



## **Frequently Asked Questions about our Summer Camp**

### **What weeks do you offer camp?**

#### Camp for 4-5 year olds

- July 9-11 (9:00-11:00am)

#### Camp for 6-8 year olds

- June 25-29 (11am-4pm)
- July 9-13 (11am-4pm)
- July 16-20 (11am-4pm)
- July 23-27 (11am-4pm)
- August 6-10 (11am-4pm)
- August 13-17 (11am-4pm)
- August 20-24 (11am-4pm)

#### Camp for 9-11 year olds

- July 2-6 (11am-4pm)
- July 30-Aug 3 (11am-4pm)

### **What is the cost?**

- Our 4-5 year olds camps are \$50 per week per participant
- Our 6-8 and 9-11 year olds camps are \$150 per week per participant
- **Cancellation Policy:** Refund requests are only granted for cancellations made at 40 days in advance prior to the first day of camp and are subject to a \$25 processing fee.
- **Late Pick Up:** A late fee of **\$1 per minute** will be charged beginning 15 minutes after the end of camp. Any incurred fees are to be paid at the time of pick-up.

### **May my child attend if he or she has allergies or special individual needs?**

- If you're child's allergies are minor, controlled by medication, and you've consulted your child's physician, please sign up!
- Children will be spending time in the animal areas in the shelter and as much time outside as weather permits.
- Participants are expected to be self supporting to participate in all physical and academic activities planned. Because of staffing

restrictions, we may not be able to accommodate special individual needs. This is a recreational camp program. Red Deer & District SPCA is not a licensed child care provider. Please feel free to contact us about any special individual needs your child may have.

### **What is the best way to sign up for *camp*?**

- Applications are processed on a first come, first served basis. Completed registration forms and payment can only be delivered in person to the Red Deer & District SPCA. **We do not accept registration over the phone, email or via fax.** We cannot hold your child's space in a camp until we have received a complete registration form and payment.
- **Incomplete applications will be destroyed. Please ensure you fill out your application fully and thoroughly!**
- Once your registration is processed, confirmation of enrolment will be e-mailed to you. Release forms, directions, and other pertinent information are included with confirmations.

### **Where does the program take place?**

- Red Deer & District Humane Education and Animal Care Centre, located at 4505 77 street, Red Deer. A map of our location will accompany confirmation of registration along with drop-off and pick-up procedures.
- Camp will begin and end each day in our education and training room. We may use both indoor classrooms and outdoor learning areas throughout our facility during the course of the day.

### **How is the camp organized?**

- Class size is limited to 15 children for our 4-5 year old camp. 20 children for our 6-8 and 9-11 year old camps.
- Each group is led by a specially trained educator.
- Campers are grouped according to their age on the first day of camp. Activities are age and developmentally appropriate.
- All children will need to bring a lunch, light snack and a bottle of water to camp each day.

### **What is the refund and cancellation policy for *camp*?**

- Refund requests are only granted for cancellations made at least 40 days prior to the first day of camp and are subject to a \$25 processing fee.
- We reserve the right to dismiss campers from the program if deemed necessary. In such a case, registration fees are non-transferable and non-refundable.

### **Will my child spend most of the day working directly with animals?**

- Everything we do at camp is aimed at teaching children about animal care, handling, and welfare. We strive to give our campers an opportunity to interact with several animals each day. However, we are a working animal care centre that cares for all animals including some that may be sick, injured, and sometimes aggressive. Our ability to have children interact with animals relies entirely on the types of animals who 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. Some animals simply cannot handle the attention of a large group of children at a time and we endeavour to teach children to respect the needs of each individual animal. That being said, when a gentle bunny, child friendly dog, or playful bunch of kittens enter our centre, the camp participants are definitely given the opportunity to interact with them.

**Please note:** Activities are age specific. Animal interaction is dependent upon animal health on a day-to-day basis.

### **How do you choose the animals campers will meet?**

- We select the animals met by campers on several criteria. First, all animals met by campers must be health checked by our animal health team and cleared for camp visits. Second, we examine animals based on behaviour and personality to determine what animals would do best in the camp setting and what animals would enjoy the experience of meeting eager campers.

### **Do the proceeds from camp really go to help the animals at Red Deer & District SPCA?**

- Absolutely! We closely monitor camp expenses and seek grants to help offset some of the costs for camp allowing us to contribute even more to the animals here at our centre. Red Deer & District SPCA is a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the welfare of animals. By choosing an SPCA summer camp you are also helping central Alberta's animals in need.

### **How many weeks can my child attend?**

- We do not place restrictions on how many weeks any child may attend camp. However please note the summer camps follow a similar activity outline each week. We encourage you to only sign up for one week as more than one week will seem repetitive and possibly duplicate the crafts and activities. While we place no limits on the number of weeks a child can enjoy in our facility, we do

encourage parents and families to consider what arrangements will be best for their child. Some children may prefer a variety of summer camps at different locations as well.

**Do you accept camp volunteers?**

- We do! We are always seeking interested junior volunteers for our camp programs. The minimum age for our camp volunteers is 14 and all volunteers must complete an interview process before being accepted to camp. Junior volunteers are treated as employees during their time here at camp and are expected to provide a positive role model for our younger campers. In return our volunteers can expect a chance to flex their leadership skills in a fun environment! Please contact our Humane Education department for details.

**If you have a question that was not answered above, please contact our humane educator via email at [education@reddeerspca.com](mailto:education@reddeerspca.com) or by phone at 403-342-7722 ext 206.**