

Live Animal Guidelines for Birthday Party Encounters

- The animal encounter will comprise one Educator with **two live animals**. The Fernbank Educator will present facts about each animal and answer questions before facilitating the touching portion. Total length of the presentation will be between **15** and **25** minutes.
- To ensure the well-being of the live animals and the safety of the handler, party guests and chaperones must remain seated and refrain from making loud noises during the encounter.
- Party guests and chaperones will be instructed on the proper way to touch the live animals. If participants do not follow the animal contact guidelines, Fernbank Educators reserve the right to end the encounter at their discretion.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided at the end of the animal encounter. Any guest choosing to touch an animal must use hand sanitizer.
- Children **under the age of 4** will not be permitted to touch live animals. This is in compliance with recommendations from the Center for Disease Control.
- Every effort will be made to accommodate the party host's choice of animals as described below. However, animals presented will depend on availability the day of the event.

Available animal types: (Fernbank staff will select the exact animals)

- **Amphibians** (Possible species include Spotted Salamander, Tiger Salamander – NO TOUCHING)
- **Lizards** (Possible species include: Bearded Dragon, Blue-tongue Skink, Spiny Tailed Lizard, Leopard Gecko, Legless Lizard)
- **Snakes** (Possible species include: Corn Snake, Sinaloan Milksnake, Dumeril's Boa, Eastern Indigo Snake, Rubber Boa, Sand Boa, Neotropical Sunbeam Snake)
- **Turtles** (Possible species include: Diamondback Terrapin, Eastern or Western Box Turtles)
- **Invertebrates** (Possible species include: Madagascan Hissing Cockroaches)

I would like to request that one amphibian / lizard / snake / turtle / invertebrate (Please circle one)

And one amphibian / lizard / snake / turtle / invertebrate to visit our birthday party (Please circle one)

Available Birthday Party Live Animal Encounter Times: (Please circle one)

12:00pm-2:00 pm: 12:30pm or 1:00pm

3:00pm-5:00 pm: 3:30pm or 4:00pm

I understand and will adhere to the animal encounter policies outlined in this document.

Printed Name _____

Party Date _____

Signed _____

Date _____