

GREAT PLAINS ZOO FIELD TRIP & GROUP VISIT

Visit Guide



Zoo Rules & Expectations



WALK, DON'T RUN

We love that you're excited, and we are too! However, our animals prefer a slower pace when meeting you.

PRACTICE 'LEAVE NO TRACE'

Help us keep our zoo and animal habitats clean by throwing away **all** trash in the correct bin.

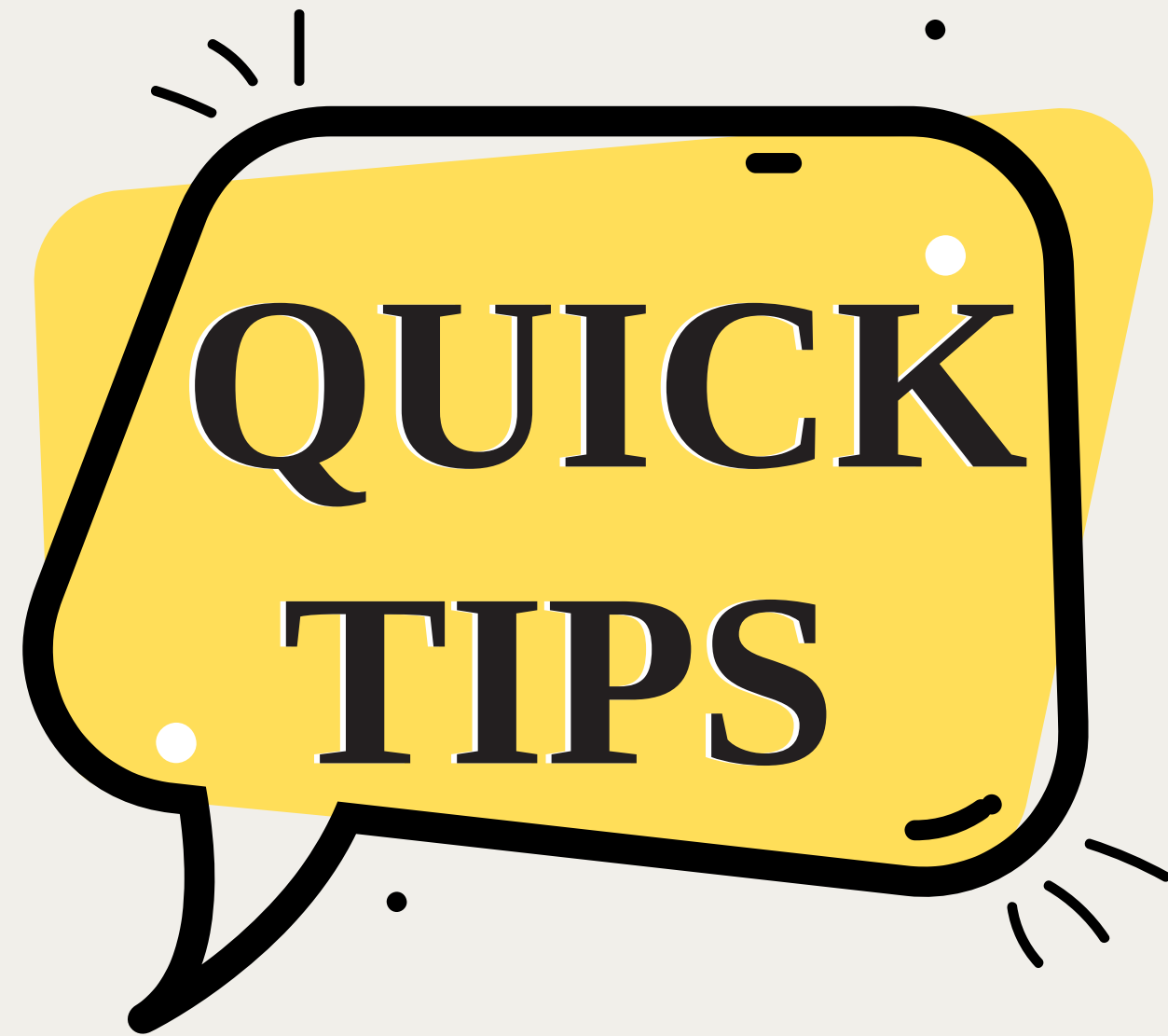
STAY TOGETHER

Please stay with your group and/or adults at all times during your visit.

RESPECT THE ANIMALS

- **Do not harass or yell at animals** or tap/bang on habitat windows to get an animals attention.
- **Do not feed the animals** or toss any objects into their habitat.
 - This includes wild animals like geese, squirrels, and other wildlife.
 - Farm animals may be fed **ONLY** with the food available in designated farm feeders.
- **Do not climb, move, or hold children over protective barriers.** They are placed throughout the zoo for the safety of guests and our animals.
- **Do not climb, sit, or set children on railings** for your safety and the safety of our animals.

[Click here to view the full SFZA Code of Conduct.](#)



Tips for Your Visit

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

- Have your **order number** and **payment method** ready upon arrival.
 - **Tip:** Designate one person to check in upon arrival.
- Review the zoo **rules and expectations** with anyone who will be attending the visit.
- Be sure to wear **weather appropriate clothing** and shoes.

WHEN YOU ARRIVE

- Send **designated check-in person up to the admissions window** to update numbers and pay while students unload from busses.
- Please **do not unload busses directly in front of the entrance**.
 - Busses may pull **towards Sherman Park** or unload **north of the entrance gates** near the pine trees.
- Instruct **busses to park as far back as possible**, or in the softball field parking lots north of the zoo.

Payment

Field trips and group visits **must be paid for in a single transaction.**

Memberships are for **family visits only**, and **cannot be used for field trips.**



WAYS TO PAY

- Payment methods include **cash, credit card, checks, and purchase orders.**
- Tax exempt organizations **must provide their tax exempt form** each year.
 - Tax exempt payments must be a **credit card or check.** Cash payments are not permitted.

WHEN TO PAY

- **Payment must be made upon arrival** unless arrangements to be invoiced are made prior to your visit.

PLEASE NOTE

- The **reduced rate** only applies to those included in the single transaction from the organization.

Commonly Asked Questions

FAQ	Answer
What does a field trip include?	Your reduced rate is only for admission to the zoo. Additional programming can be requested but is not guaranteed. Education staff will reach out to confirm if we are able to do additional programming. Animal encounters are available for an additional cost of \$2 per person in Spring (April - May) and Fall (September - October) based on staff availability. Animal encounters are limited to 40 people, however, multiple sessions may be available.
Can we bring lunch into the zoo?	No. The Great Plains Zoo campus does not allow outside food on grounds. You are welcome to eat at Sherman Park next to the zoo before or after your visit. You may also arrange re-entry with admissions. The zoo is unable to store lunches.
How long do we have to visit the zoo?	Reservations require a check-in time, but you can stay as long as you would like. Typically, groups take around two hours to see the entire zoo.
Will all the animals be viewable?	Due to weather, temperature, construction, or veterinary exams, some animals may not be viewable. Outdoor reptiles are typically viewable after Memorial Day.
What if it is raining?	The zoo is open rain or shine! There is no penalty for cancelling a field trip due to weather. We will reschedule if possible.
How many chaperones/adults should we bring?	Groups should have a 1:10 adult to child ratio. Anyone entering the zoo will need to pay admission. The reduced rate is only for those included in the single payment from the organization.
Will the Splash Pad be open?	Typically, the Splash Pad is open Memorial Day through Labor Day.