Adventures at the Zoo

Furkhan Ali

During the summer of 2017 (and 2016 for the Senior Roving Naturalists: Furkhan and Natalie), Furkhan Ali, Natalie Denksi, Macy Adlinger, Michael Roland, Maryam Mohamed, Nourhan Mohamed conducted various activities at Brookfield Zoo. We performed tasks such as holding reptiles including vivid snakes, lurid lizards, and intriguing turtles. We were all given training by elite Certified Interpretive planners in the dynamic art of interpretation. We used this knowledge to convey knowledge about nature to visitors to the zoo as well as outstanding auditors who came to analyze our quality of work. In addition, we sometimes faced scorching heat and insect bites, other times torrential rain and crowds, but in the end we united together to achieve the seemingly impossible. Moreover, the Senior Roving Naturalists were charged with supervising, mentoring, and guiding the bright, young newcomers as they transitioned to this position. Some of us also got to show what we learned to our educators (like our wonderful sponsor Dr. Wilson), our friends, and our families. All in all, we worked hard and had fun serving the entire zoo community and left a legacy that continues to follow us to this very day.

Experiences are Done

Furkhan petting a wallaby(right) and an emu(left) along with hanging out with a Tyrannosaurus rex (center).

Furkhan educating a massive crowd about Amur(Siberian) tigers.

Natalie(Left) pleasantly observing Macy(center) handles a live snake.

Furkhan(right) shows an amazing blue-tongued skink to his noble sister Nida(left).

Maryam(left) analyzing the room as Furkhan (center) handles a live snake.

Faizan (Furkhan’s dynamic brother) comes to visit and take pictures of the team.

Legends are Made

Furkhan in the enchanting Critter Cart.

Skills are Learned

Michael(left) calmly displays a slithering corn snake while Macy(right) vigilantly guards.

Natalie displays a turtle.

Amur leopard(left) and Amur tiger(right); two of the animals we encountered at the zoo.

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STUDENT AUTHORS: WHERE ARE THEY

Furkhan Ali is currently pursuing a career as a physician in his undergrad using multiple skills from this internship.

The rest of the team is also pursuing great things as Benedictine University.

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