

The New York State Zoo at Thompson Park

Docent Questionnaire

Thank you very much for your interest in making a commitment to the New York State Zoo and its mission. Please answer the following questions so we can get to know you and your interests a little better.

Name _____

Mailing Address _____

Phone Number (h): _____ (w): _____ (c) _____

Email address _____

Birth date: ____/____/____

1. Why would you like to become a docent at the New York State Zoo?

2. Have you ever worked/volunteered at a zoo or nature center? If so, where, when, for how long, and in what capacity?

3. Do you have experience working with young children? What age group and in what setting?

4. Do you have any formal or informal teaching experience? If so, please explain.

5. What is your comfort level with public presentations?

_____ No problem! _____ A little shy, but willing! _____ No thank you.

6. What animals do you have experience handling or caring for? You may include pets.

7. Do you feel comfortable directly handling and interacting with a diverse selection of animals (i.e. insects, reptiles, amphibians, mammals, birds of prey)?

8. Are there any animals you are NOT comfortable or would be unwilling to working with?

9. Do you have any animal allergies?

10. Have you received rabies vaccinations? If so, when (approximate)?

11. Have you had first aid/CPR training? Are you currently certified?

12. Do you have a driver's license? _____

Please check any/all activities that you would **NOT** be interested in.

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| _____ Guiding tours of the Zoo | _____ Zoofari Camps |
| _____ General onsite interpretation at an exhibit or with an impromptu booth | _____ Overnight programs (i.e. camping at the Zoo) |
| _____ Assisting with behind-the-scenes tours | _____ Girl/Boy Scout Badge work programs |
| _____ Greeting visitors during the busy season | _____ Enrichment programs |
| _____ Booths with live animals (involves animal handling, interpreting biofacts, and promoting volunteer/docent programs and the Zoo in general) | _____ Jr Animal Keepers |
| _____ Assisting with birthday parties | _____ Book Nook |
| | _____ Pre-K Education programs |
| | _____ Elementary Education programs (grades K-4) |

- _____ Onsite animal “roaming”- walking around the Zoo w/an animal, interacting with the public
- _____ Butterfly House interpretation
- _____ EAC and Mews care (e.g. cleaning cages, feeding, etc.)
- _____ Animal enrichment/training
- _____ Helping out at Events

- _____ Middle School Education programs (grades 5-8)
- _____ Senior Education Programs
- _____ Assisting Education Staff (with records, program development, fact sheets, etc.)

What days and times are you available for docent activities?

	Check if available	Times Available
Monday	_____	_____
Tuesday	_____	_____
Wednesday	_____	_____
Thursday	_____	_____
Friday	_____	_____
Saturday	_____	_____
Sunday	_____	_____

Please provide two references...

Name	Relation	Phone – day & night
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Name	Relation	Phone – day & night
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...And an emergency contact.

Name	Relation	Phone – day & night
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Thank you for your interest in becoming a docent at the New York State Zoo. Please send your completed questionnaire to: The New York State Zoo at Thompson Park, Attn: Colleen Bernard, Education Coordinator, One Thompson Park, Watertown, NY 13601

