Thank you for scheduling a visit to the Lake Superior Zoo! This guide is intended to help you plan for a successful trip and answer questions you may have prior to your visit.

Did you know?

- The Lake Superior Zoo has been around since 1923! Its first resident was a white-tailed deer named Billy.
- Lake Superior Zoo is home to over 100 species of animals from all over the world.
- The zoo’s oldest resident is a double yellow-headed Amazon parrot who is over 45 years old! Be sure to say “hello” to her when you’re in Griggs Learning Center and she might say it back!
Before Your Visit:

Checklist

☐ Read your confirmation letter to be sure the dates and information are correct. If you did not receive a confirmation letter, please call 218-730-4500 ext. 205.

☐ Confirm your group’s transportation to and from the zoo. Zoo parking is free.

☐ Print a Chaperone Information sheet for each chaperone (found at the end of this packet).

☐ Assign student/chaperone groups prior to your arrival at the zoo. A ratio of one chaperone per 10 students is recommended, although a group size of 5 students with one chaperone is found to be most effective.

☐ Create name tags for your students. If you are able to provide name tags identifying first names and school, it can be easier to reunite students with their group if they get separated. The zoo does not provide wristbands.

☐ Review the behavior expectations that are included in this packet with your students. Advise students to dress appropriately for the weather—many of the zoo’s exhibits are outdoors and you will be spending 1½ to 3 hours at the zoo.
Arrival Procedures

Arriving by Bus

If arriving by bus, please have one designated adult go inside the Main Building to the gift shop while the rest of the group remains on the bus. In the gift shop you will give zoo staff a final head count and pay for your visit.

Arriving by Car

If arriving by car, please assemble your group by the main entrance and check in once all group members have arrived. Have one designated adult go inside the Main Building to the gift shop to give a final head count and pay for your visit.

Restrooms are located in the upper and lower levels of the Main Building and in the Primate Building.

Lunches

The zoo does not have a place to store lunches, so lunches should either be carried by students in their backpacks or stored on the bus. To make other arrangements, please contact us in advance.

If you would like to enjoy lunch outside, there are picnic tables on zoo grounds and in Fairmont Park, which is located outside the zoo adjacent to our parking lot. If the weather is rainy or cold, lunch can be enjoyed in our Safari Café or any open space in our Main Building or Primate Building. Please note that we are not an allergen-free facility.

Ordering lunches is a convenient way to provide lunch for your group. For more information and to place an order, please contact Sam Halligan at (218) 730-4500 ext. 204 or shalligan@lszoo.org.

Payment

Please have a head count of children and adults ready for payment processing.

• Payment can be made by cash, check, credit card, or purchase order.

• To qualify for the group rate, group members must arrive at the same time and pay in one single transaction.

• Any persons paying separately from the group will be charged the regular rate ($13 for ages 13 and up, $6.50 for ages 3-12).

• Zoo memberships and other discounts are not valid with group visits.

• Zoo staff will need your final head count and school billing address to process payment or purchase order.

• Please see your confirmation letter for the cost estimate of your field trip. Remember that the total on your confirmation is just an estimate and when you arrive, the final head count will determine the actual cost.
Behavior Expectations

For your safety and the animals’ safety, we ask that the following behavior expectations are followed:

- Help protect the animals. Do not feed animals, tap on their exhibits, or throw objects at the animals or exhibits.
- Keep your feet on the ground. No climbing or hanging on fences and railings.
- Stay on paths. Walk, don’t run.
- Please throw garbage in trash cans. Use the recycling bins for recyclables.
- Students should always stay with their group.
- Students can only enter the gift shop with their chaperone.
- Please be respectful of other visitors.
- Most of all, HAVE FUN!

Groups that are unable to meet these expectations will be asked to leave.
Make the Most of Your Experience

Classroom Activities & Scavenger Hunts

Classroom activities and scavenger hunts can help you make the most of your visit to the Lake Superior Zoo. Check out our Educator Resources Page for more information: http://www.lszoooduluth.org/programs-camps/educator-resources/.

Animal Fact Sheets

Fact sheets about all of our animals are available on the Animal Exhibits pages of our website: http://www.lszoooduluth.org/animal-exhibits/.

Education Programs

Programs featuring live animals can be scheduled prior your visit. These interactive programs explore animal adaptations, life cycles, animal careers, and what we can do to help wildlife. Find more information about these programs at: http://www.lszoooduluth.org/programs-camps/field-trips/.

Barnyard Hours

Our barn contact yard is open daily from June-August, plus weekends in May and September, based on staff and volunteer availability.

Daily Zookeeper Talks

Meet a zookeeper while learning about the zoo’s animals. These short presentations are offered daily. To see the schedule, check out the Calendar on the zoo’s website and the Daily Activities Schedule posted near the gift shop. Please note, these talks are subject to change.
Chaperone Information

Dear ____________________,

Thank you for being a chaperone on our zoo field trip! As a chaperone, you play an important role in making this field trip an educational success and helping create a safe and memorable experience for students. Your first priority is the safety of your assigned student group. Management of students’ behavior is the responsibility of teachers and chaperones, not zoo employees.

Please review the rules with your group:

- Help protect the animals. Do not feed animals, tap on their exhibits, or throw objects at the animals or exhibits.
- Keep your feet on the ground. No climbing or hanging on fences and railings.
- Stay on paths. Walk, don’t run.
- Please throw garbage in trash cans. Use the recycling bins for recyclables.
- Students should always stay with their group.
- Students can only enter the gift shop with their chaperone.
- Please be respectful of other visitors.
- Most of all, HAVE FUN!

Help Students Learn:

- Encourage students’ curiosity by asking open-ended questions such as “What do you see?” and “Why do you think the animal is acting like that?”
- Help students find answers to their questions by looking at the exhibits, reading exhibit signs, or talking with zoo staff and volunteers.

If anyone requires first aid or if there is a lost student, please find a zoo employee to assist you. Lost and found is located in the gift shop in the Main Building.

Names of students in your group:

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________

Schedule for the day:

Arrival Time: ___________ Education Program Time: ___________ & Location: __________________

Lunch Time: ___________ Location: __________________

Departure Time: ___________ Location: __________________

Students will be looking to you as role models. Thank you for your positive attitude and encouraging learning and exploration!