

Animaniacs Summer Camp

- FAQ's

What is Animaniacs Camp?

Animaniacs Camp is a place where children connect with animals. Age appropriate games, crafts, activities, as well as visits from special animal guests encourage children to develop skills including compassion and empathy for all living things. We do this by encouraging your child to have fun and explore through hands-on learning opportunities involving animals.

How old does my child have to be?

We offer camp for children aged 6 – 12.

Will my 12 year old be in a group with a 6 year old?

Not always – children are split into different groups by their age, and the curriculum differs depending on your child's age. Age groups will be together is during presentations and breaks.

If you would like two campers to be in the same group, but they are not the same age, it must be requested two weeks prior to the camp start date by contacting Kathleen.mccaughey@awasco.ca. Once camp begins, group changes will not be made.

How much is one week of camp?

Our camp rates are as follow:

\$190/week for 5 day weeks

\$152/week for 4 day weeks

Refund Guidelines:

15 days or more notice for refund – 10% program fee deducted, per participant.

14 days' notice or less for refund – 50%

Once program has begun – no refund

Any switch from one week of camp to another may be subject to an administration fee

Where is the camp located?

Animaniacs Summer Camp is located at 125 Griffith Rd, Stratford.

What are the hours of camp? Do you have before and after care?

Camp begins at 9:00am and ends at 4:00pm. Campers are welcomed on site as early as 8:30am, and pick up if from 4:00pm – 5:00pm. We offer extended care in the afternoons only, beginning at 5:00pm, and ending at 5:30pm. All campers MUST be picked up by 5:30pm, without exception. There is a charge of \$5 cash for every 15 minutes of extended care. This fee is due at the time of service and should be given directly to the Camp Director.

How can I prepare for camp?

If your child does not have closed toed shoes, they must be purchased prior to camp. Send your child with one or two water bottles (frozen is a good idea), and teach your children to apply sunscreen and bug spray. Go over the rules of camp (found in the parent handbook), and make sure that they understand the behaviour that is expected during camp.

What will my child do all day?

A typical camp day begins with sign in at 9am. Morning normally involves at least games, an animal visit, an educational activity, as well as a mid-morning snack break. Afternoons are similar in structure with a craft, educational activities, a second snack break, and time for fun and games. Throughout the week, your children can also look forward to presentations by other organizations and the opportunity to engage in special activities with animals.

What is an animal interaction? Does my child get to pet, hold or feed the animals?

Most children who come to our camp are good with animals and passionate about caring for them in the best possible way. We understand your child's desire to hold or interact with a specific animal. Unfortunately, not all animals have a temperament that makes them a good candidate for camp. Also, asking any animal to be held by 25 campers is not a fair demand to make. Please keep in mind when considering animal interactions that we must carefully balance the experience of our campers with the best interests of our animals. We select animal interactions that will provide a quality experience for our campers while keeping our animal's well-being in mind.

How many animals will my child meet?

We aim to have all children at camp meet a minimum of 2 animals each day.

How many weeks can my child attend?

There is no restriction on how many weeks any child may attend and enjoy camp. While we attempt to change curriculum from week to week, children returning for several weeks should be prepared to repeat some activities, crafts and presentations throughout the summer.

My child is frightened of certain animals, will those be at camp?

We always bring a variety of creatures to camp and it is possible that a child may be frightened or uncomfortable around a certain animal. Our staff recognize that not all children are comfortable around all types of animals and at no point will any camper be forced to interact with an animal they are uncomfortable with. The Humane Society team addresses fear of animals by providing information and education about that animal species. In many cases, children have overcome fears at our camp, even petting or holding the animals they were once frightened of!

Is Animaniacs a peanut-free camp?

Campers at Animaniacs Summer Camp are asked not to bring peanut products to camp, however, our staff is not in a position to inspect lunches or take food away from our campers if a parent does pack peanut products. Parents who have concerns regarding children with allergies are encouraged to contact our Community Programs Coordinator before enrolling or before beginning camp to discuss concerns.

Will my child come home begging for a pet?

It is certainly possible that your child will meet an animal at camp that they feel would make an excellent pet and may ask you about this, however, we do not push pet ownership on anyone, nor do we ask our campers to adopt. The Humane Society promotes responsible pet ownership and by extension, our camp program focuses not just on exposing children to different types of pet animals, but also showing them how much work caring for any animal can be.

Do you offer winter or March break camps?

Yes, we do offer March Break camps! Keep checking the website for more info.

If you have any questions regarding camp, please feel free to contact our Community Programs Coordinator, Kathleen McCaughey, at kathleen.mccaughey@awasco.ca, or by calling 519-273-6600 ext 233