**Frequently Asked Questions**

Where do we sleep?

Sleeping accommodations vary depending on the overnight program. Participants will either sleep inside the Colonial Life Discovery Center Classrooms, Sea Lion Landing Exhibit, or in tents at Riverbanks Botanical Gardens. Bathrooms are located within the Discovery Center, Sea Lion Landing Exhibit, and a short walking distance from the children’s garden lawn.

**Are showers available?**

Showers are not available.

Are meals provided?

Overnights include a pizza dinner, light snack in the evening and a continental breakfast with juice and coffee. Overnights begin at 6pm, guests arriving late may not be served. Outside food and drinks are restricted to guests with special dietary needs. If anyone in your group has any dietary concerns it is their responsibility to bring their own food and to notify the Overnight Instructor. The following is a sample menu, items are subject to change.

* + **Dinner:** Two slices of cheese or pepperoni pizza, salad with dressing, cookie, capri sun or bottled water
  + **Snack:** Popcorn, Lemonade (S’mores – Camping Excursion)
  + **Breakfast:** Variety of cereals, gluten free blue berry muffins, yogurt, fruit salad, orange juice, milk, and coffee

### What ages can attend?

All participants must be at least five years old. Younger siblings are not permitted for any portion of the program.

### Can boys and girls sleep in separate areas?

Yes, we can accommodate requests for separate sleeping quarters for all programs with the exception of Sea Lion Landing.

### Is there storage space for luggage/sleeping bags while the group visits the park following the overnight?

No; all groups will be escorted out of the park by 8:45am to pack their vehicles/buses before returning to enjoy the park.

### Can we buy souvenirs during the program?

The gift shop will not be open during the program but can be visited the following day with included Riverbanks admission. You may pre-order “I SURVIVED THE NIGHT AT RIVERBANKS ZOO” glow-in-the dark black T-shirts ($15 each) or specially designed Riverbanks logo patch ($5 each). Orders much be submitted ten days in advance through your group leader. Individual participant orders will not be accepted.

 

**THINGS TO BRING:**

We recommend packing light as you will carry your items a short distance into the park to the area you will be sleeping. Please mark all items with names to avoid mix-ups when preparing to leave.

* Signed Release Waiver
* Signed Chaperone Contract (adults)
* Sleeping bag, sleeping pad, and pillow
* Toiletries
* Comfortable walking shoes
* Modest pajamas
* Water bottle
* Change of clothes
* Appropriate outer wear
* Camera (optional)
* Bug spray (optional)
* Flashlight for adults only

**SAMPLE SCHEDULE: (Camping Excursion Only)**

**Evening**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TIME | **ACTIVITY** |
| 6:00 pm | Arrive at Riverbanks Zoo and Garden |
| 6:15 pm | Welcome! Drop off Luggage, Schedule, Review Safety and Expectations (Set up Tents) |
| 7:00 pm | Dinner |
| 7:30 pm | Evening Education Program, Activities, Scavenger Hunt and Snack |
| 10:00 pm | Get ready for bed |
| 10:30 pm | Lights Out! |

**MORNING**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| TIME | **ACTIVITY** |
| 7:00 am | Rise & Shine! Pack up belongings. Load vehicles with belongings. |
| 8:00am | Breakfast |
| 8:30 am | Guided Tour or Activity |
| 9:00 am | Goodbyes, Enjoy the rest of the day at Riverbanks Zoo and Garden! |