

RCHS' Camp FAQs

How do I sign up for camp? Just click on “Register Here” and register online. (Visa, Mastercard accepted). We cannot hold your child’s space in camp until we have received their registration information and payment. Questions email our Education Dept. education@sdpets.org or call (760) 753-6413

Does camp fill up? Yes, it does!! To make sure your child can be enrolled, register early. Camp is filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Will campers get to interact with the animals? Yes! Although campers won't spend the entire day interacting with animals, they will have the opportunity to engage with them each day. We bring in guest speakers who showcase animals that your camper can interact with, and we also allow campers to meet our adoptable animals. Please note that the ability to interact with animals depends on the types of animals that are in residence during the camp session. Our top priorities are ensuring a safe, fun experience for our campers and minimizing any stress for our resident animals. While we can't guarantee interactions with specific animals, rest assured that kids will have daily opportunities to meet and interact with pets!

What will campers do at camp?

- Hands on interactions with shelter animals
- Create animal related crafts
- Enjoy guest presentations and speakers
- Play indoor and outdoor games
- Participate in activities related to curriculum and themes
- **Please refer to the bottom of this page for a sample schedule of a day at our camp.**

How many campers attend each week? Camp size is limited to 20 children per week. Each group is led by a specially trained educator and one assistant who is also an experienced educator. Campers are not separated by age groups; all campers stay together throughout the day.

Our Animal Keepers Summer Camp is limited to 10 campers per week to provide older students (ages 11-14) with more hands-on opportunities with our animals.

Will campers get to groom and care for the animals? Campers will not be responsible for cleaning, feeding, grooming, or caring for our adoptable pets—that is the responsibility of our Specialized Animal Care Staff. However, campers will have the opportunity to meet and touch selected animals each day at camp. Please note that these interactions will be for a limited time, as they are just one of many exciting camp activities.

Can we sign up for one or two days? No. Our camp weeks are offered in weekly sessions only.

Can you hold a spot for my child? No. You must complete the online registration including payment. We do not hold spots for any of our camps.

Can campers bring a friend? All campers must be registered before attending camp. If your camper would like to attend with a friend, we recommend signing up early and at the same time. While we will do our best to place friends together, we cannot guarantee placement in the same week or session.

Do I get a discount if I am signing up for multiple weeks or siblings? No. Sorry, we do not offer any discounts.

What if our family cannot afford the camp registration fee? Are there scholarships? Yes, we offer scholarships for low-income families. A scholarship application can be requested at any time. Please reach out to us if you need an application, and we'll be happy to send it to you and answer any questions you may have.

How will I know if I got into a session? You will receive an e-mail confirmation.

What if I need to cancel? If you need to cancel, you will receive a **100% refund of camp fees**, minus a **\$30 processing fee per camper**, as long as the cancellation is made more than two weeks prior to the start of your camp session. No refund will be provided if the cancellation occurs within **two weeks (14 days or less)** of the camp session's start date. **No exceptions!**

What if I sign up for the wrong week? Please double-check your choice of dates and sessions before completing your registration. Once your registration has been officially processed, we regret that we are unable to make any changes.

Is there before and after camp care? No, unfortunately, we do not offer before or after camp care. Campers should be dropped off promptly at **9:00 a.m.** Please be aware that children may not be dropped off before 9:00 a.m. You may pick up your camper at any time during the day, but no later than the camp day's end at **3:00 p.m.**

The camp is full. How do I get my child on your wait list? To be added to the waitlist, please fill out the online waitlist form on our website. You will be notified if a spot becomes available.

What items should campers bring to Animal Camp each day?

- A large bottle of water labeled with their name
- A hearty, nutritious lunch and snack
- Layers of clothing for indoor and outdoor activities, or foggy/cold weather
- Closed toed shoes
- Sunscreen and/or hat

Sample First Day of Camp

9:00-9:30 Introduction and Rules

9:30-10:00 Snack and outdoor games

10:00-11:00 Guest Presenter (Turtle and Tortoise Society, Project Wildlife, etc)

11:00-12:00 Shelter Tour and Animal Interaction

12:00-1:00 Lunch and Free play

1:00-1:30 Craft (bunny treats, cat toys, etc.)

1:30-2:30 Meet more Animals

2:30-3:00 Indoor/Outdoor games