

Fort Wayne Children's Zoo Job Shadow Program

Thank you for your interest in the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo Job Shadow Program. Your job shadow is an important step toward learning about a career in zoo keeping. Please read the information below carefully and follow the application instructions at the bottom of the page. Please note that space is limited for this program and slots are filled on a first come, first served basis for those submitting completed applications.

What will I do on a job shadow?

No two days are alike at the zoo, so every job shadow is a unique experience. You will be assigned to a zoo keeper who will take you along on their daily rounds as they clean and feed zoo animals. Depending on the type of animals they care for, you may be able to help prepare food, deliver food, and assist with cleaning. Job shadow students are not permitted to work with dangerous animals like lions, leopards, sea lions, or tigers.



What should I bring?

Most importantly, bring your enthusiasm and love of learning. Zoo keepers work outdoors in all types of weather, so please dress comfortably and appropriately for the weather. This includes closed-toe shoes (sandals are not permitted), jeans or khakis, shirt, coat or jacket if necessary. Don't forget a hat and gloves if it's cold outside. Also, be prepared to make the most of your job shadow by bringing a list of questions you'd like to ask the zoo keeper.

Who can apply?

Job shadows are open to high school students in grades 9-12.

When should I apply?

Allow at least 3 weeks for the application and scheduling process. Please be flexible. We may not be able to accommodate the exact date you request.

Is there a fee?

There is a \$15 fee for the Job Shadow program. Please do not send payment with your application. You will receive an invoice with your confirmation. Scholarships are available for those demonstrating financial need. Please contact us at 260-427-6808 or education@kidszoo.org to receive scholarship information.



How do I apply?

Download the **application form**. On your application, mark the zoo area in which you'd like to perform your Job Shadow. Read the information below carefully and note days and times that the Job Shadows are offered. Mail your completed application form at least 3 weeks in advance of your anticipated job shadow date to:

Job Shadows, Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, 3411 Sherman Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46808
FAX to 260-427-6820 or e-mail to education@kidszoo.org

Job Shadow Areas

The zoo offers a variety of Job Shadow experiences. Choose from one of the areas listed and mark your selection on your application.

African Journey

Join keepers on their rounds in the African Journey. Duties may include: cleaning, feeding, and observing training of giraffes, wildebeest, sitatunga, bat-eared fox, and servals.

Days available: Monday-Friday

Time: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (4 hour experience)

Great Barrier Reef Aquarium

Work with the zoo's aquarists as they clean, check tank temperatures and salinity, prepare animal diets, and feed many of our aquatic residents in our 17,000 and 50,000-gallon aquariums.

Days available: Monday-Friday

Time: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (4 hour experience)



Australian Adventure

Experience the creatures and culture of the Land Down Under in the four-acre Australian Adventure. You may help with feeding, cleaning, and animal observations, including kangaroos, wallabies, parrots and other birds, bats, echidnas, and striped possums.

Days available: Monday-Friday

Time: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (4 hour experience)

Central Zoo

Help prepare otter and penguin diets as you shadow a Central Zoo keeper. You may assist with food preparation and help deliver food to wallabies, red pandas, hedgehogs, parrots, guinea pigs, cattle, sheep, goats, and chickens.

Days available: Tuesday-Thursday

Time: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (4 hour experience)

Indonesian Rain Forest

Welcome to the jungle! Your Job Shadow may include cleaning and feeding exotic birds, observing orangutans and other primates, and assisting with reptile care, all under cover of our 8,000 sq. ft. rain forest.

Days available: Tuesday-Thursday

Time: 8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon (4 hour experience)

Questions?

Contact the Zoo Education Department at 260-427-6808 or education@kidszoo.org.

