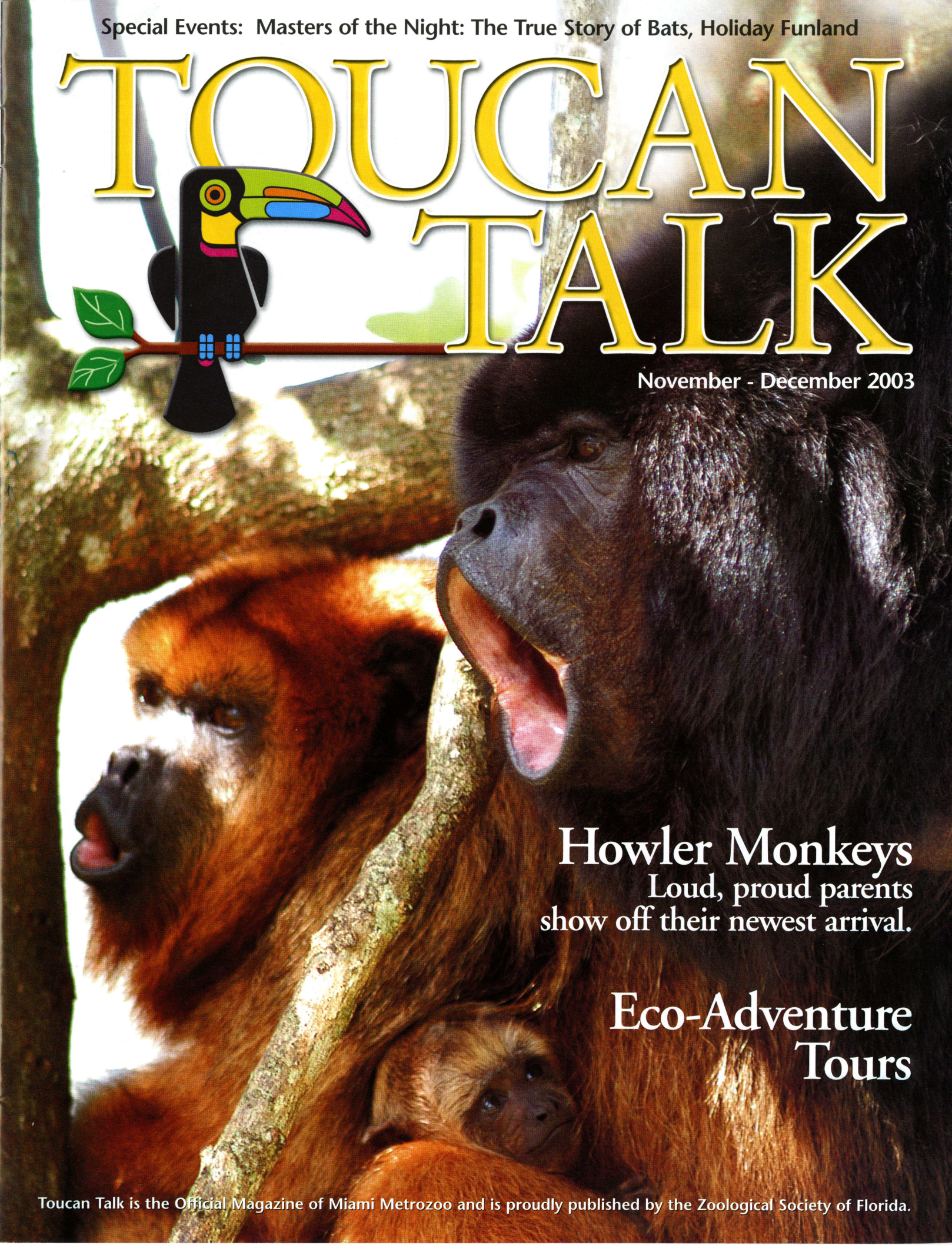


Special Events: Masters of the Night: The True Story of Bats, Holiday Funland

TOUCAN TALK



November - December 2003

A photograph of two howler monkeys in a natural setting. One monkey is in the foreground, looking to the right with its mouth wide open, showing its pink tongue and teeth. Another monkey is visible behind it, also looking to the right. The background is a blurred natural environment.

Howler Monkeys
Loud, proud parents
show off their newest arrival.

**Eco-Adventure
Tours**

LOOK

WHAT'S NEW AT THE ZOO



HATCHING:

Inset Above and Page Background Below: Found in east South America, the seriema is a bird of prey. Its call is one of the most recognizable sounds of the grasslands.

PHOTOS: DOLORA BATCHELOR



BIRTHS AND HATCHINGS

- 3 Nicobar pigeons* (Aviary)August 1, 10, 26
- 1 Male Addra gazelleAugust 25
- 5 South American red-footed tortoises*August 1, 5, 24
- 4 North American rudy ducks*
(Flamingo Lake)August 21
- 1 Red-legged seriema*August 19
- 1 Male Southern gerenukAugust 16
- 1 Female Grant's gazelleAugust 14
- 2 East African crowned cranes*August 6, 7
- 1 Female greater Kudu.....August 6
- 3 East African crowned cranes *July 26
- 2 Pink-necked pigeons* (Aviary).....July 20
- 2 Crested wood partridges* (Aviary).....June 21
- 1 Mindanao bleeding-heart dove* (Aviary)June 16
- 3 East African crowned cranes*June 11, 12, 14

ACQUISITIONS

- 2 Male Jamaican boasAugust 20

NEW BIRD FOR THE AVIARY

- 1 Eurasian eagle owl*August 19

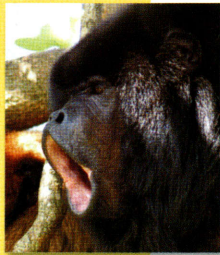
* Gender undetermined

Contents

On the Cover:

Howler monkeys, found in the rainforests of South America, claim their territory at dawn and dusk with such loud whoops and howls they can be heard for over a mile away.

PHOTO: RON MAGILL



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TOUCAN TALK



NOVEMBER/DECEMBER, 2003 Volume 30, Number 6

Our mission is to encourage an appreciation for the world's wildlife and to help conserve it for future generations.

EDITOR

Sherrie Avery

CREATIVE DIRECTION

Danny Garcia, FB&A Advertising

PHOTOS AND ARTWORK

Jeannette Aquino
Sherrie Avery
Michelle Baez
Dolora Batchelor
Cecilia Betancourt
Jessica Swanson Carcerano
Clear Channel Exhibitions
Barbara Crutchfield
Lily Forni
Jones and Jones
Ron Magill
Georgina Salup
Gucci Sarno
Adam Stern
Carol Tomlinson

CONTRIBUTORS

Sherrie Avery
Carla Baker
Jessica Swanson Carcerano
Clear Channel Exhibitions
EDSA
Glenn W. Ekey
Lily Forni
Marlene Hawkins
Joann Jennier
Jones and Jones
Jim King
Derek Krause
Jamie Lassonde
Ron Magill
Osmany Mena
Miami-Dade Park & Recreation
Eco-Tourism Office
Debbie Mucarsel
Andrea Obregon
Chip Roberts
Rachél Watkins Rogers
Gucci Sarno

CONTRIBUTORS (CONT.)

Ron Stayton
Eric Stephens
Carol Tomlinson
Tom Trump
Dr. Kathleen Turner, DVM
USFWS
Paul Vrooman
Terry Webb
Nancy Wielert
World Wildlife Fund

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Toucan Talk, November/December, 2003

Zoological Society of Florida
One Zoo Boulevard,
12400 SW 152 Street, Miami, FL 33177
(305) 255-5551
www.miamimetrozoo.com

Glenn W. Ekey,
President & CEO

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The Zoo's master plan provides a view of the long-term direction of our 300-plus-acre facility. Already valued as one of the nation's premier zoological parks, Miami Metrozoo seeks to become the top zoo in the world through completion of the plan. When a tourist thinks of Miami, we want 'Miami' to be synonymous with 'Miami Metrozoo!' There isn't any reason why Miami Metrozoo can't be one of the primary purposes for tourists to come to Miami, and we feel confident the state-of-the-art, multi-purpose facility we've designed will create a surge in our local and state economy.

RENDERINGS: JONES AND JONES

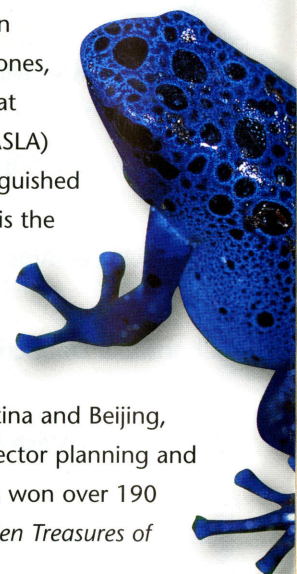
The Next Phase Begins...

Miami Metrozoo's Master Plan

By Glenn Ekey, President & CEO, Zoological Society of Florida and Eric Stephens, Director, Miami Metrozoo



Throughout 2004 we will continue the forward movement of the master plan. We have assembled a dynamite team to work on Phase II, *The Hidden Treasures of Tropical America*. Jones and Jones, the lead architect, is a 40-person Seattle-based design firm that was awarded the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) "Firm Award" in August, 2003 for producing bodies of distinguished work influencing the practice of landscape architecture. This is the first time the award has been given in the 104-year history of the ASLA. Working with Jones and Jones is EDSA of Ft. Lauderdale. Founded in 1960, EDSA now has over 130 employees working from offices in Ft. Lauderdale and Orlando, Florida; Los Angeles, California; Buenos Aires, Argentina and Beijing, China. EDSA has an excellent balance of public and private sector planning and design projects, both overseas and domestically. The firm has won over 190 awards, including 57 from the ASLA. Completion of *The Hidden Treasures of Tropical America* is scheduled for 2007.



Our recent partnership with World Wildlife Fund (WWF) will enable the design team to create the newest section of the Zoo in such a realistic way that our visitors will feel like they are encountering the region's wildlife in the dense jungles of the Americas. The work being conducted by WWF on a global scale and especially in Tropical America is critical to the protection of this planet's biodiversity for ourselves and our children. Through our partnership, WWF and Miami Metrozoo will ensure the new addition to the Zoo will further our joint mission of protecting animals and their habitats. Together we are pooling our conservation resources.

The Hidden Treasures of Tropical America will be set in a jungle clearing along the shore of the lake between the Colobus monkey exhibit and Lakeside Grille. This will enable visitors to make a complete tour of the Zoo without having to retrace their steps through the African lobe!

Travelers to the tropics will be immersed in the diversity of species that call this region home. Tropical America is a species-rich environment, shaped by millions of years of flora and fauna exchange. This region is teeming with life. The focus of



ANIMAL PHOTOS: RON MACGILL

this exhibit will be the incredible biodiversity that makes up the Tropics. Using sound to create a deeper layer of immersion, we plan to pursue the theme, "Rhythms of the Tropics", to create a multi-sensory exhibit that will be more meaningful for visitors of all ages.



Because the landscape of the tropics is as diverse as the animals that inhabit it, we will highlight several different regions or biomes within Tropical America. Visitors, entering the exhibit from the north, will be able to experience a Mesoamerican Cloud Forest, Dry Forest, Moist Forest and the natural corridors that link these areas. Beyond Mesoamerica, visitors will be able to explore the region of Amazônia with three bioclimatic zones depicted: Flooded Forest, Terra Firma and Confluences, followed by Mata Atlántica that also includes the Pantanal. Throughout this exhibit, our visitors will be able to keep cool, thanks to our plan to landscape this exhibit with lush vegetation, which will then be interspersed with air-conditioned public buildings, housing smaller species and educational resources.

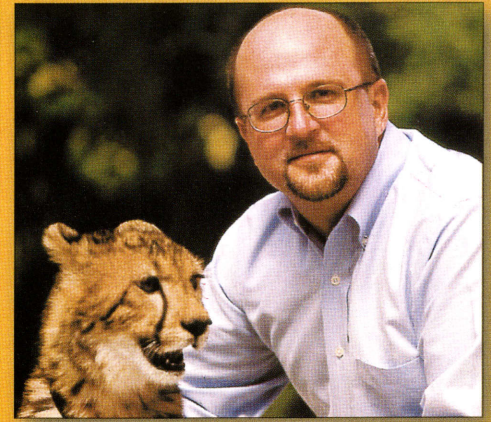
Imagine that you're traveling through a tropical forest. Off in the distance you hear rain as it begins to fall. You hear the roar of the thunder and the rain gets louder. After a few minutes, the sound of the rain eases and you hear birds singing off in the distance. You feel as if you are truly walking through a tropical rainforest. That is the kind of excitement and anticipation that we hope to accomplish in this exhibit.

Ambient sounds such as rainfall, crickets and rustling leaves will help create the sensation that you have traveled to a tropical world.

As you explore the land of the tropics, some of the species that you may find yourself face-to-face with include: jaguar, anaconda, Orinoco crocodile, capybara, tapir, anteater, numerous primates, including howler, spider, woolly and Saki monkeys, plus numerous tamarins and marmosets. A wide variety of reptiles, amphibians, fishes, birds, and insects will also be displayed throughout the exhibit.

If you need to rest while on your tropical journey, there will be a River Village situated along the lake where you can stop and take a boat ride or enjoy light refreshment. Also at the village will be an orientation zone, gift concessions, restrooms, a medicinal garden and a children's farm, a "finca". There will be a tropical education/multi-use building suitable for classes and for group rental use for receptions and dinners. Adjacent to the village will be a special events lawn for informal performances and multi-purpose usage.

The educational stories about the culture and wildlife of Tropical America, as well as hands-on experiences for school children and visitors, will make a visit to the Zoo more exciting than ever. Your support and enthusiasm is invaluable to this new project and the growth of your Zoo!

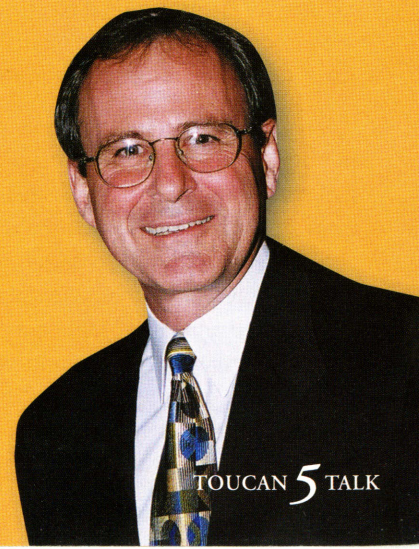


The biggest milestone for 2003 was completing the first phase of our 20-year master plan, the American Bankers Family Aviary, Wings of Asia. Personal recommendation is our best form of advertising, so please help us spread the news.

**Eric Stephens, Director
Miami Metrozoo**

As we look forward to saying goodbye to 2003 and greeting 2004, we want to thank each and every member, Zoo visitor and Zoo benefactor. Without your support, we would not be where we are today.

**Glenn Ekey, President & CEO
Zoological Society of Florida**





Fang

Superstar & Detective

By Rachél Watkins Rogers

FFor millions visiting Miami Metrozoo over the years, there is always one exhibit, animal or sound that they remember most distinctly. For many it is the twice-daily territorial call of the Lar gibbon (*Hylobates lar*) family, led by their patriarch "Fang." The melodious calls of Lar gibbons, referred to as songs, can be heard for miles in their native jungles of South East Asia, and right here in Miami, Florida. Gibbons are members of the ape family and live in family groups that disperse their teenaged offspring when the time comes for them to find their own home ranges.

For Metrozoo, Fang was more like a monarch as his presence spanned over two zoos (both Crandon Park Zoo and the new Metrozoo) and over 40 years in Miami. He sired more than eight offspring with two mates; this is unusual because gibbons are purported to mate for life. When he died of a stroke on July 30, 2003, Fang was the second-oldest gibbon in North America. A pair of gibbons at the San Antonio Zoo in Texas is reported to be in their early 50's.

Fang was named for the upper right, long canine tooth that hung out over his lower lip. Working with Fang in his earlier years was a real challenge because he was fearless — so much so that he wasn't even afraid of a large Anaconda that found its way onto his island! His last keeper, Crystal LeMaster, reported he had "a gentle side if you respected his space!" Crystal referred to Fang as, "one of the most valued animals at Metrozoo, due to his predictability. He was like a show, always on time and performing his songs for everyone twice-daily."

Fang has a new career and is hard at work fighting the illegal animal trade through the donation of his body by Metrozoo to the USFWS Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon. This lab is the only one of its kind for such a large archive of data to identify species used in the bush meat trade or an illegally smuggled artifact. Good-bye, Fang. You were always a superhero at Metrozoo!

"Animal Detectives" Fight Crime in Forensics Lab

The National Fish and Wildlife Forensics Laboratory in Ashland, Oregon is the only lab in the world dedicated to solving wildlife crimes. These crimes include illegal hunting, trafficking, producing and selling products made from endangered or threatened species. The mission of the Lab is to stop criminals and protect the world's wildlife. This is done with the help of 155 countries, signatories of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) in wild plants and animals. The Forensics Park collection, mostly specimens donated by zoos after the animals died, helps scientists to determine the authenticity of illegally traded animal products.

Fang will enable the lab to identify other Lar gibbons through forensic analysis that could link other gibbon carcasses to a violation of wildlife law and the apprehension of human suspects.

Howler Monkeys

By Derek Krause, Zookeeper

If you have visited the Zoo lately, you have probably heard the sounds of a very loud garbage disposal projected over roughly a mile of terrain. This unique noise is not a major plumbing problem but a call created by one of Metrozoo's newest additions. In November of 2002, the Zoo acquired two howler monkeys, a black male, Rufus and a gold female, Evita, from the Riverbanks Zoo in South Carolina. They are here at Metrozoo for a breeding program, and are part of a 103-specimen group that is among 28 collections around the country.

Black and gold howlers (*Alouatta caraya*) belong to the family Cebidae, and there are five other species included in the genus *Alouatta*. This family of monkeys is new world in origin, meaning they range from Mexico south through Central and South America. Their habitat includes mostly tropical and subtropical evergreen forests from sea level to 3,280 feet above sea level, and they can even be found in higher elevations. These monkeys are arboreal (tree dwellers) and are strictly leaf-eaters and frugivores (fruit-eaters).

The new world classification denotes certain adaptations that are unique to this family. They are the only group of monkeys with prehensile tails (in which the tail is used as a fifth limb). The wide shape of the nose, specifically of the septum separating the nostrils, is another special feature. The absence of cheek pouches and the howlers' dentition formula also separate this group from all other primate groups.

Rufus (approximately 35 pounds) and Evita (18 pounds) came to Metrozoo in wonderful shape and good spirits. It only took them both a couple of weeks to share that wonderful "howl" that is so peculiar to howler monkeys. This sound is actually a spacing call that is used between groups to avoid confrontation. The group with the loudest howl wins the feeding grounds! In order to achieve the volume and projection of this call, the howlers have another special adaptation, the Hyoid bone. This is a structure in the throat that channels air, and when combined with the enlarged throat sac, produces the howlers' unique call.

It's a Boy!

Evita gave birth to a baby boy on August 5, 2003!

The baby's name is Machado, named after a southern province in Brazil

from which the howlers originate. The miracle is that Rufus and Evita were able to mate as soon as 3-4 months after their arrival at Metrozoo, due to the comfort and security they received from their keepers, Derek Krause, Fernando Alzugaray and Victor Gonzalez.

PHOTOS: RON MAGILL



Thank You!

The Zoological Society of Florida and Miami Metrozoo extend a sincere Thank You to all our supporters and benefactors. Your financial support of our education and conservation programs is deeply appreciated. You are indeed wonderful friends!

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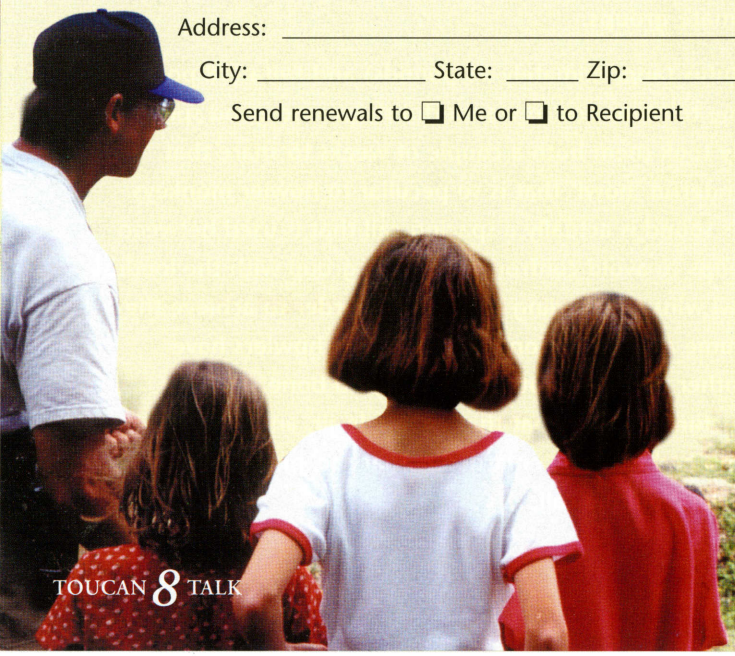
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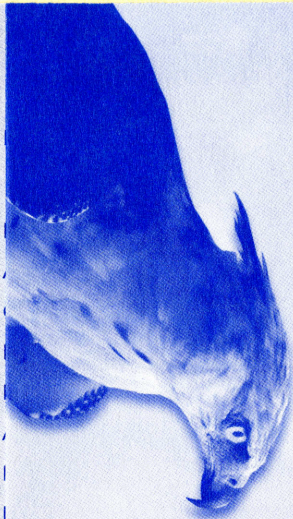
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Dentist's Name _____

Phone _____

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Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date _____

Please indicate any medical conditions or health problems of which the Camp staff should be aware.

Please describe: (if you require further space, please use a separate sheet of paper):

Allergies _____

Handicap _____

Prescribed Medications _____

Other _____

(Your signature below gives permission to Camp staff to dispense only required medications you send with your child. Please provide the prescribed container, paraphernalia necessary for taking medications, and explicit instructions on a separate sheet of paper.)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date _____

NAME OF PERSON(S) WHO WILL PICK UP THE CHILD

Name _____

Relationship _____

Phone# _____

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Relationship _____

Phone# _____

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As you consider your year-end tax planning, the Zoo hopes you will make good use of the income tax charitable deduction, and...

...Give to Your Zoo.



PHOTO: GEORGINA SALUP

Holiday time is here, and that means gift giving and planning what you're going to give the person on your list who "has everything." You can make a donation on behalf of your loved one, friend or business colleague, and we will send them a certificate of appreciation and a letter detailing the many

ways their gift benefits the Zoo. Your year-end support in 2003 will mean that we can provide the Zoo with more education programs, more volunteer services, exciting new capital improvements, and many other enhancements throughout 2004.

The best news is, your gift will give you the tangible return of tax deductions for 2003 (as allowable by the IRS), plus the satisfaction of knowing you helped Metrozoo. What a great partnership!

Here are some of the ways you can give to the Zoological Society of Florida:

Give a cash gift to support the Zoological Society.

Your contribution will immediately help us continue our work on behalf of Metrozoo.

Transfer appreciated assets. Stocks or other investments that have increased in value and which have been held for longer than a year can become an impressive gift to the Zoological Society at a negligible cost to you. By donating shares directly to us, you may not only avoid paying capital gains taxes, you may be able to deduct the full-market value of the shares (on the day of transfer) from your 2003 taxes as a charitable contribution.

Put us in your will. If you're drawing up a will or just updating one, consider providing for the Zoological Society. We'll induct you into our new group of special donors, the Josephine Wolf Society.

Members of the Josephine Wolf Society are friends of Metrozoo who have provided for the support of the Zoological Society of Florida in a deferred giving plan (like a will). Members of the Josephine Wolf Society receive invitations to special events and much more. So if you've got the Zoological Society of Florida in your will, please let us know!

Make another kind of deferred gift. There are a number of planning devices you can use in addition to a will. You can make the Zoological Society of Florida the beneficiary of a life insurance policy, or benefit the Zoological Society of Florida through a charitable lead or remainder unitrust. (All of these will qualify you as a member of the Josephine Wolf Society.)

If you've written a check and still have time on your hands, there are many opportunities for you or your company to become involved. Whether it is becoming a docent, getting involved on a committee, or working with us to create an even bigger and better *Ball of the Wild*, we welcome you!

For more information on how to give a gift or to volunteer, call Chip Roberts at the Zoological Society of Florida at (305) 255-5551 x118.

Zookeeper wish list.

It's amazing how many supplies it takes for our zookeepers to perform their jobs. Lots of little things add up to big dollars. So if you would like to make a donation, we could use some things you have at home. Just leave your donated "Wish List" items with the receptionist at the Zoological Society of Florida (the first building on your right just before the ticket booths).

We greatly appreciate anything you can donate!

- Blankets
- Cutting boards
- Edible plants (i.e.: hibiscus, ficus, mango, lemon grass, garlic, mint)
- Fruit trees
- Gardening tools
- Hand tools (hammers, screwdrivers, etc.)
- Large knives
- Plastic (Tupperware) containers
- Towels
- Watering cans

A world of their own

By Joann Jennier, Children's Zoo Manager

A silhouette in the branch of a tree stands out from the green color of the leaves. Meet the sloth, slow moving denizen of the rain forests in Central and South America.

Lounging upside down in the intersection of two branches, the sloth uses its toes to slowly pull thin, leafy branches to its mouth. Over ecological time, this behavior has induced the hair of the sloth to grow from the stomach toward the back. The hair is infused with a micro living world of its own; the algae and other organisms that live there provide protein in the leafy vegetarian diet of the sloth. The complex digestive system has a compartmentalized stomach in which to digest a high-fiber diet.

Sloths are arboreal and rarely descend from the trees, going to the ground every 4-6 days to urinate and defecate. Their limbs are so adapted to their upside down life that they cannot walk on all fours like most mammals; instead they drag themselves along the surface with their forefeet.

There are two families of sloths, the two-toed (*Megalonychidae*) and the three-toed (*Bradypodidae*) sloths.

Two-toed sloths are the most common in zoos. The three-toed sloth's highly specialized dietary requirement of its primary food, cecropia tree leaves, makes it difficult to maintain this sloth in captivity, as an adequate substitute for its diet has yet to be discovered.

The Children's Zoo is proud to introduce to you our most recent arrival, Noel, the Linne's two-toed sloth. Noel was born in Tyler Texas at the Caldwell Zoo on December 26, 1999, weighing less than one pound. Because she lost her hold on her mother, she was bottle-fed and raised by humans. A sloth will not go to the ground to search for a dropped baby, instinctively realizing the danger accorded to it by its lack of agility on the ground.

Noel's father was wild born, but her mother was captive born at Caldwell. As a second-generation captive born animal, Noel represents the progress of zoo conservation measures to avoid removing animals from their native habitats. Noel also represents the work zoos are doing in conservation education. She was used in education programs at Caldwell, and we will continue to use her in conservation education programs, during Ecology Theater presentations in the Children's Zoo, and eventually in the new Tropical Americas lobe.



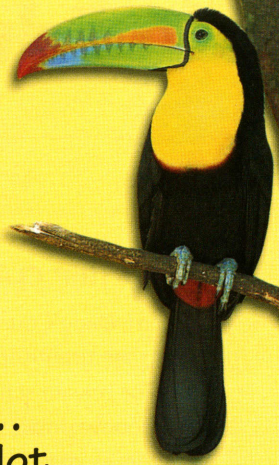
The sloth's toes bear long, razor sharp claws that help suspend them upside down in the trees.

Noel, a Linne's two-toed sloth, pauses to look at the camera. She can be seen in the Children's Zoo during Ecology Theater presentations.



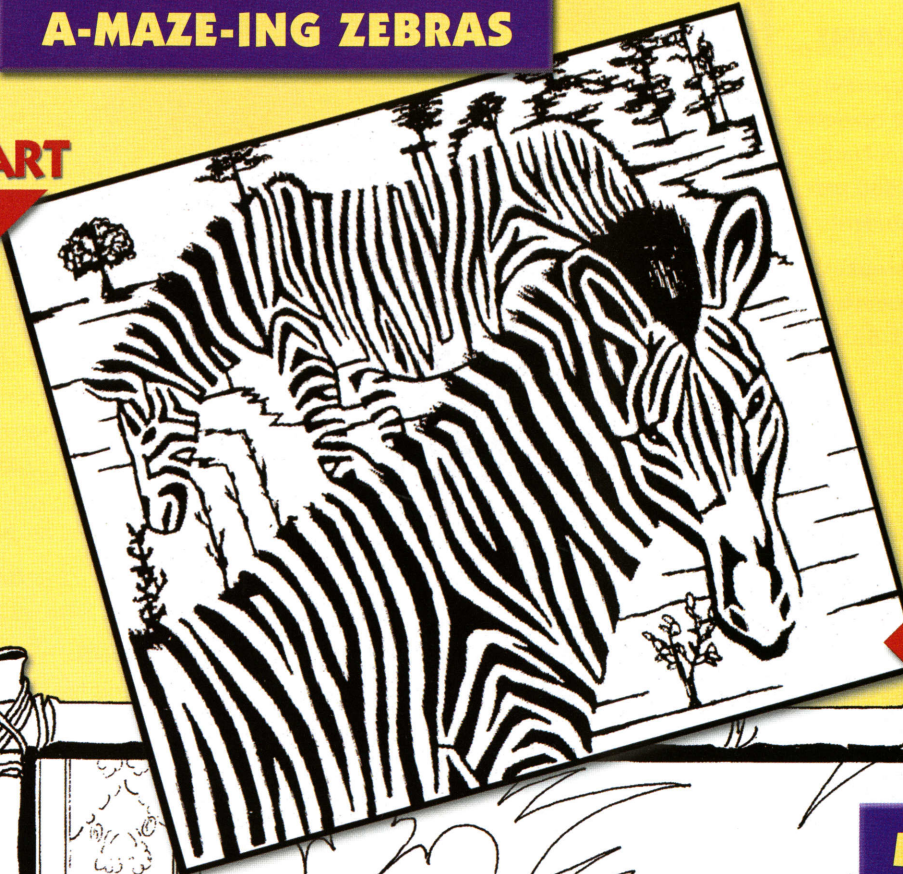
KIDZOODLE

FUN AND GAMES JUST FOR KIDS!



A-MAZE-ING ZEBRAS

START



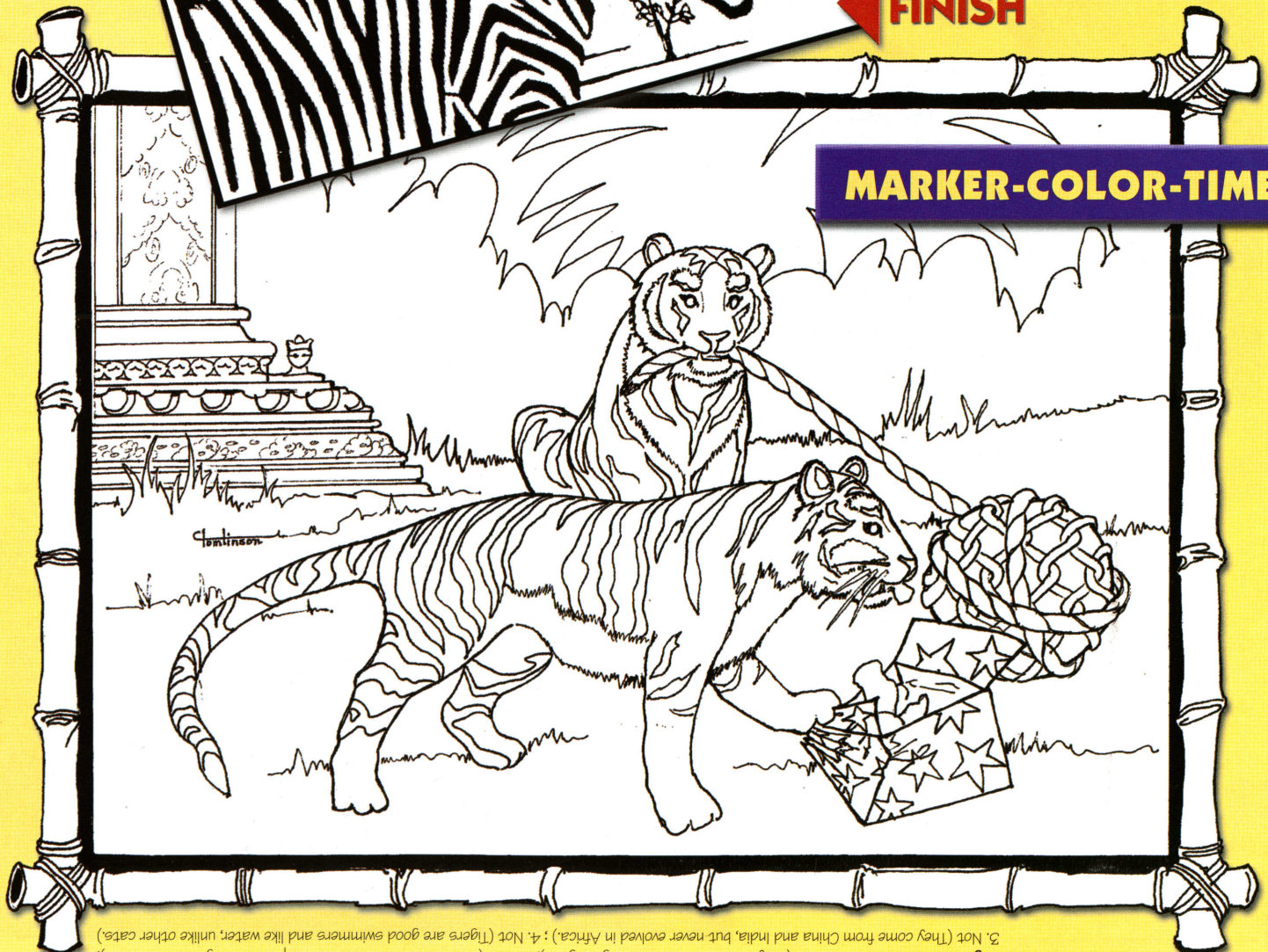
TIGERS...
True or Not...

1. White tigers are not albino tigers.
2. White tigers are not from Siberia.
3. Tigers live in Africa.
4. Tigers do not like water.

(See answers at bottom of this page.)

FINISH

MARKER-COLOR-TIME



ANSWERS: Tigers... True or Not... 1. True (They are white-colored Bengal tigers.); 2. True (Tigers are good swimmers and like water; unlike other cats.); 3. Not (They come from China and India, but never evolved in Africa.); 4. Not (Tigers are good swimmers and like water; unlike other cats.)

Zoo Education Programs for Teachers

FIELD TRIP CLASSROOM PROGRAMS

Miami Dade County Public School classroom programs are grant-supported and free for grades K-12. For private schools and non-Miami-Dade County public schools, the cost is \$30 per program; maximum class size is 50 students.

Class length is 30 minutes.

For more information call the Education Department at 305-255-5551.



PHOTO: GUCCI SARNO



PINE ROCKLAND GUIDED TOUR

Have your students walk through this fire dependent habitat that the gopher tortoise, great horned owl and the Florida panther call home. Learn about the county's largest remnant of the rare native pinelands and enjoy a fun game with your students.

Walking tours are scheduled through the Education Department at 305-255-5551.

PHOTO: LILY FORNI

EDUCATOR'S DAY: TEACHERS' WORKSHOP

**November 15, 2003
8:30 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.**

This workshop is designed to show teachers how Miami Metrozoo can serve as an educational resource with an emphasis on our newest exhibits. Participants are awarded ten (10) Master Plan points upon completion.

To register, call the Teacher Education Center at 305-887-2002.



PHOTO: CAROL TOMLINSON

Zoo Programs for Members



ZOODLER ACADEMY

September – October 2003

Bring your toddler to our popular parent and child program for two. The Zoodler Academy provides a safe and friendly environment for children to meet animals and learn about nature. The program includes a story, craft project, touch table, and live animals.



TUESDAYS

2-3-Year-Olds: 3:30-4:30 P.M.

- November 04** *Dinosaurs*
- November 11** - No Class -
- November 18** *Goodnight, Zoo*
- November 25** *Thankful Friends*
- December 02** *Gone Bat-ty*
- December 09** *In My Farm*
- December 16** *Holiday Surprise*

THURSDAYS

2-4-Year-Olds: 1:30-2:30 P.M.

- 3-4-Year-Olds: 3:30-4:30 P.M.**
- November 06** *Dinosaurs*
- November 13** *Backyard Garden*
- November 20** *Goodnight, Zoo*
- November 27** - No Class -
- December 04** *Gone Bat-ty*
- December 11** *In My Farm*
- December 18** *Holiday Surprise*

COST: Members: One Adult and One Child: \$13.00 per class; Additional Participants (Infant through Adult): \$5.00 each per class.
Non-Members: One Adult and One Child: \$15.00 per class; Additional Participants (Infant through Adult): \$6.00 each per class.
 Alumni of Zoodler Academy's 2002-2003 Season: \$2.00 discount per class.

Note: The Zoodler Program is for one adult and one child. Class sizes are limited and pre-registration is required. Additional participants must also pre-enroll in order to attend class.

No refunds or credits for missed classes.



BATS AND FRIENDS

Sunday, December 7
2:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Are bats really blind? Can they get caught in our hair? Come join us in Dr. Wilde's Worlds' new exhibit "Masters of the Night: The True Story of Bats" for a batty good time! Bring your toddler and learn exciting facts about these mysterious creatures. Enjoy a bat story and make a cool bat craft to take home.

BATS AND FRIENDS (CONT.)

Recommended for young children who must be accompanied by an adult.

COST: Members: \$13.00 per child with one adult; \$5.00 additional child or adult

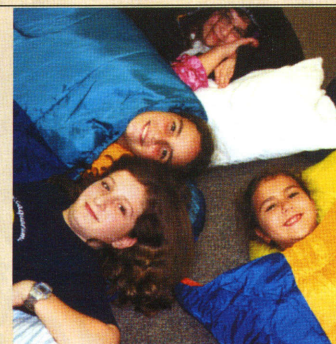
Non-Members: \$15.00 per child with one adult; \$6.00 additional child or adult

Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

ZOO INN

Fridays and Saturdays
6:00 P.M. – 9:00 A.M.

Bring your scout troop, youth group, biology class or adult group to spend the night! In this sleepover program, you'll have a walking Behind-the-Scenes tour of the Zoo after dark and a special morning activity. Zoo Inns are available for adults and children at least six years of age and include pizza dinner and continental breakfast.



COST: Members: \$45.00 per person

Non-Members: \$50.00 per person

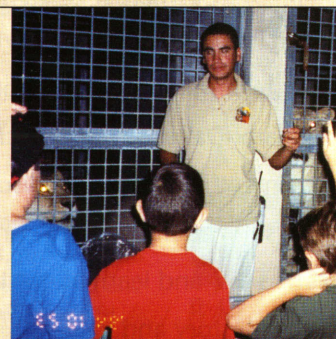
Minimum group size: 15; Maximum group size: 30

Pre-registration is required. Program varies according to animal availability.

WILD NIGHTS

Saturday, December 13
6:00 – 9:00 P.M.

Join us for a special 2-3-hour walking Behind-the-Scenes tour led by a Zookeeper to selected animal exhibits. This Wild Night begins with a pizza party and is available for adults and children at least six years old.



Call today for available dates!

Special dates for private groups are available. Pre-registration is required.

COST: Members: \$25.00 per person

Non-Members: \$30.00 per person

Minimum group size: 15; Maximum group size: 30.

Pre-registration is required. Program varies according to animal availability.

PROGRAM EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
 For more information, please call the Zoological Society of Florida at (305) 255-5551 or visit the Zoo's website at www.miamimetrozoo.com.

Experience Miami's Wild Side!



ECO ADVENTURE TOURS

A guided walking tour explores Metrozoo's Pine Rockland

Escape the clatter and clutter of the city!

Now that summer is over and the weather is cooler, take the family on an outdoor adventure. The Miami-Dade Park and Recreation Department invites you to discover South Florida's remarkable beauty, pristine parks, historic sites, and learn about the area's diverse cultures, history and wildlife.

Eco-Adventures include canoeing, kayaking, hiking, nature walks, snorkeling, birding, butterfly watching, fish watching, garden tours, plant studies, wildlife encounters and presentations, as well as historic re-enactments. Explore the fascinating wonders awaiting you locally. Professional naturalists lead the tours, sharing their wealth of knowledge of the South Florida environment, wildlife and history.

ECO-ADVENTURE TOUR SITES:

A.D. Barnes Park & Nature Center,

3401 SW 72 Avenue, Miami (305) 666-5883 / (305) 662-4124

Amelia Earhart Park,

401 E. 65 Street, Hialeah (305) 769-2693

Arch Creek Park & Nature Center,

1855 NE 135 Street, North Miami (305) 944-6111

Bill Sadowski Park & Nature Center,

1755 SW 79 Avenue, Miami (305) 255-4767

Camp Owaissa Bauer,

17001 SW 264 Street, Homestead (305) 247-6016
(Large group camp facility – by reservation only)

Castellow Hammock Park & Nature Center,

22301 SW 162 Avenue, Homestead (305) 242-7688

Crandon Visitors' & Nature Center,

6767 Crandon Boulevard, Key Biscayne (305) 361-6767, ext. 112

Crandon Park & Crandon Adventures,

4000 Crandon Boulevard, Key Biscayne (305) 361-5421 / (305) 365-3018

Deering Estate at Cutler,

16701 SW 72 Avenue, Miami (305) 235-1668

Greynolds Park,

17530 W. Dixie Highway, North Miami Beach (305) 948-2891

Haulover Park,

10800 Collins Avenue, North Miami Beach (305) 947-3525

Kendall Indian Hammocks Park,

11395 SW 79 Street, Miami (305) 596-9324

Larry & Penny Thompson Park,

12451 SW 184 Street, Miami (305) 232-1049

Matheson Hammock Park,

9610 Old Cutler Road, Miami (305) 666-6979

Miami Metrozoo, One Zoo Boulevard,

12400 SW 152 Street, Miami (305) 251-0400 / (305) 255-5551

Pelican Harbor Marina,

1275 NE 79 Street Causeway, Miami (305) 948-2891

Preston B. Bird & M. Heinlein Fruit & Spice Park,

24801 SW 187 Avenue, Homestead ((305) 247-5727

Reservations can be made for individuals, private and group customized tours to these exciting destinations by calling the Miami-Dade Park's Eco-tourism Office at (305) 365-3018, Monday through Friday, 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. Tours are limited to groups of six or more participants and reservations must be made in advance. Fees range from \$15-\$45 per person.

AT THE ZOO!

IT'S THE HOLIDAY SEASON!

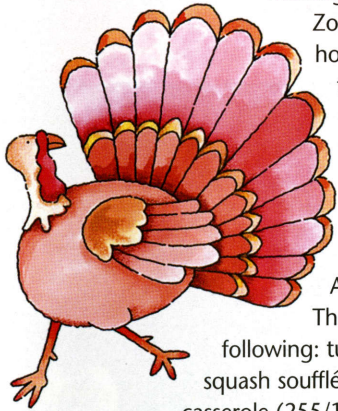
Walk Off Your Thanksgiving pounds!

TURKEY TRAIL

Friday – Sunday, November 28 – 30, 2003

9:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

There's one thing that just about everyone indulges in, and that's Thanksgiving dinner. When you arrive at the Zoo, you'll be given a chart that tells you how many calories are in each item of a typical Thanksgiving meal. Starting at the entrance gates, the Zoo paths will be marked with mile and half-mile markers so you can keep track of the miles you need to walk to burn off your Thanksgiving dinner!



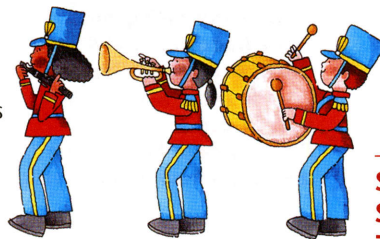
A modest plate of traditional Thanksgiving delights would add up to the following: turkey (208 calories / 10 grams of fat), squash soufflé (246/17), stuffing (195/9), green bean casserole (255/15), sweet potatoes (432/10), mashed potatoes (111/5), gravy (76/3), cranberry relish (208/1), pumpkin pie (316/14), red wine (74/0). Forget second and third helpings. Your first round totaled 2,121 calories and 84 grams of fat! Yummy now translates into fat tummy, thighs and buttocks! So treat the family to a fun-filled day at the Zoo and a healthy walk. There's no better way to undo your holiday feast!

HOLIDAY FUNLAND

December 6 – 25, 2003

10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

It's fun for the whole family during this year's Ho! Ho! Holiday Celebration at your Miami Metrozoo.



DAILY

- **Watch the ANIMALS open their holiday gifts!**

December 6 – 25, 10:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M.

Every day different animals will open their holiday gifts. You'll laugh at the antics as the animals try to get to the food treats inside their gift boxes wrapped with non-toxic paper glued with honey and peanut butter. They put on quite a show, and this is one experience you won't want to miss this holiday season.

The grand finale is on Christmas Day, December

25, at 2:00 P.M. when the chimps and gorillas will steal the spotlight. Holiday gifts are part of the regularly scheduled Keeper Talks. Check at the Ticket

Booth for the feature animal exhibit of the day.

- **Salvation Army/Zoo Gift**

For the first time, the Salvation Army and Miami Metrozoo have teamed up to give YOU a gift when you make a donation to the Salvation Army Kettles in Miami-Dade and Broward counties! Just as you've been enjoying special events and privileges as a Zoo member, you can give Zoo gifts to people on your Holiday Gift List. Choose either a coupon for 1 FREE Child Admission to the Zoo or a special offer for you to give a Gift Zoo Membership.

- **ToadStool! At the Children's Zoo,**

10:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.

Hug a bug. Wake a snake. Greet a toad!

ToadStool is an indoor interactive adventure for explorers of all ages. Your guide will introduce you to each animal, take time to dispel myths, explain particular characteristics, and even let you touch selected individuals.

- **Wildlife Conservation Carousel*, 10:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.**

Ride the carousel at the Children's Zoo, and see how many endangered species you can identify that are at Miami Metrozoo.

- **Masters of the Night:**

The True Story of Bats. At Dr. Wilde's World, 10:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Nearly 1,000 kinds of bats, almost a quarter of all mammal species, inhabit the earth! Are all bats vampires? Are they blind? Do they really get tangled in your hair? Your adventure into their world will answer these and many more questions about these misunderstood animals.

- **Cheerful holiday decorations** throughout the Zoo will surely put you into a joyful holiday mood.

WEEKENDS, DECEMBER 6 – 21

- **Santa** will be available for photos and a hug or two.
- **Children's Choirs.** (Dates TBA) at 11:30 A.M. & 12:30 P.M. Local school choirs will entertain you twice daily on the weekends.
- **Kids will delight in the miniature winter village,** complete with train rides, kids' crafts, holiday food and a winter maze.

* **Wildlife Conservation Carousel:** Cost: \$2.00 per ride. Discount: Purchase carousel tickets at admission, and get 3 rides for \$5.00 or 6 rides for \$10.00.

SAVE THE DATE! BALL OF THE WILD

Saturday, March 6, 2004,
7 P.M. – Midnight

Metrozoo's annual fundraiser held among the beasts, providing elaborate costumes, music, dancing, gourmet food, and special entertainment to benefit Miami Metrozoo. For information and reservations, call Debbie Mucarsel at (305) 255-5551, ext. 117 or visit the Zoo's website at www.miamimetrozoo.com.



BALL OF THE WILD

CALENDAR EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

For more information, please call the Miami Metrozoo at (305) 251-0400 or visit the Zoo's website at www.miamimetrozoo.com.



FREE! Glow-Creature at the Toucan Trader Gift Shop!

Zoo members receive a glow-in-the-dark creature souvenir. Limit one per family.

OFFER EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2003.



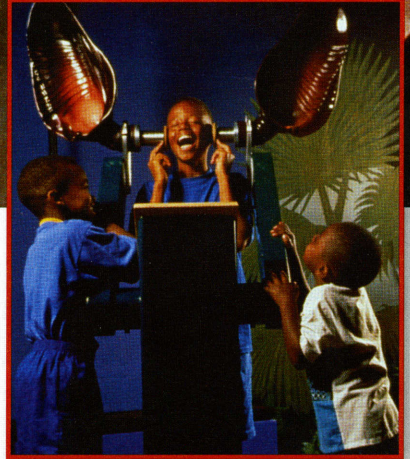
BATS!... BATS!...and more BATS!

MASTERS OF THE NIGHT: The True Story of Bats
October 5, 2003 - March 21, 2004
10:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.
At Dr. Wilde's World

At Dr. Wilde's World this winter, an imposing bat gargoyle will greet you as you enter through a castle's Gothic portal. Surrounded by the strains of a medieval fugue, you'll see the castle from a bat's-eye view – stained glass windows, furniture, a suit of armor and chandeliers, all upside down. BATS – everywhere! Are all bats vampires? Are they blind? Do they really get tangled in your hair?

Bats are a mystery to many people. Few have ever seen a bat up close, and what most of us know about these creatures comes from folklore, myth or superstition. The truth about bats is they are gentle, beneficial, and amazing animals. Their value has been overshadowed by their tainted reputation – a reputation based on ignorance and fear of the unknown. Nearly 1,000 kinds of bats, almost a quarter of all mammal species, inhabit the earth! Your adventure into their world will answer these and many more questions about these misunderstood animals.

- *Compare the skeleton of a human with a skeleton of a bat and see the striking resemblance!*
- *Dispel the myths and learn the facts about bats.*
- *Investigate a cave, the favorite daytime roost of a number of bat species.*
- *Encounter live bats, snakes, fish and insects that are cave dwellers.*
- *Enter a hollow kapok tree, revealing the hidden life of the bat inhabitants which hang out inside.*
- *Study hibernating bats.*
- *Enjoy hands-on activities*
- *Discover Bats All Over the World.*
- *Try the Feast & Flight interactive video to manipulate images of bats in action.*
- *Discover how bats play a major role in worldwide insect control, and learn how you can help bat conservation efforts.*



GIANT BAT EARS

20 times their actual size...

...give you the sensation of hearing the way a bat hears.

A bat's own sonar system, called echolocation, uses sound as sight to help it navigate in nighttime flight.

DON'T MISS THE FUN!



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