



School Holiday Program Parent Handbook

Mission Statement

The purpose of The Wildlife Habitat is to enable visitors to appreciate and understand with a little more detail the intricate interdependence of rainforest fauna and flora by experiencing up close, some of its inhabitants and through this understanding, aid its conservation.

History of The Wildlife Habitat

The Wildlife Habitat was developed by John Morris and Michael Turner. Constructed in 1988 the area depicts four different and unique environments – Savannah, Wetlands, Rainforest and Grasslands. The Wildlife Habitat covers eight acres of land, of which two thirds are covered by specifically designed cyclone proof shade cloth, originally the largest in the southern hemisphere. The park was opened to the public in June 1989 as a bird and butterfly sanctuary.

In 1994 park management became aware of the growing concern and the need to preserve our flora and fauna. A plan was put in place to display and interpret the wildlife and flora of Tropical North Queensland, in particular the Wet Tropics region. This dynamic and ever evolving plan was designed to take The Wildlife Habitat into the new millennium, catering for the developing environmentally conscious market. We achieved Australia's first Advanced Eco Accreditation in 1998.

Improvements and developments that the park has seen since 2000 include our Koala enclosure, Tree Roo enclosure, Crocodile enclosure, Breakfast Buffet and the Shop and Office building. The Wildlife Habitat has been a multiple finalist and winner of TTNQ and Queensland Tourism Awards. We also achieved TTNQ Hall of Fame status in 2004 in the Environmental and Significant Tourist Attraction categories at the TTNQ and QLD tourism awards.

The Wildlife Habitat was purchased by Charles and Pip Woodward on October 1st 2005 and has joined the CaPTA group of companies including Rainforestation, Tropic Wings Coach Tours, Cairns Wildlife Dome, Australian Butterfly Sanctuary and Jungle Tours.

The Wildlife Habitat is considered to be a world leader in immersion exhibits, where guests can wander through our Wetlands, Rainforest and Grasslands and interact with the wildlife. With over 180 species represented by over 1600 animals, The Wildlife Habitat provides a wonderland of learning and enjoyment!

Breakfast with the Birds and Lunch with the Lorikeets are daily buffet meals that can be enjoyed within the Wetlands environment, with over 300 animals roaming freely around! Guided tours run regularly every day, as well as animal interaction with a python, freshwater crocodile, kangaroos and koala. The Wildlife Habitat is also a great venue for functions for small or large groups, where guests can enjoy delicious foods and beverages from The Curlew Café.

The Wildlife Habitat Motto

Through Observation...Appreciation
Through Appreciation...Conservation
Observe
Appreciate
Conserve



Program Details:

Dates:

Times:

Fees:

Please note: A late fee of \$ _____ will be applied for any late pick ups.

All children need to be present and ready to participate by _____ each morning.

Signing your child in and out of the Junior Keeper Program:

A parent/Guardian must signed their child in and out of the property every day they attend. An attendance record will be kept in the Reception area of Wildlife Habitat. This is a legal requirement that we must follow and these records are used in case emergencies and evacuations.

No child will be released into the care of any persons not know to staff members. If staff do not know the person by appearance, the person must be able to produce some form of photo identification to prove that they are the person authorized to collect the child on the enrolment form.

In the event that a child has not been collected 15 minutes after the nominated program finishing time then the parents/guardians will be contacted on the phone numbers provided.

If the child has still not been collected 30 minutes after the program finishing time then the staff will contact the police.

Additional fees will be charged for a child that remains at Wildlife Habitat after the program finishing time.

Accidents and Incidents:

In the case of an accident involving your child whilst at Wildlife Habitat, the staff will administer first aid immediately. If the injury requires further medical treatment, you will be contacted and a plan of action organized.

If a parent or emergency contact cannot be reached, the staff member in charge will act on behalf of the parent and proceed with whatever

medical treatment is required. A staff member known to the child will accompany the child to the Doctor / Hospital and stay with them until the parent arrives. Documentation of the accident will be made on an Incident Report form.

Sun Protection:

We recommend that children wear clothing that will protect them from the sun, including a hat, longer sleeve shirt instead of singlets and loose clothing which covers all of their body (ie. No midriffs or bare backs).

Sunscreen will be provided by Wildlife Habitat to be applied throughout the day. If your child has a particular sunscreen to use, please send it with your child, labeled with their name.

Your child may be working with messy materials so clothing must be able to stand a little wear and tear.

We also recommend children wear covered in shoes for their protection and comfort.

Please ensure all clothing and footwear are named.

Children's Behaviour:

While every attempt will be made to redirect children's behaviour, we will not tolerate any unruly or disruptive behaviour from children whilst at Junior Keepers. If a child continuously acts in an inappropriate manner, staff will contact the parent to arrange for the child to be collected.