

Teen Volunteer Reference Forms...

- ...may be filled out by teachers, coaches, neighbors, church members, etc.
- ...may not be filled out by members of your family.
- ...should be handed-in to the volunteer manager at the time of your orientation. Your orientation process will not be complete without handing in at least 2 completed reference forms.

All teen volunteers are required to hand-in at least 2 completed reference forms.



Birmingham Zoo

Teen Volunteer Recommendation Form

Teen applicant's name: _____

Parental Consent: I authorize the release of information from my son's/daughters school records and information to the Volunteer Department of the Birmingham Zoo, Inc.

Parent's Signature _____ Date_____

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for taking the time to complete this teen applicant's recommendation form for the Birmingham Zoo Teen Volunteer Program. The training program involves teens being able to learn a great deal of information about animals, conservation, and interacting with the public.

Because a volunteer's focus is education and interacting with the public and it is important that the teen be outgoing enough to be able to interact on a personal level with zoo visitors. Teens must also be courteous and polite when dealing with the public. Teens will also be working with very young children in our summer camps. Patience is also a highly desirable character.

We only have a few minutes to interview any applicant and you are in a much better position to evaluate them in terms of being in this type of program. Teens that successfully complete the summer program will be eligible to register for animal handling classes if they meet those requirements. Animal and public safety is imperative and teens must be trustworthy and caring towards our educational animals.

Please be honest. If you feel that a teen is not suitable, please contact us. Your comments will be confidential. We recognize the fact that not all applicants will be able to work in this type of environment. A teen is applying for volunteer opportunities with our organization and must have a recommendation from his or her school. We appreciate your time and consideration in this matter. Please fill out this evaluation and any additional comments that will help us choose candidates that will best match our needs.

Please return the completed form to the Birmingham Zoo volunteer applicant

Thank you for your time and consideration,

**Brian Kutsch
Volunteer Manager
Birmingham Zoo
205.397.3863**



Birmingham Zoo Teen Volunteer Program Recommendation Form

Student's Name _____
School _____ **Current Grade** _____
 Your Name: _____
 Your e-mail or phone number: _____
 Relationship to the teen: _____
 How long have you known the teen? _____

Please rate the teen in the following areas by circling the appropriate number.

	Below Average		Average	Above Average	
1. Public speaking	1	2	3	4	5
2. Responsible	1	2	3	4	5
3. Self-motivation	1	2	3	4	5
4. Leadership	1	2	3	4	5
5. Willingness to learn	1	2	3	4	5
6. Teamwork	1	2	3	4	5
7. Attitude	1	2	3	4	5
8. Science aptitude	1	2	3	4	5
9. Following rules	1	2	3	4	5
10. Cooperation	1	2	3	4	5
11. Appearance	1	2	3	4	5
12. Following directions	1	2	3	4	5
13. Works independently	1	2	3	4	5
14. Accepts criticism	1	2	3	4	5
15. Working well with:					
Adults	1	2	3	4	5
Children	1	2	3	4	5

Please put additional comments on the back.

I _____ (Do/Do not) recommend _____ for the teen volunteer program at the Birmingham Zoo, Inc.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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