

Emerson Electric Children's Zoo

City of St. Louis Parks & Recreation

Location
St. Louis, Missouri

Construction Completion
2001

Construction Cost
\$4 million

DMA Services Provided
Architecture
Civil Engineering
Structural Engineering
Surveying Services



David Mason & Associates provided architectural and engineering services for renovations and additions to the Emerson Electric Children's Zoo.

The Children's Zoo is a year-round facility emphasizing "touch interactions" with many animals. It includes new and splashy exterior exhibits as well as a larger, sunnier new building. The improved holding facilities support the flexible and innovative programming that makes this Children's Zoo one of the best in the country.

The public area of the new Children's Zoo building is larger to allow more flexibility to support special events. Inside animal displays include a new **Koala Exhibit** as well as the **Fennec Fox** and **Meerkat Exhibit**. The new outdoor **Amphitheater** is contiguous with the holding facilities.

Water bubbles, sprays, and jets upward from a series of artesian bubblers in the stony surface of the path. A rocky, hillside **Otter Exhibit** provides a centerpiece for the lower outdoor area. This area contains a waterfall and pool. Children can play like an otter on their own slide that splashes through the otter pool with eye-to-eye viewing of the otters underwater. Near the otter exhibit sits a large, climbable spider web. This exhibit allows children to climb the web and experience the life of a spider.

The new centerpiece of the upper outdoor area is the **Lorikeet Aviary**, a walk-through aviary where children can enjoy up-close experiences with the friendly birds. Nectar for feeding the lorikeets is dispensed at a new kiosk.

