



The Oklahoma City Zoo is excited you have agreed to be an adult chaperone for your group's zoo adventure. The following questions and answers will help prepare you for this responsibility. Thank you for helping to make this a fun, safe, and memorable learning experience for all of the participants.

What is the purpose of a chaperone?

- Chaperones are an integral part of a successful zoo field trip. It is important that chaperones are interested in participating in this unique adventure with the students. If learning is fun and important to the chaperones, it will be fun and important for the students too!

What are some of the responsibilities of a chaperone?

- Know where all members of your group are at all times.
- Resolve any discipline issues.
- Assist participants who have an emergency.
- Make sure all members of the group follow the staff's rules.
- Provide support for staff and volunteers as requested.

Can a chaperone leave the group?

- Only if arrangements are previously made with your Teacher/Group Leader.

Can a chaperone bring siblings or other children that are not zoo program participants?

- No. We ask that chaperones make arrangements for siblings or other children in their care. A chaperone's responsibility is to assist in the educational experience and safety of the participants. An adult is not a chaperone if their primary concern is another child.

Can a chaperone bring cell phones or communication radios to the zoo?

- We encourage having cell phones or radios for emergencies only. Using your cell phone for personal calls while serving as a chaperone is disruptive to the students' experience at the zoo, and thus highly discouraged.

Can a chaperone drink alcoholic beverages while participating in a zoo field trip?

- No.

What can a chaperone do to help students understand proper zoo behavior?

- Share with participants the importance of treating the animals kindly by speaking softly, not touching exhibit glass, and walking (not running) through their zoo visit.
- Reinforce that all participants, staff, volunteers, visitors, zoo animals, and plants are to be treated with respect.

