

Group Visit / Field Trip Guide 2024 - 2025





Making a Reservation

Pricing

We offer a discounted, flat rate for groups of 20 or more, which includes all participants (students, group members, teachers, leaders, and chaperones). The rate for field trips prior to the end of 2024 is \$18.95. As of January 1st, 2025, the price per attendee increases to \$19.95. If an attendee is two years old or younger, there is no charge. We recommend at least one adult per ten children with more adults for younger children.



- We do honor tax-exempt groups with documentation.
 At this time, we cannot offer further discounted rates for groups, including Title 1 Schools.
- Full payment is due <u>within four weeks of booking</u> to secure your reservation. You can pay by credit card or by school or company check. We do not accept purchase orders. <u>Payments are non-refundable</u>. Numbers can go up but not down once the payment is made. To add to your count, e-mail <u>groups@dwazoo.com</u>.
- We understand that not all schools are able to pay for parents and/or chaperones. We can create a second invoice for these attendees. Full payment of this invoice is also due within four weeks of booking to secure your reservation, and payments are non-refundable. If a parent or chaperone plans to enter without the group (or is not included in the second invoice), they must pay full price for admission.

Setting a Date and Arrival Time

- Reservations are booked by date and arrival time and are taken on a first-come-first-served basis. We
 recommend booking early to increase the likelihood you will receive your desired date and arrival time.
 Arrival times are available from 8:30 am until 3:00 pm. As we host many large groups, the scheduled arrival
 times allow us to focus on one group at a time, reducing wait time for aquarium entry.
- To place a reservation, we need the name of your school or group, the approximate number of attendees, the name and phone number of the group's contact person, and a copy of your tax exemption certificate (if applicable). We also need the dates and arrival times that work for your group (providing more than one option helps us ensure you get a workable date/time for your group).
- Most popular dates (such as holidays and spring break) may not be available due to busy attendance.



Preparing for the Field Trip

Parking

There are 6 free public bus parking spots on North Griffin Street. Anyone driving separately will need to find parking on their own. There is metered public parking on many streets adjacent to our facility.

Belongings

 We do not allow groups to carry backpacks or totes while inside the aquarium. However, a teacher or leader may bring a backpack or tote with important participant paperwork, medical notes, or other relevant materials.



Accessibility

• Please contact us if you require any accommodations for your group members. See the Accessibility page on our website (www.dwazoo.com/accessibility) for more information.

Food

- There is **not** an area for picnic / sack lunches to be consumed on site. We are also **unable** to store lunches while the group tours the aquarium. Please plan accordingly.
- Additionally, we do not take reservations or accommodate large groups in any of our restaurants.
- We recommend the nearby Klyde Warren Park (https://klydewarrenpark.org) as a location for eating lunch.
 You can also consider getting food delivered to the park. We strongly recommend arranging the logistics of this prior to arrival.



Making the Most of your Field Trip



Educational Curriculum

• Add value to your DWA field trip with our free educational curriculum! We offer lesson plans designed to be used before, during, and after your field trip to DWA. They are gradelevel appropriate, downloadable in PDF format via our website, and are available in English and Spanish. They align with the TEKS for Science and are designed to add value to the field trip experience. Handouts, worksheets, and extension activities included.

www.dwazoo.com/education

• We also have educational Teacher Informational Packets available on our website on eight different DWA-related topics. These provide detailed information for those wishing to take a deeper dive into aquarium-related subject matter and complement the lessons in the curriculum.

Before the field trip, share information with your chaperones about:

- The educational goals of the field trip.
- The behavioral expectations of the students.
- All meeting times and locations, and the communication plan between teachers and chaperones.

Tips for Chaperones

- Focus the students on the animals and plants in each exhibit as you move through the aquarium.
- Encourage the students to ask questions and help them find the answers through observation, guessing, collecting evidence, and sharing their thoughts and opinions.
- Be patient! Many of the animals at DWA are adapted to blend in with their surroundings. Look carefully around the exhibit as animals may be resting nearby. In some unique instances, an animal may have moved to a den "behind the scenes" with an infant!
- Instruct students to find a uniformed DWA staff member if they get separated from their classmates.



Group Etiquette

We require that all school or group staff and chaperones:

- Supervise the children under their watch at all times, regardless of grade level. Group members are not allowed to leave their group and "check in" intermittently with leaders/chaperones while at DWA.
- Stop group members from participating in any activity that diminishes the experience of other guests (such as running, roughhousing, or yelling).
- Prevent group members from putting any stress on the animals (such as tapping on the glass or reaching into an animal's space).



- Ensure group members aren't engaging in unsafe or inappropriate behavior (such as climbing on displays or throwing items into animal habitats).
- Once inside the facility, there are no out/in privileges.

Chaperones are held responsible for the behavior and conduct of their group and any behavior that endangers our animals, staff, or other guests will result in your group's dismissal from the aquarium.

Contact Us

We are so excited to have you and your students visit us at the Dallas World Aquarium!

- To make a reservation or to ask field trip-related logistical questions, please contact Jeanie Backor at groups@dwazoo.com.
- For educational curriculum-related questions, please contact Susie Walker at susie@dwazoo.com.
- For general Aquarium questions, please email <u>info@dwazoo.com</u> or call our main phone line at (214) 720-2224 and ask for admissions.

