Think Wild Onsite Education Program Protocols

Thank you for your interest in attending an education program with Think Wild. The purpose of this document is to clearly communicate our expectations for groups that visit the Think Wild grounds, as well as to establish what you can expect from us during your visit. Thank you for your understanding and interest in learning more about what we do for Central Oregon wildlife.

**General Rules**

At any time during your visit to the Think Wild, there are likely wildlife in the near vicinity that are being treated as patients at our hospital. In order to help minimize their stress levels during their stay, please be sure to:

- Keep voices down, both inside the hospital and outdoors.
- Follow the lead of a Think Wild staff member or Think Wild volunteer when navigating through our facility. They are aware of where our patients are located and will ensure we do not approach our wildlife patients too closely.
- Raise your hand before asking or answering a question.
- Please see [Think Wild COVID-19 specific protocols here](#).

**Indoor Rules**

In addition to the rules listed above, please also be sure to follow these indoor-specific rules when visiting the Think Wild hospital:

- Do not enter any rooms inside the wildlife hospital unless instructed to do so by Think Wild staff.
- Do not touch or move equipment or materials in the hospital unless given permission by Think Wild staff. There are potentially hazardous chemicals
and medications present inside our wildlife hospital, and much of our equipment is very costly.

- All students must be accompanied in the hospital by either a Think Wild staff member or an adult.

**Outdoor Rules**

In addition to observing the general rules specified above, please follow these outdoor-specific rules when visiting Think Wild:

- Do not closely approach any of the outdoor enclosures unless explicitly granted permission by Think Wild staff.
- Do not enter any enclosures on the premises.
- Stay with the group, do not wander or stray about on our four-acre campus.
- No running or yelling.
- Follow all activity directions (if relevant) as specified by Think Wild staff or volunteers.

In addition to these rules, please also note that during your visit to Think Wild, you will **NOT** see any of our wildlife patients up close. In alignment with the mission of our organization, we aim to release all viable animals back into the wild upon successful completion of their treatment(s). For us to achieve this goal, it is important that our patients do not habituate to humans for both their safety and for ours. To that end, we only interact with the wildlife when absolutely necessary in accordance with their specific treatment plans. Thank you for your understanding.

Thank you for taking the time to learn about our protocols for educational programming and tours at Think Wild. If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to reach out to our staff.

Sincerely,

The Think Wild team