

## **Topeka Zoo Adult Camp Behavior Contract**

The Topeka Zoo Education Department wants to provide every person with an educational, safe, and memorable experience. We want to ensure that our adult campers make memories that last a lifetime. It is our goal that campers have a safe and positive experience here at the Topeka Zoo. We want our campers to understand that the physical and emotional safety of all campers, animals, and staff is of utmost importance. This policy outlines the Code of Conduct we ask adult campers to abide by as well as what behaviors are appropriate or inappropriate during camp programs, and the consequences that may result from inappropriate behaviors.

### **CODE OF CONDUCT:**

- **Respect** – Be respectful to yourself, camp counselors, peers, the facility, animals, other Topeka Zoo staff, and guests. Listen to and follow your counselor’s instructions and ask questions if needed. Respect the personal space of others. Use kind language when talking to others.
- **Safety** – Remain with camp counselors at all times. Listen to and follow your counselor’s instructions and ask questions if needed. Please walk and remain on designated pathways unless taken off path by Camp Counselors. As these events are conducted after hours, do not allow yourself to become separated from the group.

### **Examples of Unacceptable Behavior:**

- Failing to follow the Code of Conduct (above)
- Disrupting programs or having to be asked to follow direction
- Using inappropriate or disrespectful language toward any person at any time.
- Bullying, threatening, or physical abuse
- Mistreatment of animals, property, peers, Camp Counselors, or equipment
- Bringing alcohol/drugs to camp or arriving intoxicated

### **Consequences for Inappropriate Behavior:**

The Topeka Zoo reserves the right to remove a camp participant from the program at any time. Consequences for inappropriate behavior will be administered in the following order.

1. 1<sup>st</sup> Verbal Warning — Reminder of behavior expectations.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> (and final) Verbal Warning
3. Dismissal — Participant must leave Zoo premises.

The zoo reserves the right to bypass steps above when necessary. For example, physical violence is a zero-tolerance event that will result in dismissal without warning. No refunds will be offered for dismissal from the program. The Director of Education will make a final decision for dismissal from a program.

If your registration in camp is revoked due to behavioral or non-compliance issues, your ability to register for future camps will be forfeited for at least one calendar year from the date of the incident. The zoo reserves the right to extend this policy on a case-by-case basis.

This policy has been developed with all participants and staff in mind and will be implemented uniformly with the goal of providing you with a safe and quality experience at the Topeka Zoo.

***Acknowledgment of Topeka Zoo Camp Policies:***

Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_