



Junior Zoo Keeper Experience (7-11 years)

Find out **exactly** what it's like to look after wild animals with our *Junior Zoo Keeper* experiences. Aimed at children aged 7-11 years, these are short, half-day courses that introduce you to the world of the zoo keeper and show you how to make sure that our animals are well fed, interested and cared for.

Each junior zoo keeper experience usually caters for up to five children together and costs £50 each (paid in advance with booking form).

What you get:

- The opportunity to discover what it is really like to be an animal keeper at Britain's 'best British wildlife park' (BBC); this workshop is run by Wildwood's education team, who are police checked and first aid trained
- Gift voucher for the junior zoo keeper with your confirmation
- Park admission for the junior zoo keeper only
- Wildwood Junior Zoo Keeper T-shirt and diary to complete
- Presentation certificate



Junior Zoo Keeper Experiences

2016 Dates

Wednesday 30th March	10am - 12noon
Saturday 16th April	10am - 12noon
Saturday 21st May	10am - 12noon
Wednesday 1st June	10am - 12noon
Wednesday 27th July	10am - 12noon
Wednesday 24th August	10am - 12noon
Thursday 1st September	10am - 12noon

These workshops are very popular so please contact us (ring 01227 712111 or email education@wildwoodtrust.org) to check availability before completing the booking form, or if you would like an exclusive session on a different date for your child and their friends.

What Junior Zoo Keepers will do:

They will learn some of the following zoo keeper skills:

- How to use tools like knives or secateurs to cut, slice and chop animal food (this may include fruit, vegetables, browse, some dead animals such as fish/day-old chicks/mice and perhaps even handle live food like mealworms or snails). It is advisable that children are taught how to use a sharp kitchen knife safely beforehand so that they are proficient.
- How to make food interesting for animals (enrichment).
- Recognise some of the risks and dangers of working with animals (basic health and safety, including washing hands, tools and surfaces, responsible behaviour around animals).

- How to prepare and distribute an animal feed.
- How to approach animals with respect.
- How to clean out an animal enclosure or food stall.
- They'll also get to see behind the scenes at Wildwood – the keeper kitchens, stores and service yard where all the hard work of looking after our animals is based.

These are just some of the activities that may be included in the workshop, but, as no zoo keeper's day is typical, then different activities may be substituted according to circumstances.

And don't forget to send them with a camera – there will be lots of photographic opportunities.

Please note: this is not a full *Zoo Keeper for a Day* experience, which is only available to those over 18 years (see our **Zoo Keeper for a Day** or **Zoo Academy** bookings).

Parents/guardians must complete the booking form and sign the declaration to show that they understand and accept the activities planned. See *Terms and Conditions* (below) for other requirements.

How to book:

- Please use the *Junior Zoo Keeper* booking form below.
- This includes a signed declaration by the parent/guardian that the child is aware of the activities involved, is capable of undertaking them, will abide by Wildwood's health and safety regulations and follow the supervisor's instructions.
- Bookings are only accepted once the completed booking form **with payment** has been received.

Cancellations:

- We regret we are unable to give refunds if you decide to cancel, so please make sure your child is going to be available on the relevant date.

Terms and Conditions:

- Junior Zoo Keepers must be between 7 and 11 years old.
- They must have an up to date tetanus vaccination.
- If they have special needs, they may be accompanied by a carer free of charge, if required.
- Family members and friends to pay normal park admission (unless they are members) if they wish to visit Wildwood; they may not accompany Junior Zoo Keepers behind the scenes or into enclosures. We will let them know what we will be doing if they wish to watch and take photographs from the public paths.
- Junior Zoo Keepers should wear appropriate old clothes for a day in the woods – e.g. old jeans, jumper or sweatshirt, waterproof coat or jacket.
- Wear appropriate footwear – preferably wellies.
- Come prepared for the weather: bring sun block and a hat if very hot or warm clothes if cold; we work outdoors through all weathers, including driving rain, sleet and hail. The site can be muddy after heavy rain.
- Please note: Wildwood is a no smoking environment.

Health and Safety

While we will take all steps to ensure your child's safety, it is important that we make you aware of the realities of working with wild animals. All animals naturally carry a range of micro-organisms which can be passed to humans and cause sickness, as well as the more obvious risks of bites, scratches, crushing and other injuries. Working in enclosures and the woodland also carries risk of injury and disease and there may be other park operations which present a hazard.

Anyone working at Wildwood will also come into contact with hay, straw, sawdust, nuts, fungi, pollen, animals of all kinds (e.g. we have adders, which are venomous snakes), other materials and tools during their activities. If your child has any medical/behavioural conditions, special needs and/or medication that we should be aware of which might be affected by these (e.g. hay fever, allergies, anaphylaxis, asthma, epilepsy, etc.), please put this in writing, so that we can ensure your child's experience is as enjoyable as possible.

In addition, remember that our animals are wild and do not know your child, so will not respond like family pets – we expect your child to treat them with respect and give them space. Therefore it is essential that those participating in the *Junior Zoo Keeper* workshops follow closely the instructions they are given for the health and safety of themselves and others.

Before the day:

- Check their tetanus vaccination is up to date.
- Tell us in writing on the booking form of any medical conditions, allergies, special needs or conditions we should be aware of.
- Cover existing cuts and bruises on exposed skin with waterproof dressings.
- Make sure they have appropriate clothes and footwear.

Please remind your Junior Zoo Keeper on the day to:

1. Dress Sensibly

- Tie back long hair.
- No jewellery other than ear studs.
- No nail polish; remember, long nails are likely to break.
- No perfume or aftershave.
- No high-heeled shoes, ballet pumps or other inappropriate footwear.
- No long dangly scarves, toggles or anything which might tempt an animal to pull them or might get caught up on branches/enclosures.
- If they are inappropriately dressed on arrival, this is a health and safety matter and could affect the continuation of their workshop. In extreme cases, their place may need to be rescheduled or even cancelled if we cannot resolve the issue.

2. Follow Instructions

- Wash their hands at every opportunity, most especially on arrival and departure from Wildwood, between preparing different foods and before eating and drinking.
- Avoid putting their fingers to their mouth, nose or eyes unless they have washed them first.
- Use the disposable gloves provided when instructed, especially if preparing whole animal carcasses for carnivores or handling bedding.
- Avoid eating any of the food intended for animals.
- Stay with their supervisor; they must not wander off.
- Report any accident or injury to their supervisor immediately for appropriate action and first aid.
- Follow their supervisor's instructions in any emergency. If they become separated, make their way to the shop and ask staff to radio their tutor.

3. Respect Animals

- There will be no scheduled animal contact during their experience.
- They should not attempt to touch, stroke or hug animals.
- They should not put their face close to animals or try to kiss them.

4. Inappropriate Behaviour

- If they are unable to agree to follow these conditions or behave inappropriately during their workshop, unfortunately their place will be terminated immediately.
- In such circumstances, there will be no refund.



Junior Zoo Keeper Booking Form

Information about applicant (this remains strictly confidential)

Preferred Date:

Junior Zoo Keeper's Name:

Age (must be 7-11 years):

Home Address:

Postcode:

Parent/Guardian's Telephone Nos: Daytime:

Mobile:

Email:

Personal Information

Date of child's last tetanus vaccination:

Are they physically fit? Yes/No (please circle)

Do they have any medical/behavioural/special needs we should be aware of?
Yes/No (please circle)

If yes, please give details in the space below:

Do they require a special needs carer to accompany them? Yes/No (please circle)

If yes, please give their name and contact details below:

Carer's Name:

Carer's daytime

telephone no:

Are they taking medication? Yes/No (please circle)

If yes, please give details below:

Are they allergic to anything? Yes/No (please circle)

If yes, please give details below:

Do they have any specific interests that we might be able to help with?

EMERGENCIES: if there is an emergency on the day, whom should we contact?

Name:

Relationship:

Daytime telephone no:

Mobile no:

Please see over for payment instructions 

Payment Details:

- you may prefer to ring the office on 01227 712111 and pay by card over the phone, rather than complete and return this section of the form
- please note: we no longer accept personal cheques

Payment for Junior Zoo Keeper experience (£50 each):

Please debit my:	Visa <input type="checkbox"/>	Mastercard <input type="checkbox"/>	Solo/Maestro <input type="checkbox"/>
Card No:			Issue No:
3 digit security code:	Start Date:	Expiry date:	
Account holder's name (as it appears on card):			

Please complete the following information:

Fee Payer's Name:
Fee Payer's Address:
Postcode:
Fee Payer's Telephone Nos: Daytime:
Mobile:
Fee Payer's Email:
Fee Payer's Signature:

PARENT/GUARDIAN'S DECLARATION

*This **MUST** be signed by the parent/guardian of the child who will be joining the Junior Zoo Keeper session.*

I agree that the applicant is capable of following instructions and handling tools as outlined. I have explained carefully to the applicant the conditions and health and safety regulations covering the Wildwood Junior Zoo Keeper experience and he/she has agreed to be bound by them (please tick the boxes below to show you have understood these requirements in detail).

- I agree to inform Wildwood of any relevant medical/behavioural conditions or special needs in advance
- I agree to ensure the young person is dressed sensibly for the workshop
- I confirm that the young person knows how to handle a knife safely to prepare food
- I have explained the need to follow all instructions from the Wildwood supervisor
- I have explained the need to respect the animals
- The applicant has agreed to all conditions
- I understand that failure to do as asked could lead to the immediate termination of the applicant's day without a refund

From time to time, we like to update our photo library of activities within the zoo. Would you agree to your child being photographed to publicise future junior zoo keeper events? This picture may appear in a variety of media but your child will not be named.

- I give/do not give my consent for my child's photograph to be used.

Parent/Guardian's Signature:
Date:

Please tick this box if you don't wish to receive information about Wildwood Trust