

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 _____

Permanent Address _____

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

Email address _____

Birth date: ___/___/___ (year is optional)

1. Have you ever worked/volunteered at a zoo or nature center? If so, where and how long?

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

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

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

5. Do you have any animal allergies?

6. Have you had first aid/CPR training? Is it current? _____

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

8. What is your comfort level with public presentations?

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

9. Please provide two references.

Name	Relation	Phone – day & night
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Name	Relation	Phone – day & night
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10. Please provide an emergency contact.

Name	Relation	Phone – day & night
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11. Do you have any formal or informal teaching experience? If so, please explain.

12. Are you comfortable handling biofacts (e.g. animal pelts, skulls, etc.)?

13. Would you like to work directly with animals? _____

14. What animals have you handled/cared for in the past (including pets)?

15. What animals would you like to work with?

- ALL!**
- Invertebrates**
- Amphibians (e.g. frogs, salamanders)**
- Reptiles (all)**
 - Snakes**
 - Lizards**

(more on next page)

- Turtles
- Domestic mammals (e.g. chinchillas, ferrets, etc.)
- "Wild" mammals (all)
- Herbivores (rodents)
- Omnivores/carnivores (opossums, skunks, canids, etc.)
- Farm animals
- Other (or specific interests) _____

16. Are there any animals you are NOT comfortable working with?

17. Please check all of the activities you would be interested in.

- Guided tours of the zoo (REQUIRED)
- Guided birthday party tours
- Interpreting indoor and/or outdoor exhibits
- Greeting visitors during the busy season
- Children's Farm attendant
- Butterfly House attendant
- Coordinating/running weekend birthday parties
- Biofact/prop organization
- Staffing a booth at a public event (can involve animal handling, interpreting biofacts, and promoting the volunteer/ docent program)
- Animal care (e.g. cleaning cages, feeding, etc.)
- Animal enrichment/training
- Animal "roving"- walking zoo trails with animal and interacting with the public
- Animal demonstrations during birthday parties
- Onsite education programs for school groups
- Onsite education programs for the general public
- Outreach education programs

18. What days and times are you available for docent activities?

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

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: Carrie White, Education Curator, One Thompson Park, Watertown, NY 13601