

RCHS' CAMP FAQs

How do I sign up for camp? Just click on the “Click Here to Register” button 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? Although campers will not spend their entire day interacting with animals they will have the opportunity to interact with animals each day! We provide guest speakers who bring animals that your camper will have the opportunity to interact with. We also allow the campers to meet our adoptable animals. Our ability to have kids interact with animals relies entirely on the types of animals that are in residence during the camp season. Our two top priorities are to provide our campers with a safe and fun experience and also to prevent our resident animals from any undue stress. We cannot guarantee any specific animal, but kids will definitely get to interact with pets daily.

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 15 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 the whole day. *Our Animal Keepers Summer Camp is limited to 12 campers per week to allow the older students (11-14 year old) more hands on opportunities with our animals.

Will campers get to groom and care for the animals? Campers will not be cleaning, feeding, grooming or caring for our adoptable pets we leave that up to our Specialized Animal Care Staff. Campers will have an opportunity to meet and touch selected animals every day at camp. However, these interactions will be for a limited time as this is only one of many 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 suggest signing up early and at the same time. Although we will try our best to place friends together, placement in the same week with a friend cannot be guaranteed.

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 do have scholarships for low-income families and have a scholarship application that can be requested. Please let us know if you need an application and we will be happy to send you one and answer any questions.

What is the cost? \$215 for the week (five, full days). 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. **Animal Keepers summer camp for 11-14 year old is \$235 a week.

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

What if I need to cancel? 100% of Camp fees, less a \$30 processing fee per Camper, will be refunded if requested more than two weeks prior to the start of your camp session. No refund (0%) of Camp fees will be made within two weeks (14 days or less) prior to the start of your camp session. No exceptions!

What if I sign up for the wrong week? Please ensure your choice of dates and session is correct. We regret that we are unable to make any changes once your registration has been officially processed.

Is there before and after camp care? No. Unfortunately we do not offer before or after care. Campers should be dropped off promptly at 9:00 a.m. A staff member will be on hand to open the gate 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 any time during the day, but no later than the camp-day end at 4:00 p.m.

The camp is full. How do I get my child on your wait list? You may request to be on our waitlist if the week you are interested in is full. Please email education@sdpets.org with all the following info: child's name, age, grade, contact info: email and phone number and specify the week you are interested in. You will be notified when 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 Lesson and outdoor games related to camp theme

10:00-10:45 Guest Presenter (Turtle and Tortoise Society, Project Wildlife, etc)

10:45-11:00 Bathroom Break

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

12:00-1:00 Lunch and Free play

1:00-1:45 Craft (bunny treats, cat toys, etc.)

1:45-2:15 Meet Animals

2:15-2:45 Indoor/Outdoor games

2:45-3:15 Snack Time/Bathroom Break

3:15-4:00 Craft (dog toy, bird feeder, etc.)