Mardi Gras Camp FAQ Sheet

Remember, check-in starts at 8:45 am. If you need to come earlier please sign you up for before-care. Also, please dress your child appropriately for weather and the outdoors. Tennis shoes, long pants, coats...

We will have a ton of fun and spend a lot of time outdoors enjoying free play!

Location for Zoo Camp:

The Dominion Learning Center is the base for all education programs. Please enter the black wrought iron gates to the right of the main entrance.

(Behind the John James Audubon statue.)

ARRIVAL:

Zoo Campers will arrive at the Front Gate, Magazine Street Entrance. Please allow children to exit only on the curbside. Feel free to park along the front curbside for check-in and pick up. Please bring your child to check-in every day of camp.

Camp begins at 9 am. For those who need to arrive earlier than 8:45 am, please register your child for Before Care.
DISMISSAL POLICY & AFTER CAMP PICK-UP

Campers will be dismissed at 3 pm daily. Children should be picked up no later than 3:15 pm. After this time, children will be sent to aftercare and you will be charged $10.00, which is due upon pickup of your child. A late fee of $1.00 will be due for every minute after 5:30 pm.

All designated drivers must present a valid form of government-issued photo ID at pick-up time in order for the Zoo to release campers at the end of the day.

Steps for Pick-Up (For Holiday Camp we are unable to provide carpool, but you may park curbside.)

1. When you arrive at the gate, please show your ID to a Zoo Camp staff member.

2. You will then go to the designated group to get the camper(s) and all of their belongings.

BEFORE/AFTERCARE:

The hours for Before Care are 7:30 am - 8:45 am. The hours for After Care are 3:15 pm - 5:30 pm. It is important that all campers participating in before or aftercare services are pre-registered and paid in advance. You may do so by calling 504-212-5380 or email your request to zooedadmin@auduboninstitute.org. Alanna will send you a card authorization or you may pay over the phone. The rates are listed below:

Before Care: $7.00

After Care: $10.00

Any payments not made prior to pick-up will be due at pick-up.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

Campers are divided into age-appropriate groups. Each group is led by 1-2 headteachers and a varied number of staff volunteers, maintaining a 1 to 8 ratio.
A morning snack is provided daily. However, campers must bring their own lunch from home each day with a drink, clearly marked with the child's name. We teach children about conservation and eco-packaging, please pack a lunch that reflects this. We suggest using reusable lunch boxes instead of bags and sending reusable containers and thermoses. No microwaveable food or food that requires refrigeration is allowed. There is no time to purchase lunches or snacks on grounds. We ask that you do not send your child with money.

**ACTIVITIES:**

Children will experience a wide variety of activities. Many of our activities are outside in the zoo so that we can take advantage of the animals, plants, and award-winning exhibits. Please prepare your child for all the New Orleans weather offers - sun, heat, cold, or rain. Please provide your child with a hat and travel canteen with water to drink throughout the day. Clearly mark all of your child’s belongings with their name.

**CLOTHING:**

The weather can be cold for Holiday Camp. Dress your child appropriately. We ask that children wear comfortable play clothes. We also ask that your child wear closed-toe shoes. Please, no open-toed shoes or sandals of any kind.

Also, do not forget to bring lunch and a water bottle daily! We ask that your child not bring any additional toys from home. There are lots of things to do during Zoo Camp!

**Have Fun and Learn!!!**

We look forward to seeing your child at Winter Camp! Please contact Alanna Frick at zooedadmin@auduboninstitute.org or (504)212-5380 if you have any questions.