City of Montgomery Zoo/Mann Museum Department of Education

Zooteen Program 2011

Department of Education

Would you like to. . .

- Learn about animals and the natural world?
- Help people learn new ideas and how to relate to wildlife?
- Become active in your environment?
- Develop valuable leadership skills?

If so, then the Montgomery Zoo/Mann Museum Zooteen program may be just what you're looking for.

Montgomery Zoo Zooteens must show. .

- A long lasting interest in wildlife and the environment.
- The desire and ability to teach others.
- A commitment to the training process and volunteering at least eight hours per month throughout the year and two full weeks in the summer.

Requirements to Become a Zooteen:

An applicant must:

1. be at least 13 years of age (*No exceptions).*
2. have an exceptional interest in animals and the environment.
3. make a one year commitment as an educational volunteer.
   This is a commitment for both the applicant and the family.
4. make a commitment to participate for two full weeks as a counselor during our summer camps.

If selected he/she must:

1. attend one of the 4 training sessions offered this year.
2. work a minimum of four hours each month throughout the year. (with the exception of summer camp.)
3. attend and participate in monthly docent meetings.
4. report results from a TB test within two months of acceptance.
5. provide own transportation to and from the zoo.
6. adhere to all rules and regulations imposed by the zoo, Mann Museum and the department of education.
7. be responsible for purchasing the training manual and at least one short sleeve uniform shirt ($40.00) and be responsible for having their name embroidered on all uniform shirts.
8. be responsible for providing their own uniform pants, shorts, independent project materials and lunch while in service. (khaki or black pants must be worn, shorts cannot be any shorter than 3 inches above the knee)

To Apply

1. **Applicant must complete this application him/herself.**
2. Indicate session preference on application.
3. Applications must be turned in by indicated deadlines
4. Two references must be submitted.
   ~ A science teacher must complete the enclosed reference form.
   ~ The other reference must be a letter from any adult who knows the applicant well. Form letters or letters from relatives are not accepted.
5. Every part of the application is important, as the materials will be reviewed as a whole.
6. Answers to essay questions must be typed with all applicant's information centered at the top of the page.
7. Deliver completed application to: Department of Education, Montgomery Zoo— PO Box 3313
   Montgomery, Alabama 36109 or fax it to (334) 240-4916

To the Parents/Guardians

- The Zooteen program is a one-year commitment, not only for the Zooteen, but also for the entire family. Cooperation, support, transportation and encouragement are necessary for success. Please plan family activities to allow for maximum participation in the Zooteen program.
- Only a few who apply are accepted due to space and supervisory limitations. Participant's performance is evaluated during training and every month thereafter. Any Zooteen not meeting the set standards will be dismissed from the program.
- Zooteens may continue in the youth volunteer program upon successful completion of the first year. Options for advancement opportunities will be discussed with participants at the end of the annual rotation.

Important Dates

Application Deadlines	February 16th by 4:30pm	for February 26th session
	May 11th by 4:30pm	for May 21st session
	August 10th by 4:30pm	for August 20th session
	November 2nd by 4:30pm	for November 12th session

Zooteen Program Application

I am applying for the following session: (check 1)
____ February 26th
____ May 21st
____ August 20th
____ November 12th

Applications must be turned in by deadline date.

Name:_____
Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Grade Level: _____
Name of Mother or Guardian: _____ Home #: _____
Home Address: _____ Work #: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Applicant's Email Address: _____
Name of Father or Guardian: _____ Home #: _____
Home Address: (if different)_____ Work #: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Guardian's Email Address: _____
Can your family provide transportation to and from the zoo? Yes _____ No _____
Can your family provide lunch during training and long service days? Yes _____ No _____
With whom is the applicant living? _____
What languages are spoken in the home? _____

School: _____ Public: _____ Private: _____ Parochial: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

How did you hear about the Zooteen program? _____

Brief Medical History (This information is voluntary and used for emergency purposes only. It is not used for acceptance criteria.)
Name of physician/Clinic: _____
Phone Number: _____ City: _____
Allergies: (to food, drugs, insects, etc.) _____
Other known medical conditions: _____
Medications and reasons for taking: _____
_____

In Case of Emergency please list two people we can contact in case we cannot reach your parents or guardians.

1. Name: _____
   Relationship: _____
   Home Phone: _____
   Work Phone: _____
2. Name: _____
   Relationship: _____
   Home Phone: _____
   Work Phone: _____

Don't forget to include two reference letters with your application!!

Zooteen Program Application

Zooteen Applicant: Please Answer These Questions Yourself

You must answer these questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper. Questions must be typed with your personal information centered at the top of the page. Applicant must complete these questions on their own.

1. Why do you want to volunteer at the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum?
2. What activities do you like to participate in during any free time you have?
3. Do you have any pets? If so, what types of pets do you have and in detail, tell us how you take care of them. If not, what types of pets would you like to have and how would you prepare for their arrival to your home?
4. As a young person, what do you think you can you do to help protect wildlife and the environment?
5. Pretend you are an endangered species (a disappearing animal). What species are you? Why are you endangered? What can humans do to help protect you from extinction?
6. What subject in school do you excel in and why?
7. What benefits do you feel you can add to the Montgomery Zoo and Mann Museum Department of Education?
8. What are your goals for the future, where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Please consider me for the City of Montgomery Zoo and Mann Museum Zooteen program. If I am accepted my family and I will not plan special events or vacations during at lease two weeks of the summer so that I may participate as a counselor during summer camp. Upon acceptance, the Zooteen program will be my #1 extracurricular activity for the year and a high priority for the years of service that may follow. I do affirm that I completed this application on my own, without the help of any other person.

Printed name of applicant: _____

Signature of applicant: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____

City of Montgomery Zoo/Mann Museum Department of Education

Zooteen Program 2011

Department of Education

Applicants!

- Give this form to your science teacher (present or recent past) and ask him or her to complete it as soon as possible and mail it to the Montgomery Zoo Department of Education.

⇒ Deadlines:
-Session 1
Wednesday
February 16,2011
-Session 2
Wednesday
May 11, 2011
-Session 3
Wednesday
August 10, 2011
-Session 4
Wednesday
November 2, 2011

⇒ By 4:30 pm for all

- *No applications will be reviewed without this form and another letter of reference.*

- **Be sure to thank your teacher!!**

Science Teacher Reference Form

Student's Name: _____

Teacher's Name: _____

School: _____

School Phone Number: _____

Evening Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

The applicant you are referring is applying to the Montgomery Zoo / Mann Museum Zooteen Program: a year long program for teenagers who show a genuine interest in animals and the environment. The students we select must show the desire and ability to teach others and commit to an intense training course, eight hours a month of dedicated service to the department of education and two full weeks in the summer as a counselor for summer campers. The focus of the work is public education. Although Zooteens are trained to handle selected animals, they will not spend a majority of their time in direct animal contact. The majority of their time will be spent interacting with the zoo visitors. The Zooteen Program must be the student's number one extracurricular priority for the entire year.

We would appreciate your candid responses concerning this applicant and would like to assure you that all of the information you provide will be kept confidential. If you have any questions regarding the program, please feel free to contact Jennifer Murphy, Curator of Education at (334) 240-4909. Thank You for your valuable time and assistance. This program is very important to us and your comments aid us in selecting a diverse and committed group of students.

When did you last teach this student? _____

In what capacity and for how long have you known this student? _____
_____
_____

Which best describes the applicant's relationship with his or her peers?
Shows leadership _____ Reserved _____ Is easily accepted by peers _____ Prefers to be alone _____
Please explain your choice _____
_____
_____
_____

Do you know of any special interests, qualities, abilities, or experiences of this applicant which would be helpful for us to know about? _____
_____
_____
_____

Please Evaluate the Student
Scale: 1=Outstanding 2=Excellent 3=Good 4=Average 5=Fair 6=Below Average U=Unknown

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
COMMON SENSE	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
CREATIVITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
DEPENDABILITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
REGARD TO AUTHORITY	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
COOPERATION	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
ABILITY TO FOLLOW DIRECTIONS	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
PROBLEM SOLVING SKILLS	1	2	3	4	5	6	U
BEHAVIOR IN A GROUP	1	2	3	4	5	6	U

I recommend this student to the Montgomery Zoo / Mann Museum Zooteen Program:
With great enthusiasm _____ With confidence _____ With some confidence _____
With reservation _____ I do not recommend _____ (please list reservations below)

Additional Comments: _____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Teacher's Signature: _____