



Inspire conservation leadership and life-long learning in your classroom...

## Apply for the Summer 2024 Teaching Safari!

*FREE professional learning program for K-12 educators.*

*Earn 2 semester hours graduate credit (Dominican University) or 35 professional development hours.*

**Application window is open from February 1 through March 15, 2024.**

**Please apply early; spaces fill quickly. To apply, visit [CZS.org/TeachingSafari](https://CZS.org/TeachingSafari).**

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

On the Brookfield Zoo Teaching Safari, you will:

- Enhance your content knowledge of conservation, animals, and ecosystems
- Explore effective, equity-minded classroom strategies to support student inquiry, critical thinking, conceptual understanding, argumentation based on evidence, student ownership, and engagement in all subject areas
- Discover new ways to develop conservation awareness in your students and to enrich learning through Zoo resources and exhibits
- Reflect on your classroom practice, engage in discussion with other educators, and receive individualized, written feedback from experienced Zoo educator program facilitator on a lesson plan that you create and revise during this program
- Connect and expand your professional learning community by becoming a part of the Brookfield Zoo Teaching Safari Network and enjoy free registrations for designated online and in-person professional development events

Teaching Safari participants who complete all course requirements may elect to receive 35 free professional development hours OR two (2) free graduate semester hours from Dominican University.\* Participants who complete the Safari will also receive a Certificate of Completion from Brookfield Zoo and four (4) complimentary Zoo passes.

Content and strategies explored on the Teaching Safari are informed by Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), Common Core State Standards (CCSS), and the Danielson Framework.

The Teaching Safari consists of four full-day, onsite sessions at Brookfield Zoo and two 60-minute virtual sessions. In addition to attending and participating in these classes, participants will (1) engage in ongoing reflection on professional growth, and (2) create and revise a lesson plan applying program content to practice.

*\* IEN number, documentation of attendance at all sessions per Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) guidelines, and completion of reflections/lesson plans per rubric are required for professional development hours or semester-hour credit. Certificate, Zoo passes, and network benefits will be awarded upon completion of all program requirements.*



**DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY**  
dom.edu

## Contact

To register, please visit [CZS.org/TeachingSafari](https://CZS.org/TeachingSafari).  
For more information, contact  
**Patricia Steinmeyer** at [EDK12@CZS.org](mailto:EDK12@CZS.org).

Brookfield Zoo • 3300 Golf Rd • Brookfield, IL 60513

professional  
development  
& training  
K-12 EDUCATORS

**BROOKFIELD  
ZOO**  
Chicago Zoological Society

# Teaching Safari Session Itinerary

This Summer 2024, our safari begins with a two-day expedition focused on Brookfield Zoo's *Great Bear Wilderness*, inhabited by brown bears, polar bears, bison, and the bald eagle! As you learn about these amazing animals, you will explore a variety of inquiry-based, student-centered teaching strategies that you can apply in your classroom across subject areas.

Teachers will also participate in an onsite, two-day "variety expedition" adventure combining educator professional development to support student learning with the exploration of *The Swamp*, *The Living Coast*, *Hamill Family Wild Encounters*, *Hamill Family Play Zoo*, and other animal habitats throughout the zoo.

## ONSITE DAYS 1 & 2

### *Great Bear Wilderness Expedition*

Two full days at Brookfield Zoo:

#### Day 1

- Introduction: What Is Conservation Leadership? Developing Conceptual Understanding Through Equity-Based, Student-Centered Teaching
- Observing Bears as Phenomena: A Gateway to Inquiry and Problem-Based Learning

#### Day 2

- Brown Bear "Food for Thought": Sensemaking with Mathematical Data and Scientific Models
- A Habitat for Bears in The Human Heart: Exploring Diverse Perspectives Through Art and Empathy

## ONSITE DAYS 3 & 4

### *Zoo Variety Expedition*

Two more full days at Brookfield Zoo:

#### Day 3

- *The Swamp* - Swamp Music: Keeping Learning "In Tune" with Student Schema, Language, and Experience
- *The Living Coast* - Transform "Ho-hum" Science Activities with Humboldt Penguins: Planning and Carrying Out Student-Centered Investigations Through Inquiry

#### Day 4

- *Hamill Family Play Zoo and Hamill Family Wild Encounters* - Strategies for Empowering Students to Access and Take Ownership of Learning in School and Beyond
- *Big Cats* - Big Cats & Big Learning: Building Collaboration and Understanding through Student-Centered Assessment

		Grades 6-12 Cohort June 20 to August 10, 2024	Grades K-5 Cohort June 17 to August 10, 2024	
<b>GREAT BEAR WILDERNESS Expedition</b> <i>at Brookfield Zoo</i>	Day 1	Thursday, June 20, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	Monday, June 17, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	6 PD hours
	Day 2	Friday, June 21, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	Tuesday, June 18, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	6 PD hours
<b>Online "Check-in" Meeting</b> <i>via Zoom</i>		Thursday, June 27, 2024 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.	Tuesday, June 25, 2024 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.	Supports Independent Learning
<b>Draft Lesson Plan Due Date</b>		Wednesday, July 10, 2024	Monday, July 8, 2024	
<b>Variety Expedition</b> <i>at Brookfield Zoo</i>	Day 3	Thursday, July 18, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	Monday, July 15, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	6 PD hours
	Day 4	Friday, July 19, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	Tuesday, July 16, 2024 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Lunch included	6 PD hours
<b>Revised Lesson Plan</b>		Monday, July 29, 2024	Friday, July 26, 2024	
<b>Concept Map Reflection</b>		Monday, July 29, 2024	Friday, July 26, 2024	
<b>Final Meeting/Reflection</b> <i>via Zoom</i>		Saturday, August 10, 2024 9:30 to 10:30 a.m.	Saturday, August 10, 2024 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.	Supports Reflection
<b>Independent Learning</b>		Reflection Assignment (3 PD hours) + Annotated Lesson Plan and Revisions (8 PD hours)		11 PD hours

**Each cohort totals 35 PD hours or 2 semester hours graduate credit**

Attendance at all sessions and completion of all assignments is required to receive graduate credit hours, PD hours, certificate, or Zoo passes. No partial credit is available for this course.