

Critter Chats

Interaction: Critter Chats provide one-on-one interaction with animals in a larger group setting such as festivals and community events. While less formal than our group presentation style programs, the table/tent based Critter Chat can reach a wide audience over longer periods of time from a single to multiple hours. Each person has the opportunity to interact with the animals. Small groups may also participate in group activities such as Ferret Flexibility, Snake Jaws, Parrot Trees, and Lizard Slither to name a few.

Animals: The Zoo will select a variety of animals based on the duration of the Critter Chat.

Mammals: Ferret, Hedgehog, Degu, Rabbit, Fennec Fox

Birds: Umbrella Cockatoo, Blue and Gold Macaw, Parrot (Mealy Amazon, Caique, Eclectus), Chicken

Reptiles: Blue-tongued Skink, Tortoise (Greek, Russian), Snakes (Ball Python, Sand Boa, Corn Snake)

Amphibians: American Tree Frog, Cane Toad

Invertebrates: Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches, Tarantula, Forest Scorpion

Pricing: The service fee is based on the length of time for the Critter Chat and can accommodate a large flowing audience.

\$290 - For a 1 hour Critter Chat with 3 species of animals

\$390 – For a 2 hour Critter Chat with 5 species of animals

+\$100 – For each additional hour

Multi-program discounts are available for 3-10 programs at 10% off and 11 or more at 20% off.

What's included: Each program includes 45 min. of presentation time with up to 5 species of animals.

Transportation within 30 miles of Coal Valley, IL is included for no additional cost (additional fee for greater distances).

Arrival: Staff will arrive approximately 20 minutes prior to the start of the program to set up a table with table cloth, signs and animal artifacts. Our preference is to set up without participants present.

Space: Preferred working area (no seating) of approximately 10'x8' to set up our table and access animals.

Containment: Animals will be contained in travel carriers beneath and behind the table.

Participants are not permitted behind the table for the safety of the animals and participants.

Gifts for the Animals – Consider **Charitable Giving** to help the animals at the Zoo! Participants can **donate items** to assist with their care. Items that are always needed include: Gift cards (to Walmart, HyVee, Menards, Home Depot, Lowe's, Farm & Fleet, Petsmart, Petco, Drs. Foster & Smith, etc.), perfume, spices, large parrot toys, Kong dog toys, Rawhide bones, Cloth items (gently used bath and hand towels, sheets, pillow cases, t-shirts, ferret hammocks), Paper items (paper towels, butcher paper, newspaper, streamers), PVC pipe pieces/caps, milk crates **As animal diets are very specific, we are unable to accept donations of food.**

