



**Fort Wayne Children's Zoo
Just Zoo It Mini-Grant Program
Presented by**

Touchstone Energy Cooperatives – Your Local REMC's



What is *Just Zoo It*?

The **Just Zoo It** Mini-Grant Program is designed to pay **one-half** of the zoo admission fees (up to a maximum of \$75) for a classroom of students and required chaperones for a field trip to the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo between April 22, 2017 and October 8, 2017.

Who can apply for a *Just Zoo It* Mini-Grant?

Indiana schools served by Touchstone Energy Cooperatives – Your Local REMC's in Allen (Northwest, Southwest, and East Allen County Schools only), Adams, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wabash, Wells, and Whitley Counties are eligible.

- First and second grade classes only
- Public or private schools
- Multiple teachers within a school may apply (please submit a separate application for each classroom)

How do I apply?

Fill out the 2-page **Just Zoo It** Mini-Grant application and submit it to the zoo by January 29, 2017.

How are Mini-Grant recipients selected?

The **Just Zoo It** Mini-Grant Program has a limited amount of funds, which are provided by the program's sponsor, Touchstone Energy Cooperatives – Your Local REMC's. Selection is competitive and based on:

- Financial need (percentage of students receiving free and reduced lunch)
- School location (must be served by Touchstone Energy Cooperatives – Your Local REMC's)
- Educational goals for your zoo field trip

How will I know if my class has been selected?

You will be notified of your acceptance or rejection via mail or e-mail by March 30, 2017. If selected, you will receive a voucher for one-half of your expected admission expense (up to a maximum of \$75). The voucher can be presented at the zoo admission gate. You are responsible for the remaining half of your admission fees and all other fees incurred during your field trip.

What is the School Group Discount Admission Rate for 2017?

- \$6.50 per student when there are 15 or more students in your group.
- \$6.50 per chaperone when there are 15 or more students in your group.
- Paid professional school staff are admitted free with ID when accompanying students on a field trip.
- For groups with less than 15 students, regular admission rates may apply. See *kidszoo.org* for rates.
- Prices subject to change.

How many chaperones does the zoo require?

- The zoo requires one adult chaperone for every 5 to 8 students.
- Chaperones should know your educational goals for the field trip, be able to guide the students' behavior, and remain with children at all times.

Where can I find resources to make my field trip educational and meet Academic Standards?

- Visit <http://kidszoo.org/programs-and-events/> to download free resources.
- Sign up for a free Field Trip Mini-Class by calling 260-427-6808.
- E-mail education@kidszoo.org to request a hard copy of our School Programs Guide.

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Just Zoo It Mini-Grant Application

Please read the attached information sheet to make sure you qualify for the **Just Zoo It** Mini-Grant program before submitting your application.

Print this form and complete the information below. Complete a separate application for each classroom and submit all applications from your school together. Additional copies are available at kidszoo.org. Mail the completed form to **Just Zoo It**, 3411 Sherman Blvd., Fort Wayne, IN 46808 or FAX to 260-427-6820. **Application deadline January 29, 2017.**

Questions? Call 260-427-6808 or e-mail education@kidszoo.org.

Teacher Name _____ Today's Date _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

School District _____ Grade Level (only 1st and 2nd grade classes may apply) _____

What County is your school in? _____

Only Indiana schools served by Touchstone Energy Cooperatives – Your Local REMCs in Allen (Northwest, Southwest, and East Allen County Schools only), Adams, DeKalb, Huntington, Kosciusko, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wabash, and Whitley Counties are eligible to apply.

Date of planned zoo visit (approx.) _____ School Phone _____

Teacher e-mail address (required for follow up survey) _____ @ _____

Would you like to receive occasional e-mail updates from the zoo about new programs and animals?

Your address will not be shared. Yes No

Tell us about your students

What percentage of students in your class receive free lunch? _____

What percentage of students in your class receive reduced-price lunch? _____

Tell us about your zoo field trip plans

What are your educational goals for your zoo field trip? _____

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How will you or your students pay for the other half of your zoo field trip expenses (those not covered by this mini-grant)? _____

Explain how this zoo field trip will enhance your school year. _____

Has your class visited the zoo in the past? Yes, every year Yes, but not every year No

What are the biggest barriers to taking your students on a zoo field trip? (check all that apply)

- Students unable to afford admission/no additional funding available from school
- No funding for bus transportation
- Only allowed a limited number of field trips each year
- Does not correlate with curriculum
- Administration discourages field trips
- Other

In your opinion, what is the most valuable part of taking your students on a field trip – to the zoo, or anywhere? _____

Calculate your funding request

Please submit a separate application for each classroom. Do not include teachers and paid professional school staff in your count. They are always admitted free when accompanying students on a field trip.

1. Number of students _____ + Number of chaperones _____ = _____ Number of participants
2. _____ Number of participants x \$6.50 zoo group admission rate = \$_____ field trip cost
3. Divide the field trip cost in half = \$ _____
4. Grant request: \$_____ (Write in the number from Line 3 or \$75, whichever is lower).

Thank you – please follow the submission instructions on the first page of this application.



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