage your students in local conservation efforts!

### Grade 8 Great Lakes Teaching and Learning Resource

Inquiry-based learning resource comes complete with student workbook, online component, project ideas, and teacher guide.

### Water Resources

Lesson Plans: Bilingual plans available for grades 1, 2, 7, 8, & 11

Resources available in: English, French, Mandarin, Panjabi (Punjabi), & Urdu.

Please contact [greatlakes@torontozoo.ca](mailto:greatlakes@torontozoo.ca) or call 416-392-6022 for more information.

FREE

Delivered  
in English  
& French



## BLUE SCHOOLS PROGRAM – GRADES 1 – 12

Cross-curricular and action-oriented school certification program.

After completing an in-school water audit, students take the lead and decide how to reduce or improve water consumption in the school. With support from Toronto Zoo staff, students develop and implement an action plan to support water conservation; some action examples include shoreline clean-ups, awareness campaigns, installing water-saving hardware, and rain gardens.

Please contact [greatlakes@torontozoo.ca](mailto:greatlakes@torontozoo.ca) or visit: [www.torontozoo.com/conservation/blueschools/](http://www.torontozoo.com/conservation/blueschools/) for more information

FREE



## AQUA-LINKS OUTREACH PROGRAM – GRADE 7

BILINGUAL AND CURRICULUM-LINKED!

Students gain hands-on experience raising native Atlantic salmon in their classrooms and are connected to students and biologists in East Africa to discuss local water issues. All necessary equipment is provided. *Limited spaces available.*

Please contact [aqualinks@torontozoo.ca](mailto:aqualinks@torontozoo.ca) or call 416-392-6022 for more information.

FREE

# AND BEYOND!



## EXTINCT IS FOREVER

### FIGHTING EXTINCTION - WHY WE ARE HERE

The Toronto Zoo is here because the work we do behind-the-scenes is vital to the survival of wildlife. Visit [torontozoo.com](http://torontozoo.com) to watch the *Fighting Extinction - Why We Are Here* video and learn more about the important conservation work the Toronto Zoo is involved in. Use this video in your classroom to start a discussion about wildlife conservation and how students can get involved to help protect the environment.

*How loud is a lion's roar? How does a snake slither? Which species are the biggest, fastest, and strongest? How does the Toronto Zoo design exhibits to meet the needs of different species? How is the Toronto Zoo helping to protect wildlife and their habitat? Find out at the Toronto Zoo!*

### FREE CURRICULUM-LINKED RESOURCES AVAILABLE

- Self-guided Tour Scripts (elementary) and inquiry based assignments (elementary & secondary)
- Educator Resource & Activity Packages (grade/theme specific)
- Adopt-a-Pond Wetland Conservation Resources, Posters, & Species Identification Guides
- Great Lakes - Inquiry-based Resource & Lesson Plans
- Turtle Island Conservation Resource Package (First Nations)
- All about the Toronto Zoo - Careers, Conservation, Diets, Enrichment, & more!
- Animal Fact Sheets & Zoo Baby Updates
- Videos

*Or create your own open-ended, inquiry-based resources to suit the needs of your students!*

### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

- Science - Think beyond just Life Systems & Biology
- Mathematics
- Literacy
- Social Studies/Geography
- Anthropology
- Careers
- Business
- The Arts



### WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO! EDUCATOR E-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to [schools@torontozoo.ca](mailto:schools@torontozoo.ca) today and be the first to learn about field trip and outreach opportunities, new curriculum-linked programs and resources available, as well as special events and promotions happening at the Toronto Zoo.



# Book your *Field Trip* today

## CONTACTS

<i>Self-guided Visits</i>	groupbooking@torontozoo.ca
<i>Edu-Treks</i>	schools@torontozoo.ca
<i>Virtual Programs</i>	programs@torontozoo.ca
<i>Adopt-an-Animal</i>	wildlifeconservancy@torontozoo.ca
<i>Adopt-a-Pond</i>	aap@torontozoo.ca
<i>Aqua-Links Outreach</i>	aqualinks@torontozoo.ca
<i>Great Lakes Outreach</i>	greatlakes@torontozoo.ca
<i>Serengeti Bush Camp</i>	bushcamp@torontozoo.ca

**VISIT TORONTOZOO.COM FOR MORE INFORMATION**

## YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

As a not-for-profit organization, the revenues from all Zoo visits, including school field trips, directly support conservation efforts to help save vulnerable wildlife. The ongoing support of educators helps to ensure that these critical conservation efforts can continue and connects future generations to nature and the environment.

*Together we can make a difference!*

*Curiosity • Discovery • Inquiry*