

What do I need to know about zoos before I decide to be a volunteer educator (docent)?

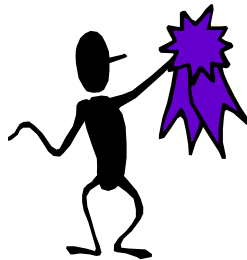
It's important to understand the purposes of today's accredited zoos. The Association of Zoos and Aquariums outlines 4 main purposes of zoos and aquariums:

- ◆ Conservation
- ◆ Recreation
- ◆ Research
- ◆ Education

Volunteers are utilized in many ways to help fulfill the Zoo's mission of education.

How would I benefit from volunteering at John Ball Zoo?

Volunteers have the opportunity to educate the public as well as themselves about wildlife conservation and to work with other individuals with similar interests and commitment to conservation issues.



The Zoo is never boring! New exhibits, new information and new opportunities are 'growing wild' everyday!

Volunteers may earn a free family membership to the Zoo (also valid for a free or reduced admission at over 120 other zoos and aquariums), in addition to receiving recognition awards and invitations to special events!

What do Zoo Volunteers (Docents) do?

On-site educational programming

- ⇒ Guided tours
- ⇒ Discover Carts
- ⇒ Interactive exhibit guides
- ⇒ Exhibit interpretation
- ⇒ Animal Presentations (with additional training)



Off-site educational programming (with additional training)

- ⇒ Retirement and Senior Centers
- ⇒ Hospitals
- ⇒ Community Events
- ⇒ Libraries

Special Events, and more!

You pick which of these volunteer activities you want to do!

What if I have a busy schedule?

We ask our volunteers to consider donating at least 75 hours of service a year, but we consider any time given as valuable!

We offer weekend, evening and weekday training and work opportunities throughout the year that will accommodate most schedules.



You set your own schedule for volunteering deciding when and how often you wish to volunteer.