

Visit the largest urban zoo in America and get up close to more than 600 species from around the globe. Meet exotic animals, birds, reptiles, and insects from across Asia, Africa, the Americas and more without ever leaving the Bronx. Each Class Visit voucher admits up to 40 visitors, including chaperones and teachers. Options include school programs, guided tours and self-guided visits. **Class Visit vouchers expire May 31.** Parking is \$20 per bus, and is not included.

It is recommended that you pre-visit the Zoo on your own using your ivory-colored Teacher Planning voucher, so you can familiarize yourself with our layout. No reservation is required to pre-visit us using your Teacher Planning voucher. Please visit <http://bronxzoo.com/visitor-info> for directions, maps, operating hours, dining options, rules, feeding times, accessibility information and other useful visitor information.

If your school administration is more inclined to approve a field trip by sending the whole grade, please keep in mind that there are free programs available at the Bronx Zoo for Title I schools. We recommend that you use your vouchers first, and any non UA teachers can request free programs. These school programs need to be booked and delivered by March 31, 2020 and are available on a first come, first served basis.

## School Programs, Guided Tours and Scavenger Hunts

All options include General Admission so you can explore the Zoo after your program; they do not include paid exhibit tickets. Programs and tours are 60 minutes in length unless otherwise noted.

**Meet an Animal (30 minutes):** Give your students an opportunity for an up-close encounter with live animals in one of our zoo classrooms! During this 30-minute experience, students will practice observation, questioning, and inquiry as our expert educator engages your students with curriculum-focused science content. The following discussion themes are available: Adaptations, Animal Diversity, Habitats, or Endangered Species.

This program includes an experience with two of our classroom-appropriate ambassador animals. Examples of animals that your students might meet include: small reptiles (turtle, snake, lizard), small birds (dove, small owl), small mammals (hedgehog, armadillo), or invertebrates. Due to high program demand, we are unable to accommodate requests for specific animals at this time.

**Studying Animal Behavior (Class):** Why and how do scientists study animal behavior? To explore these questions, your students will investigate animals up close in a zoo classroom and in an exhibit to learn the difference between observation and inference. Using tables to collect and analyze data, your students will develop the skills needed to better understand animal behavior and the tools that scientists use to study wildlife.

**The Hunter Games (Class):** How are predators and prey adapted differently to survive? Your students will observe for themselves and decide. Through animal demonstrations and activities in a zoo classroom and a visit to an exhibit, your students will investigate how adaptations influence the natural selection of predators and prey.

**Urban Ecology (Class):** New York wildlife may not appear to have much in common with our exotic zoo animals, but the methods that scientists use to study them are often the same. In this program, your students will apply methods used by WCS scientists in the wild to investigate native animal populations here in the zoo. Your students will collect and analyze data to better understand urban animal populations, and why this information is important to their community.

**Innovative Conservation (Class; Coming mid-January 2020):** With an ever increasing human population, solutions to conflicts between humans and wildlife are more important than ever before. Like our WCS conservationists, your students will use their creativity to begin designing innovative solutions to wildlife issues through scientific explanations. In this program, they will have an opportunity to learn about real WCS conservation stories by meeting an animal in the classroom, visiting an exhibit, and more.

**Endangered Species (Tour):** Why is wildlife disappearing, and what are conservation organizations like WCS doing to help? During this tour, learn about the major threats to wildlife and learn how we all can help.

**Rainforest Exhibit (Tour):** Visit one of our rainforest exhibits (Congo, Jungle World, Madagascar) on this tour and learn about the unique animals that live there as well as the amazing resources that we get from this special habitat.

**Adaptations (Tour):** Animals are well equipped to thrive in varied environments like the rainforest, grasslands, tundra, and deserts. On this tour, learn about the unique physical and behavioral traits that help different animals survive!

**Animal Behavior (Tour):** Why are some animals more active at night? Why do some live in groups while others are solitary? This tour is all about observing animals in action! Learn more about why animals behave the way they do, and what wildlife scientists can learn from studying their behavior.

**Animal Behavior Scavenger Hunt (Self-Guided):** A scavenger hunt is a great way to get your students excited about learning while at the zoo! Lead your students through the zoo using a guide designed with our Teacher Advisory Council. Scavenger hunts lead groups through exhibits and provide engaging activities throughout the experience. All scavenger hunts are designed to meet NYC Scope and Sequence requirements.

### To book a program, tour or scavenger hunt:

1. Go to <http://uanyc.science/BZprograms> and fill out the web form to book your visit, or call us at 800.433.4149. We will send you a confirmation invoice and reservation number via email within two business days.
2. Write your reservation number on the lower-right corner of your completed voucher(s). **Mail your voucher(s) and a copy of your invoice to the address indicated on your invoice. We must receive your voucher(s) in advance of your scheduled date of visit.** Once we receive your voucher(s), we will send you a final confirmation. Print this confirmation and bring it with you when you visit the Zoo.
3. When you arrive at the Zoo, show the Admissions gate agent your confirmation, and walk to your assigned classroom or meeting place.

### General Admission (Self-Guided)

Includes General Admission, plus access to **one** of the following paid attractions:

- JungleWorld (all year)
- Wild Asia Monorail (May - October)
- Butterfly Garden (April - October)
- Congo Gorilla Forest (April - December)

The Zoo is a huge place – 265 acres! It is best to come with a plan for your visit. Try to focus on a theme, like Asian animals, African animals, predators, primates or rainforest animals. Consider having your students share in an activity to observe mammal behaviors or how species interact in our exhibits.



To use your Urban Advantage voucher(s) for General Admission:

**You do not need to make a reservation in advance for General Admission to the Bronx Zoo using UA vouchers. Please be sure to bring the proper number of vouchers with you on the day of your visit.**

When you arrive at the Zoo, hand your completed voucher(s) to the Admissions gate agent.

## **Cancellation Policy**

Vouchers cannot be returned once submitted. Cancellations and requests to reschedule must be submitted in advance. All rescheduled visits are subject to availability. Please verify your transportation arrangements with your bus company prior to your date of visit. We are open rain or shine, so please encourage your students to dress appropriately for the weather.

If you have any questions about booking your trip, please email us at [bzeducation@wcs.org](mailto:bzeducation@wcs.org).

We look forward to seeing you!