



SELF-GUIDED SCHOOL GROUP PLANNING GUIDE

For licensed Colorado K-12 schools



Please read this Planning Guide and Chaperone Guide before you set up your school's visit. Following the guidelines is required to receive the school discount. We look forward to your visit.

REGISTER YOUR VISIT AT LEAST TWO WEEKS IN ADVANCE

You must register your group by filling out the online group form at least two weeks before your visit to qualify for the school group discount.

- You will receive a 50% discount code via email, after you register your group.
- Use the code to purchase your group's tickets online at cmzoo.org/open. Tickets are currently released in weekly increments, approximately two weeks in advance. Releases happen at 10 p.m. on Tuesdays. Tickets are limited, and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. **Registering your group does not guarantee there will be tickets available; tickets should be purchased as soon as possible after they go on sale for the best availability.**
- Please be aware that April and May are the busiest months for school groups.

HOW TO PLAN YOUR VISIT

- Visit cmzoo.org/open to purchase your tickets. Individual barcode tickets must be presented at Admissions for scanning prior to your group entering the Zoo.
- Use the code to purchase non-member tickets. **Code should only be used for tickets Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** If the code is used for times outside of these days/times, your tickets will be revoked.
- All purchases must be made via our website with a credit card.
- Students with memberships to the Zoo can use their membership for their no-charge ticket for field trip day. Just ask the parent to sign onto cmzoo.org with their membership and claim a member ticket for their child for the same time/day as the rest of the group.
- Non-member/paid tickets are non-refundable, once they are purchased through the website.

- Adult tickets must be purchased for students in grades 7-12 (age 12 and up). Child tickets should be purchased for students in grades K-6 (age 3 to 11). If you don't have a count of individual ages, use the grade level to determine whether you need child or adult tickets.
- All members of your group, including chaperones, are eligible for the 50% discount.
- Group rates cannot be combined with other discounts, coupons or passes.
- Any last-minute add-on tickets must be purchased in advance through our website. Please secure these tickets before driving to the Zoo. If tickets for your group's time slot are sold out, add-ons cannot be accommodated – no exceptions. No ticket sales are available at the Zoo.
- Plan your route with our Zoo map at cmzoo.org/map.
- Be sure to have adequate chaperones for your visit. The required ratio is 1 chaperone for every 10 children. Please have all adults in your group read this chaperone guide before you arrive at the Zoo. Violations of these guidelines may result in eviction from the Zoo. (Note: Bus drivers may be required to park off-site. Please do not include bus drivers in your chaperone count.)

BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

- Treat Zoo animals with dignity and respect, and do not provoke or taunt animals.
- Feeding the free-ranging animals or any Zoo animals is not permitted, other than Zoo-provided feeding opportunities.
- Students are not allowed to leave their assigned chaperones while at the Zoo. Any unattended students will be escorted to the main gate to wait for the lead teacher.
- Respect other Zoo visitors and Zoo property.
- Students visiting the gift shop must be supervised and backpacks will not be allowed inside.

SKY RIDE

\$5 for adults

\$4 for kids (3-11 years old)

The maximum capacity per chair is four people.

A chaperone is required for a student to ride the Sky Ride and must be on the same chair.

SAFETY

The lead teacher must leave a cell phone number with the front gate in case of emergencies or a member of your group is separated.

EATING LUNCH

- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo does not provide lunch transport or storage. We encourage all students to carry their own lunches in a backpack.
- Groups may also bring wagons to carry lunches.
- Picnic tables are provided on a first-come basis around and behind the carousel.
- Zoo food/drink establishments are for their customers only and do not allow outside food inside their restaurants (this includes patios).

ACTIVITIES, STROLLERS, WHEELCHAIRS, GIFT SHOP

There are several activities you can do while your group is at the Zoo. You can pay at the front gate when you check in or at the individual stands (cash only).

- Strollers (\$13 single, \$16 double) and wheelchairs (\$15) are available for rent in the gift shop.
- Giraffe Feeding Experience — For \$3 per bundle of food or \$5 for two bundles, you can enjoy hand-feeding the giraffe. Please do not bring in outside food to feed the giraffes.
- Carousel (currently closed, due to COVID restrictions; weather dependent) — Ride the antique carousel for \$2 per person. Older than most of the people who ride it, this carousel was a popular attraction at the 1932 World's Fair. Children must be at least 48" tall to ride alone.
- Budgie Buddies Feeding Experience — For \$1 you can get a seed stick to feed the birds as you stroll through our indoor aviary surrounded by more than 100 free-flight Australian birds - budgies, cockatiels and princess parrots.
- Students, teachers and adult chaperones are welcome in the gift shop. Backpacks and school bags should not be taken inside the gift shop. One adult chaperone per 10 students is required for supervision at all times in the gift shop.

PARKING

- Please encourage parents or chaperones to carpool.
- On busy days, parking can be at a premium. Your bus driver may be directed to park off-site.
- Please ensure your bus driver is not included in the required number of chaperones for your group in case they must leave to park off-site. On busy days, the Zoo cannot guarantee on-site parking for buses and other large vehicles.
- Your group is highly encouraged to have a set departure time and any cell phone numbers you need. Zoo staff is NOT able to find or page your group when it is time for you to leave.

