

# Nature Play Packet: What You Need to Know About Nature Play



**Updated October 2017** 

## Thank you for making a reservation to participate in Nature Play. We are excited to have you join us!

Zoo Atlanta has partnered with the Children & Nature Network to help families engage with nature - by exercising their imaginations, independent exploration, and nature study - all within the heart of Atlanta.

Our fundamental goal is to provide you and your family with a fun, educational, outdoor adventure where you are immersed in Nature!

Please review the following information carefully to help prepare for this exciting experience. We look forward to your visit!



Sincerely,



**Nature Play Staff** 

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#### Things to Remember/ What to Expect

#### Things to remember prior to your visit:

- Each Nature Play program is geared towards families of all ages. Please be ready to join in on family fun and exploration.
- A registered chaperone MUST accompany each registered child, and must be at least 18 years of age. More than one adult can join and is encouraged!
- Programs will take place rain or shine. Please be sure to dress accordingly.
- On the day of your program, a Zoo Atlanta Instructor will meet you at the assigned meeting spot
  for that month's program. From there, you will have an instructor-led program. At the end of your
  program, you will be dropped off in the same place that you started.
- Each program will be held within a short walking distance of a public restroom.
- All youth, adults, and chaperones must stay with their Instructor-led group at all times.
- Chaperones are responsible for the management of the youth and enforcement of rules. It is difficult for instructors to stop programming to address disciplinary issues.
- In compliance with the "Georgia Smokefree Air Act of 2005," Zoo Atlanta has become a smoke-free Zoo for the safety of our animals and guests. <a href="Smoking is not permitted during Nature Play.">Smoking is not permitted during Nature Play.</a>
- Chaperones are responsible for all medical needs of their group. First aid kits are available, with needed supplies.
- Some months we will be going out on Zoo grounds. Zoo Atlanta prohibits pets and other animals within the Zoo. We ask that you leave your furry, scaly, feathered friends at home!

#### What to expect during your program:

- Zoo Atlanta's Nature Play program is designed to introduce children and families to nature and the outdoors by creating a learning environment that is informative, safe, engaging, and fun.
- During your program, we will be exploring different aspects of public parks. We will take a closer look at Nature that surrounds us, such as flowers, bugs, plants and even clouds! Zoo staff will also bring along biofacts (turtle shells, pelts, bones, etc.) that pertain to the monthly theme, to see another aspect of Nature!
- Activities during your program could include: making nature art, "get-to-know-you" games, group activities with other families, unstructured play time and informal scientific experiments.



☐ Drugs or Alcohol

#### **Nature Play Packing List**

### What to Pack Clothing/ Gear: ☐ Day Pack – to carry your belongings ☐ T shirt, short or long sleeved ☐ Rain Gear – A complete rain suit, jacket, or poncho – if there is a chance of rain o The program will run rain or shine! ☐ Hat – for either sun protection or warmth ☐ Cold Weather Prep: Warm Jacket/ Coat Gloves/ Mittens Scarf ☐ Comfortable, closed-toed walking shoes **Optional Essentials Nutrition & Hydration:** ☐ Water Bottles – prefilled with water ☐ Protein-packed snack – such as trail mix Sun Protection: ☐ Sunscreen ☐ SPF rated lip balm □ Sunglasses Fun Extras: □ Binoculars\* ☐ Camera ☐ Field Guides\* ☐ Journals & Writing Utensils\* \*Denotes that Zoo Atlanta will be providing some during the trip. What Not to Pack ☐ Knives ☐ Guns ☐ Lighters ☐ Fireworks ☐ Mp3s or Computers

Don't worry about buying new clothes or shoes to wear during our Nature Play program – they will more than likely get dirty during our outdoor adventures!



#### **Reservations Policies**



- Reservations are required prior to the program start date.
- One adult (18 years or older) per registration is required.
- Program will be held rain or shine.

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Reservations Questions: 404.624.5822 Programming Questions: 404.624.5822



#### **Zoo Atlanta Address**

800 Cherokee Avenue SE Atlanta, GA 30315-1440