



Junior Zoo Academy A Visual Story



Booking a ticket



The 'Junior Zoo Academy' experience is ONLY available to ticket holders. It is not included in your zoo entrance ticket.

This experience can be booked online on the Whipsnade Zoo website:

[Junior Zoo Academy \(8-10 year-olds\) | Whipsnade Zoo](#)



**JUNIOR
ZOO
ACADEMY**

Suitable Clothing



Some parts of the experience will take place outside in the zoo.

Suitable clothes must be worn for being outside. This might be a sunhat and t-shirt or raincoat and jumper.

Closed-toe shoes must be worn, like trainers or wellington boots, to make sure you stay safe.



Arriving for your experience



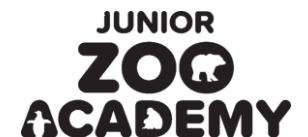
At 10:15 you need to wait close to the zoo entrance at the colourful 'ZSL Patrons' wall, just to the left of the main zoo entrance.

Zoo staff will come and greet you here where you will be signed in to the zoo for the day.

There might be lots of people around in the area but there is lots of space so you can move away to a quieter place. There are also toilets available if you need them.

A map of the zoo can be found here:

[Map | Whipsnade Zoo](#)



Starting your experience



Zoo staff will be wearing a green uniform and zoo volunteers will be wearing a red uniform. They will be looking after you for the experience and are there to help with anything you need.

There are a maximum of 10 children who can take part in this experience so there will be others joining you for the day.



Rainforest Room



As you enter the zoo, you will follow the zoo staff to the Rainforest Room.

You will be given instructions by zoo staff and volunteers to keep you safe around the zoo.

In this room, you will be getting to know other people on the experience, and this is where you will have lunch.

You can wash your hands in this building and use the toilet whenever you need to.

(Please note the following itinerary is an example and animals and timings can be subject to change.)



Day One – Inside the Aquarium



The first activity out in the zoo will be in the aquarium.

Please be mindful that the corridors are quite narrow and there might be other visitors around. There is a lighting change in the aquarium where it is a little bit darker than normal.

There will also be a video with sound playing in one part of the aquarium. I can move away from this video at any time.

You need to stay with the group and listen to the staff for any instructions. You must not leave the aquarium or enter the butterfly house unless you are told to do so.



Inside the Butterfly House



To enter the butterfly house, there is a sliding door and a curtain of black ropes to move apart.

There is a temperature change in the butterfly house, and it is very humid and warm.

There are butterflies that fly around freely and may fly near you. The butterflies rarely land or rest on people and there are areas where you can move away. You must not touch the butterflies.

If you feel too hot or uncomfortable, you can ask to leave at any time.



Feeding the penguins



After lunch, the next activity in the zoo will be feeding the penguins.

To collect and prep the fish, you will go into a 'Staff Only' area where you must be aware of other staff and vehicles.

Tablets need to be placed in some of the fish. The fish can be smelly, slimy, wet and cold. Gloves will therefore be worn at all times when handling the fish.

You do not have to put the tablets in the fish if you do not want to.

You will then walk to our penguins where you can throw the fish over the barriers for the penguins.



Zoo Trail



We will spend the rest of the afternoon in the zoo, visiting and learning about lots of different animals. There will be an animal clean and feed along the way.

This will involve a lot of walking but there will be time to stop and rest.

After the zoo trail, it will be time to go home. You will be dropped back with your adult at the entrance of the zoo where you started the day.



Day Two – On the Farm



You will be met at the same time at the zoo entrance for the start of day two.

In the morning, we visit Hullabazoo Farm to help in one of the goat paddocks by cleaning up after the goats.

You may get a little dirty but you will be able to wash your hands afterwards.

The goats are very friendly and you can stroke and feed them. If you do not want to, you can move away at any time.



Invertebrate and Reptile Room



This is a special room that is not open to the general public. It is quite a small room which houses lots of baby animals.

It is a little warm in this room and you will see and hear humidifiers spraying water into some of the tanks.



Feeding the lemurs



We will make some food enrichment which will involve hiding food in different items to help the lemurs show their natural feeding behaviour.

We will enter the lemur enclosure and be in the same space at the lemurs to be able to give them their enrichment.

The lemurs are very used to people putting enrichment in their enclosure. You must listen to all instructions and stay calm and quiet.

If you feel nervous, you can watch from behind the fence on the main pathway if you prefer.



Graduation



At the end of the course, you will receive a certificate and t-shirt for completing Junior Zoo Academy.

We will then go back to the entrance of the zoo so you can meet your adult. You will be able to re-enter the zoo with your adult if you would like to.



Thank you!



Come and see us again for Zoo Academy!

[Zoo Academy \(15-17 year-olds\) | Whipsnade Zoo](#)