

# THE GRAND CANYON DEER FARM JUNIOR ZOO KEEPER PROGRAM INFORMATION

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## ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Junior Zoo Keeper program is designed for ages 8 and up who have a desire to learn about how zoos care for and maintain their animal collections. Participants will learn and develop the skills needed to pursue a career in animal care by assisting qualified staff in the daily husbandry needs of the animals. As a structured program, participants will be trained on certain tasks that they will assist with.

## WHAT DOES A JUNIOR ZOO KEEPER DO?

Junior Zoo Keepers perform zoo tasks and are supervised by a qualified professional Zoo Keeper and staff.

Some of the tasks that Junior Zoo Keepers may perform include:

1. Assist with diet preparation and feeding of the animal collection
2. Assist with enclosure cleaning and exhibit maintenance
3. Assist with grooming and/or exercising the miniature horses
4. Assist in the production of enrichment toys for animals
5. Learn animal handling skills
6. Interact with the zoo patrons by answering questions about the animals and their positions as Junior Zoo Keepers
7. Spend some time getting closer with exclusive access to your favorite animal.

## ***What qualities do we look for in a Junior Zoo Keeper?***

The Junior Zoo Keeper Candidate will be:

- Trustworthy, reliable and responsible
- Able to accept supervision of adults and ask for assistance when needed
- Courteous to his/her peers, the general public, and staff
- Willing to learn new skills and get his/her hands dirty
- Comfortable working with patrons of all ages and backgrounds
- Able to demonstrate a positive attitude at all times
- **Listen and follow directions**

## ***What kind of effort is required?***

Junior Zoo Keepers may be required to perform many kinds of physical tasks, which may include standing for prolonged periods of time, safe lifting, reaching, bending, climbing, kneeling, shoveling/raking, pushing/pulling objects, and handling/grasping objects. Much of the work Junior Zoo Keepers takes place outside and in various weather conditions. In addition, our building is not air-conditioned and can be uncomfortable and smelly during hot summer months. A Junior Zoo Keeper must be willing and able to work in these types of environments. The Grand Canyon Deer Farm will make reasonable accommodations to allow the participation of individuals with physical limitations.

### ***What does a Junior Zoo Keeper need?***

Junior Zoo Keepers are required to arrive at the designated time and date with the following:

- Their parent/guardian to read and sign the paperwork
- Pay the program dues
- Summer: sunglasses and sunblock
- Winter: gloves and warm clothing
- hat
- closed-toed shoes
- pants
- water bottle
- camera

### **PROGRAM DUES**

\$100.00 (plus tax) for a 2 hour one-on-one Junior Zoo Keeper experience

- Regular admission rates apply for those who wish to enter the deer farm exhibit independent of the Junior Zoo Keeper program
- **NO REFUNDS**