



Staten Island Zoological Society, Inc.
614 Broadway, Staten island, New York 10310

Phone: 718-442-3101
Fax: 718-442-8942
www.statenislandzoo.org

Dear Zoofari Participants and Guardians:

The Staten Island Zoo is pleased to announce that we will be starting **Zoofari** this summer on June 28th! Both the Zoo staff and animals look forward to welcoming our young participants to the popular **Zoofari** program for a fun summer experience.

In order to ensure the safety of all participants, as well as staff and guests of the Zoo, all participants must adhere to the following protocols and procedures, based on recommended health and safety actions set forth by federal, state, city, and CDC guidelines:

- Everyone on Zoo grounds will be required to wear a mask, including Zoofari participants. Reusable masks will be provided.
- Drop-off and pick-up will occur in the Clove Road Parking Lot, in a drive-up fashion, with visual and verbal confirmation with a group leader or staff member. We ask that parents, guardians, and anyone NOT attending Zoofari remain in the car.
 - More information on drop-off and pick-up procedures will be in the weekly parent letter.
- Zoofari participants will undergo temperature checks at drop-off, using a contactless thermometer.
 - If temperature reading is 100.4°F or over, participant will be asked to wait 10 minutes and be rechecked. If at that time their temperature is still 100.4°F or over, they will not be allowed to participate that day.
- Zoofari participants will be assigned the same classroom table throughout the week. Art supplies will be limited and sanitized daily. We encourage guardians to send children with a bag of individual safety scissors, small box crayons, and glue stick.
- A regular schedule of handwashing will be maintained.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be present in every education classroom and throughout the Zoo.
- The water fountain that is used for Zoofari will be for filling bottles only (no drinking directly from the fountain). Each Zoofari participant will be given a reusable water bottle.
- Zoofari groups will remain physically distant from each other and will not occupy the same space at the same time. Within their groups, however, participants will not be expected to physical distance from one another or their counselors.
- Temperature and health checks will be required by staff before reporting to Zoo grounds.
- There will be increased cleaning and disinfecting protocols put in place, including: ongoing cleaning and disinfecting of bathrooms, tables, shared supplies, and other items.
- Zoofari activities will take place outside as much as possible, weather permitting.

It is important to note that this is a fluid process, and some of the guidelines above may change as we receive more guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC), New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH), and New York City health officials. We will communicate any such updates as they become available to us. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact education@statenislandzoo.org.

We are looking forward to a memorable and engaging summer!