

ZB1.15 Appendix 2

Steve Jones

From: schools
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2018 8:26 AM
To: schools
Subject: What's New At The Zoo- Nov 2018 Edition



WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO!
E D U C A T O R S ' E D I T I O N

Help us Pilot our New Inquiry Based Workshop this January!

Calling all grade 4 teachers! Are you considering coming to the Zoo in January? We're looking for a few grade 4 classes to help pilot our new inquiry based workshop on habitats. If interested, please contact schools@torontozoo.ca and identify the ideal date (January 7 – 25th, 2019 only) for your class to participate. Programs are approximately 90 minutes in length, with a classroom and tour component. 36 students max per session.

All program costs will be waived for this pilot program. Please note that regular school group admission rates still apply.

Current Hours: 9:30 am – 4:30 pm daily

School Group Admission

Rates:

Child Care Centre*:	\$8
Elementary:	\$8
Secondary:	\$9
Post-Secondary:	\$10

*Child Care Centres must be licensed with the Ontario Ministry of Education to receive the \$8 admission rate. A minimum of 10 children required. Excludes school holidays.

School Group Supervision

Ratios:

PreK – 3:	1 : 5
4 – 8:	1 : 10
9 – 12:	1 : 20

Book Your School Visit!

Contact Information

School Programs: [416-392-5944](tel:416-392-5944)
Guided Tours: [416 -392-5942](tel:416-392-5942)
Admissions only: [416 -392-5932](tel:416-392-5932)

“The day at the Zoo was memorable. Both the program presenters were excellent, informative, and were able to answer all questions asked”

- Holy Spirit Catholic School



PA Day Program

Friday, December 7, 2018

9:00 am - 3:30 pm

Would any of your students love to attend a PA Day Program at the Zoo? Then tell them about our upcoming PA Day Program! Campers will have fun touring the Zoo and exploring what animals do when the weather changes. The day will include a behind-the-scenes encounter, animal-related activities, games, and more!

COST: \$50(Member)/\$60 (Non-member) *Cost is per individual
Participants must be ages 4 to 12

Before & After Care option available:

If you are interested in purchasing Before and/or After Care, please email your request to programs@torontozoo.ca.
Upon receiving your request, we will add the additional fees to the credit card already provided.

Before Care: 7:45 am - 9:00 am; cost \$5

After Care: 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm; cost \$10

Before & After Care (combined): cost \$12

Register **HERE**

The Amur Tigers Have Returned!

The Toronto Zoo is delighted to welcome back the endangered Amur tiger, the largest of all tigers, after a five-year absence. The Amur Tiger Exhibit, formerly the Giant Panda Experience, is located within the Eurasia Wilds section. Visit Kira and Vasili with your students today!



Kira – Name meaning "mistress or ruler" (female)
Born March 30, 2012

Kira is a very social tiger who is quick to learn new things.
She works well with behavioural training.



Vasili – Name meaning "royal or kingly" (male)
Born March 30, 2012

Vasili is a very energetic, playful, and is always interested
in his training sessions with keepers. He loves investigating
and engaging with new enrichment items.

For more information about Amur tigers, conservation efforts, and how you and your students can help, please [click here](#).

Enrichment at the Toronto Zoo

Did you know that each animal at the Toronto Zoo receives enrichment every day and providing new enrichment opportunities is a very important responsibility for Wildlife Care staff? Have you ever noticed barrels, toys, boxes, and

other devices in exhibits during your visit and wondered why they were there? Each of those objects is a form of enrichment and all enrichment plays an important role in ensuring the health of the wildlife at the Zoo.

The Toronto Zoo's Behavioural Husbandry Program is designed to provide enrichment and training experiences that mimic an animal's natural behaviour and provide mental stimulation as well as choice within their environments. These experiences can include various puzzle feeders, novel substrates, and unique scents which encourage our animals to exhibit natural behaviours and as a result are a benefit to the animals overall health and welfare.



How you and your students can help – holiday “enrichment” ornaments are currently available instore at the Zootique gift shop. The proceeds of each ornament go directly toward a specific enrichment item such as herbal tea for the gorilla troop (\$5), spice kits for our komodo dragons (\$10), or baking extracts –banana and mint - for our giraffes Kiko & Mastari (\$10). Various enrichment items are available to purchase while at the Zoo. Not able to make it in person? Hold a bake sale or “loonie” fundraiser, and donate the proceeds towards [animal enrichment online](#).



TO WATCH THE ENRICHMENT GIVING TREE VIDEO

[click here](#)

DID YOU KNOW?

Naked Mole Rats – Definitely Worth the Visit!

Many guests of the Toronto Zoo expect to see animals like gorillas, lions, alligators, and polar bears, but why not bring your students to visit some of the more unusual or unfamiliar animals like the naked mole-rat (*Heterocephalus glaber*), and learn more about the incredible diversity of life on earth!

Naked mole-rats are rodents native to the arid savannah and grasslands of East Africa where they live their entire life underground tunneling in search of the tubers they eat. They are nearly blind, nearly hairless, and they huddle together for warmth. Naked mole-rats are one of only two eusocial mammals (along with their close relative the Damaraland mole-rat) meaning they live in large colonies of up to 300 individuals with only one breeding female, the queen. Only two or three males are allowed to breed with the queen while the remaining members of the colony never breed and either act as workers that search for food and care for the queen's young or act as soldiers that protect the colony from predators such as snakes.

Naked-mole rats live much longer than would be predicted for a mammal their size. Captive mice live for approximately four years, but in comparison naked mole-rats can live for over 30 years! Even more astounding they are resistant to cancer, lack pain receptors in their skin, and can survive without oxygen for up to 18 minutes.

To learn more about these truly unique mammals, [click here](#) and come visit our naked mole-rats in the Bats and Burrows exhibit at the African Rainforest Pavilion of the Toronto Zoo.



CLASSROOM CONNECTIONS:

Primary

- **What makes a mammal a mammal?** Explore the key characteristics of mammals with your students, then introduce the naked mole rat and encourage students to vote whether or not they think it is a mammal. Are there any other mammals that students can think of that appear to be exceptions to the general rules of what classifies as a mammal?

Junior

- **Compare and contrast** the naked mole rat and the beaver (both belong to the order Rodentia). Encourage students to rationalize why each species looks the way it does in order to better survive in its habitat.

Intermediate

- ***Investigate*** why enrichment is important to animals in captivity. Assist students in selecting an animal and developing/designing an enrichment device that would mimic an animal's natural behaviour and provide mental stimulation as well as choice within their environments.

Secondary

- ***What are the benefits?*** What benefits could possibly arise from studying the naked mole rat in more detail? Encourage students to research unique characteristics about this species and hypothesize how humans might benefit in return.

Toronto Zoo is accredited by CAZA (Canada's Accredited Zoos and Aquariums) and AZA (Association of Zoos and Aquariums). Look for CAZA's and AZA's logos whenever you visit a North American zoo or aquarium as your assurance that you are supporting a facility dedicated to providing excellent care for animals, a great experience for you, and a better future for all living things.

For more information, please visit caza.ca or aza.org.

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Working together we can create a healthy environment for animals, plants, and people.

****Events, admission rates, and hours are subject to change without notice.***

For general Zoo information, please visit torontozoo.com.

We want to hear from you! Your feedback is important in helping us to continue delivering quality educational programs/experiences. Contact us at schools@torontozoo.ca.