

June 21, 2012

News Release

For Immediate Release

Art Goes WILD at Dickerson Park Zoo

Let your child's creative side run WILD at the 9th annual Art Gone WILD! from 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Saturday, June 23, at Dickerson Park Zoo.

Dickerson Park Zoo and Friends of the Zoo partner with Springfield Regional Arts Council to offer five hands-on art stations for children ages 12 and younger:

- Moss graffiti at the giraffe building
- Sidewalk chalk factory
- Paint a designer dirt bag (one bag each, for the first 200 families)
- Fossil making with Plaster of Paris
- Print making

In addition to the traditional hands-on art activities for children, members of Springfield's Plein Air Artists group will be at Dickerson Park Zoo with painting demonstrations.

Some of Dickerson Park Zoo's animals will also take part in art activities. Zookeepers use painting with some of the animals as an enrichment activity. Watch zookeepers work with the animals at these exhibits:

- 10:30 a.m. – Elephant skin-print painting (followed by elephant bath time at 11)
- 11:30 a.m. – Aldabra tortoise skin-print painting
- 12:30 p.m. – Hippopotamus nose prints
- 1:30 p.m. – Spider monkey finger painting

Members of the Ozarks Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers will have similar animal paintings displayed and for sale.

Dickerson Park Zoo is open daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission fees are \$8 for adults and teenagers, \$5 for seniors age 60 and older, \$5 for children ages 3-12 and free for children age 2 and younger. Friends of the Zoo members are admitted free; FOZ memberships are \$65 for an annual pass. For information about zoo events, visit www.dickersonparkzoo.org or call 417-864-1800.

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