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# ZOO DOCENT VOLUNTEER

## Role Description

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### Summary

Zoo Docents are education volunteers for the Orange County Zoo. They interact with zoo guests of all ages. Docents help promote respect for wildlife through knowledge and demonstration.

### Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide guided zoo tours to groups (schools, scouts, homeschool, etc.).
- Interact with zoo visitors by answering questions and using artifacts to educate people of all ages.
- Interact with visitors while handling small animals (snakes, lizards, invertebrates, small mammals, and birds).
- Staff "Discovery Cart."
- Conduct "Story Time" programs.
- Assist zoo staff with preschool and kids' programs.
- Help with petting zoo when needed.
- Provide help for special events at the zoo.

### Eligibility

- Complete all requirements as an OC Parks Volunteer.
- Be at least 18 years of age.
- Serve at least 100 hours per year.
- Be comfortable in front of groups of people.

### Training Path

1. Complete OC Parks Volunteer training program.
  - a. Program Orientation Training
  - b. Background check
  - c. CPR and First Aid Certification
  - d. Complete site-specific training to receive park certification.
  - e. Receive OC Parks Volunteer uniform.
2. Complete OC Zoo Docent training class (offered once per year, typically in February, and is an 8-week class that meets once a week on Saturdays).

### Typical Schedule

- Weekdays, Tuesday-Friday (subject to change) 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
- Saturdays (subject to change) 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.