Lincoln Children's ZOOtracks

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Learn firsthand.

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Lincoln Children's Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums



Lincoln Children's Zoo is a member of Community Services Fund. Learn more at: CommunityServicesFund.org



For information on planned giving and endowments, please contact Kristine Lemons at 402.475.6741 ext. 136.



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SWINGING INTO LINCOLN

The expansion of Lincoln Children's Zoo includes worldclass areas for guests to interact with nature and get up-close experiences with amazing animals. This is one of two key components of the Zoo's 10-acre addition. The second component of the project has an impact that stretches far beyond the boundaries of the Zoo, saving animals from extinction. In 2019, the critically endangered Colombian blackheaded spider monkey will be one of the newest animals Lincoln Children's Zoo is helping save.

In the past 15 years, the population of the Colombian black-headed spider monkey has decreased more than 80 percent. So rarely found in their natural habitat, estimating an exact number left in the wild is difficult but some experts believe there are less than 2,000. They are part of the Species Survival Plan and as of 2018 there are approximately 240 in captivity throughout the world. Lincoln Children's Zoo is one of the few institutions selected to breed and study black-headed spider monkeys with the hope of increasing their numbers and improving conservation methods to save them.

"Working to help save endangered species is in our DNA, just like connecting children with animals and nature," President & CEO, John Chapo said.

Colombian black-headed spider monkeys are a type of New World Monkey from Central and South America. Primarily found in Colombia, Nicaragua and Panama, these primates weigh around 20 pounds and are up to 20 inches tall. Their size makes them one of the largest New World Monkeys.

Being arboreal, black-headed spider monkeys spend all their time in trees. They move by climbing and brachiating, or swinging, from limb to limb. The state-of-the-art habitat being built for them is specially designed to provide enrichment opportunities, stimulate their senses and create an environment like their natural one. "The habitat at our Zoo is being designed every step of the way with the health of the black-headed spider monkey in mind, but it is also a fun and inviting area for our guests to get an up-close look at this amazing animal," Chapo said.

The Colombian black-headed spider monkey habitat will open in the Spring of 2019.



GENERATIONS OF JOEYS

Tucked into the Animal Kingdom at Lincoln Children's Zoo is the Matschie's tree kangaroo, a small marsupial weighing around 20 pounds and standing only 25 inches tall. This often-unknown animal is cute and a little shy. Unfortunately, these tree kangaroos are on a path to extinction. In an effort to save them Lincoln Children's Zoo has made it a priority to become one of the most successful breeding institutions in the nation.

Since 2000, Lincoln Children's Zoo has successfully raised 10 Matschie's tree kangaroo joeys and leads the world in captive breeding. Forty-seven Matschie's tree kangaroos are believed to be in captivity around the world, making the Zoo's breeding success an amazing accomplishment toward saving this endangered animal.

Milla, Judie and Bexley are the three tree kangaroos who currently call the Zoo home. All are a part of an important program called the Species Survival Plan (SSP). The SSP enhances conservation efforts and saves endangered species in the wild. The Zoo participates in the SSP and uses the organization's guidelines not only to help the Matschie's tree kangaroo but also other species within their care.

In 1996, the Matschie's tree kangaroo was officially listed as an endangered species due to significant loss of habitat. Found only in the Huon Peninsula within Papua New Guinea, the current population of the species is declining with an estimated 2,500 left in the wild. Efforts made by Lincoln Children's Zoo's animal care staff help to support the conservation of this rare animal.

At almost 17 years old, Milla is the oldest Matschie's tree kangaroo residing at Lincoln Children's Zoo and is the only one in captivity known to have had twins. With a total of nine joeys, Milla is the the oldest tree kangaroo known to give birth. Although Milla continues to breed she is now living in retirement in one of the Zoo's private care centers. Judie, Milla's granddaughter, can be found in her habitat at the Animal Kingdom for guests to view.

This year, only three Matschie's tree kangaroos are expected to be born in captivity. Lincoln Children's Zoo will account for two of those with both Milla and Judie each currently carrying a joey. "For our Zoo to account for two-thirds of the joeys born in captivity in the world is a testament to the work our zookeepers and conservation staff perform," President & CEO John Chapo said.

Davi Ann Norsworthy, the Zoo's current tree kangaroo keeper, has made a significant impact in helping to build the species' population. Norsworthy has cared for 17 tree kangaroos and has seen the birth of 10 joeys at the Zoo. By following the SSP guidelines for tree kangaroos such as providing consistency in their day, good diets and building trusting relationships, she and the other zookeepers are able to provide superior care that aids in the success of the breeding program.

For over 26 years, Lincoln Children's Zoo has made a world of difference in saving the Matschie's tree kangaroo from extinction. "We are here to give children and adults firsthand interaction with living things and do what we can to protect and help endangered animals throughout the world. It's who we are and always will be," Chapo said.



- TURACO FEATHERS ARE COLORED BY A UNIQUE PIGMENT - THE MOST OUTGOING OF ALL THE BIRDS IN THE AVIARY hello NOT FOUND IN ANY OTHER BIRDS -4YEARS OLD



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LEAPING LEMURS

Nestled between the snow leopards and white-handed gibbons is the home of one of the more playful animals in the Zoo. An animal known for leaping, running, playing and sometimes eating the occasional Cheerio. This fun-loving primate is the incredibly popular ringtailed lemur from Madagascar.

The troop of ring-tailed lemurs at the Zoo consists of five females; Meara, Nessa, Neave, Delilah and Lulu. They enjoy a close relation due to the eldest lemur Meara. Meara is not only the mother of Nessa and Neave but is also the grandmother of Delilah and Lulu. When visiting their habitat, the troop is usually found playing together in an expansive outdoor area filled with tree branches and enrichment items located on a cool field of grass. The habitat is designed to replicate their natural environment.

As in the wild, ring-tailed lemurs often follow a matriarch in

which one of the females is the leader. Currently, Nessa is considered the leader of the Zoo's troop. Like that of other groups in the wild, the offspring of the leader are usually higher in the hierarchy compared to other members of the group.

Meara, the oldest, spends her days sitting with Neave or partaking in normal lemur activities such as grooming. These types of social activities are vital in strengthening the troop's social bonds. Although she isn't as active as the rest of the family and a little shy, she has a confident personality. Delilah, Meara's granddaughter, has a personality that is much different. She is often curious and is known to excitedly jump on keepers' shoulders. Each one of the Zoo's ring-tailed lemurs has individual and unique behaviors.

With long leather-like palms, lengthy limbs on all feet and opposable thumbs on the back feet, the ring-tailed lemur is easily able to grip the branches of their habitat. They tend to spend a majority of their time in trees but are known to walk on the ground, something uncommon among other species of lemurs. The ability to both swing from the trees and walk on the ground has a variety of benefits for the lemurs especially when it comes to foraging for fruits and leaves.

In the wild, ring-tailed lemurs are found exclusively in the southern forests and scrubland of Madagascar. With a population of fewer than 2,000, they are classified as critically endangered due to habitat loss. The Zoo takes part in the Species Survival Plan to help save ringtailed lemurs from extinction. Through the efforts of Lincoln Children's Zoo and other institutions, the ring-tailed lemur population in captivity is growing.





EXPANSION UPDATE

The skyline of Lincoln is growing with the help of Lincoln Children's Zoo. One of the largest indoor giraffe habitats in North America is nearly complete along with the new Education & Conservation Center at the Zoo. These two buildings are not only the largest structures in the Zoo's addition but are critical to caring for endangered animals and providing learning space for students. Progress on the entrance, gift shop and tiger buildings continues with guests now getting a view from the parking lot of the close proximity of the new entrance. The red panda habitat, located right after the entrance, was designed for guests to get a firsthand experience with an animal immediately after entering the Zoo.

"Your Lincoln Children's Zoo will be even more accessible and easy to experience when we open Spring of 2019. Close parking, stroller friendly gates and red pandas right away—this experience will definitely wow!" President & CEO, John Chapo said.

For more expansion updates, giving opportunities and photos visit LincolnZoo.org.



Lincoln Children's ZOO

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25 RACE BEGINS AT 8 A.M.

RED PANDA RUN

REGISTRATION

- · REQUIRED FOR AGES 2 TO 18 YEARS
- · INCLUDES RED PANDA RUN SHIRT, MEDAL & ZOO ENTRY
- · REGISTER BY AUGUST 1 TO RECIEVE THE RED PANDA RUN SHIRT
- REGISTRATION NOT REQUIRED FOR ADULTS & CHILDREN 1 & UNDER

REGISTER AT LINCOLNZOO.ORG

PROUD SPONSOR

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animal care



JUNE

JUNE

WORLD OCEANS DAY 10 A.M. - 5 P.M. Celebrate World Oceans Day and visit animals at the Zoo that are from an ocean or habitat is near the ocean!



JUNE

TRAIN BIRTHDAY PARTY | 10 A.M. – 5 P.M. Celebrate the 55th Birthday of ZO&O Railroad. Each hour we will randomly select a child to be our kid conductor on the train. Train rides will be \$2 all day! Plus, see model trains provided by the Lincoln Area Railway Historical Society.

PROUD SPONSOR



JUNE

FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATION | 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

This Father's Day at the Zoo all dads receive one free train ride or free admission! Bring dad out for a fun day at the Lincoln Children's Zoo!

PROUD SPONSOR



OPEN LATE 'TIL 8 WEDNESDAY EVERY WEDNESDAY JUNE, JULY & AUGUST

PROUD SPONSOR wilderness

JULY

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JULY 4 WEEKEND: RED, WHITE AND ZOO! | 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

Active, Retired military and Veterans get free admission all weekend and the entire family can explore the Zoo and learn about animals that are native to America. Stop by the Safari Cafe for great deals each day. Plus, the first 100 children entering the Zoo each day will receive a FREE 4" x 6" American flag!

JULY

BREWS AT THE ZOO 21+ EVENT 6 P.M. – 11 P.M. It's time for adults 21 and over to enjoy some tasty craft beers and amazing music at the Zoo! This year's event features live music by The Brad Ramp Band and brews from Zipline Brewery, Empyrean Ales, Thunderhead Brewing, Lucky Bucket Brewing and more! Tickets are limited and may sell out. Purchase tickets at LincolnZoo.org.





NATIONAL ZOOKEEPER APPRECIATION WEEK | 10 A.M. – 5 P.M.

We are celebrating National Zookeeper Week! All of the Zookeepers at the Zoo spend countless hours giving our animals the best care. Next time you see one of them, be sure to tell them thanks and stop by The Hive to write them a letter!

AUGUST

AUG

BREWS AT THE ZOO | 21+ EVENT | 6 P.M. – 11 P.M.

It's time for adults 21 and over to enjoy some tasty craft beers and amazing music at the Zoo! This year's event features live music by AM/FM and craft beers from Zipline Brewery, Empyrean Ales, Thunderhead Brewing, Lucky Bucket Brewing and more! Tickets are limited and may sell out. Purchase tickets at LincolnZoo.org.



aug 25

RED PANDA RUN | RACE BEGINS AT 8 A.M.

The Red Panda Run is a family fun run great for any age! After crossing the finish line inside the Zoo, explore and meet over 400 animals that live there! Participants receive a Red Panda Run t-shirt, medal and admission to the Zoo for the day. Registration opens soon at LincolnZoo.org.





ZIPLINE BREWERY • THUNDERHEAD BREWING • EMPYREAN ALES • LUCKY BUCKET BREWING • & MORE!