

SPECIAL EVENTS: SUMMER ZOO CAMP, ZOODLER ACADEMY GRADUATION, GRADE "A" KIDS, WILD NIGHTS

TOUCAN TALK

JULY - AUGUST 2004

Spider-man, Spider-girl
and Wolverine!

Wonders of Tropical America:
Amazon Alive!



Goliath birdeating tarantula; that's right, birdeating!

New at the Zoo

BIRTHS AND HATCHINGS

- 1 South American red-footed tortoise*
(77th hatching of this species since Sept. 7, 1987)Apr. 22
- 1 Female addra gazelle
(48th birth of this species since Mar. 19, 1984)Mar. 27
- 1 Stanley crane*
(63rd hatching of this species since Jan. 1, 1978)Mar. 24

ACQUISITIONS

- 2 Female eastern bongosApr. 21
- 1 Silver arawana*Apr. 17
- 2 Female, 1* red-necked wallabiesApr. 08
- 1 Male Malayan tapirApr. 07
- 1 Male Arabian oryxApr. 03
- 1 Male Grant's gazelleApr. 03
- 1 Female African hunting dogMar. 22
- 3 American white Ibises*Mar. 18

AVIARY HATCHINGS

- 2 Crested wood partridges* (65th and 66th hatching of this species since Apr. 26, 1984)Apr. 05
- 2 Pink-necked pigeons* (12th & 13th hatchings of this species since Oct. 27, 2002)Mar. 26
- 1 Nicobar pigeon* (22nd hatching since Apr. 11, 1987)Mar. 22
- 1 Pied imperial pigeon*
(1st hatching of this species at Metrozoo)Mar. 21

NEW IN THE AVIARY

- 2 Male, 2 female fairy bluebirdsMar. 11
- 8 scaly-breasted bulbuls*Mar. 11

NEW IN THE AVIARY (CONTINUED)

- 5 Lesser green broadbills*Mar. 11
- 4 Male, 4 female greater yellow-naped woodpeckersMar. 11
- 4 Male, 4 female thick-billed ground dovesMar. 04
- 4 Male, 4 female red-crowned pigeonsMar. 04
- 4 Male, 1 female beautiful fruit dovesMar. 04
- 2 Pink-spotted fruit doves*Mar. 04
- 2 Male, 3 female black-naped fruit dovesMar. 04
- 2 Male, 2 female, 3* orange-bellied fruit dovesMar. 04
- 1 Male, 1 female, 1* orange-fronted fruit dovesMar. 04
- 3 Male, 5 female Bartlett's dovesMar. 04

NEW IN DR. WILDE'S WORLD: FISH

- Jack Dempsey*Apr. 16
- Convict cichlid*Apr. 16
- Tiger oscar*Apr. 16
- Silver dollar*Apr. 16
- Piketop minnow*Mar. 16
- Piecostomus*Mar. 16
- Banjo Catfish*Mar. 16

NEW IN DR. WILDE'S WORLD: ARTHROPODS

- 1 Red-headed giant desert centipede*Mar. 25
- 1 Goliath birdeating tarantula*Mar. 25
- 2 Chilean rose tarantulas*Mar. 16

NEW IN DR. WILDE'S WORLD: AMPHIBIANS

- 3 Cuban tree frogs*Mar. 15

* Gender undetermined



Stanley cranes



South American red-footed tortoise

Metrozoo's Collection

The Zoo plays an integral role in the ever-growing global effort to understand, preserve and propagate the world's rare and endangered wildlife. Metrozoo has won a number of awards for the successful breeding of rare and endangered animal species, such as the Komodo dragon, Cuban crocodiles and the Matschie's tree kangaroos. The Zoo's collection of 1,710 specimens represents 346 species of live animals, 120 of which are listed in the Zoo and Aquarium Association (AZA) approved studbooks and 46 AZA Species Survival Plan (SSP) species. Each SSP is designed to maintain the genetic diversity and stable population demographics of some of the most critically endangered animals on our planet.

Scaly-breasted bulbul



Contents

On the Cover:

The sable is the most horse-like of the antelopes with an upright mane on the nape and a short mane on the throat.

PHOTO: RON MAGILL



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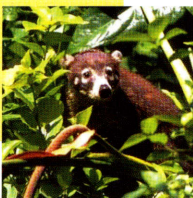
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TOUCAN TALK



JULY / AUGUST, 2004 Volume 31, Number 4

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

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From the President

The argument that it's too hot to visit the Zoo just isn't true anymore. Four air-conditioned, hands-on interactive galleries offer a cool respite from summer heat. Dr. Wilde's World is alive with new critters that will keep your noses pressed to the glass. Check out

the goliath birdeating tarantula. The sights, sounds, culture, animals and plants of the Tropical Americas await you in our very popular signature exhibit at Dr. Wilde's World.

ToadStool at the Children's Zoo is a "coooool" place to introduce young children to small animals, such as mice, hedgehogs, snakes, lizards, insects and

dragons. Zookeepers are on hand to tell you about the animals, answer your questions and even to let you touch some of the animals.

The Field Research Center and the Potamkin Conservation Center at the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia* are full of fascinating facts and hands-on interactive exhibits and a film detailing why today's birds are living dinosaurs. You will be delighted as you observe diving ducks, fish and turtles under water from air-conditioned comfort. You can even view the birds from behind two cool waterfalls!

Kids will love the new water play areas scattered throughout the Zoo, the new misters and Seahorse Water Fountain. Be sure to bring a change of clothes for the kids. We look forward to seeing you at the Zoo this summer!

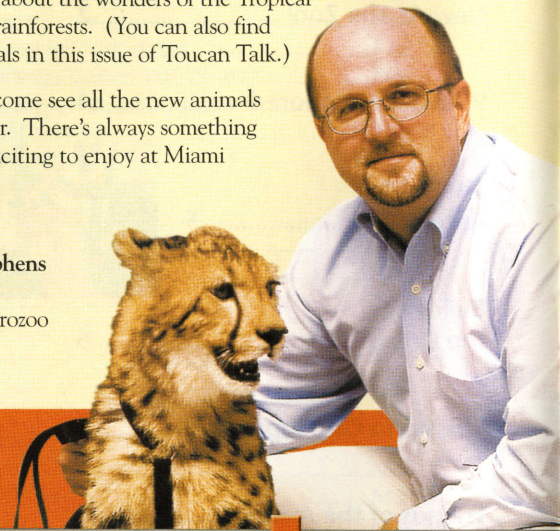
Glenn W. Ekey
President and CEO
Zoological Society of Florida

From the Director

Nothing can quite replace the fascination of examining animals up close, and that's why we have several captivating living creatures awaiting you at Dr. Wilde's World this summer. Which invertebrate has one-inch-long fangs and makes noise by rubbing bristles on its legs together? This fish, despite its name, is not musical, but can shed its skin like a snake and has a leaf-like camouflage – can you guess its name? The largest tree frog in North America varies in color from dark green to pale gray and will change color to match its environment, and it is notorious for cannibalism! Can you identify it? To answer these and many other questions about the newest residents at the Zoo, visit Dr. Wilde's World to learn more about the wonders of the Tropical American rainforests. (You can also find these animals in this issue of Toucan Talk.)

Be sure to come see all the new animals this summer. There's always something new and exciting to enjoy at Miami Metrozoo!

Eric J. Stephens
Director
Miami Metrozoo



We appreciate our Volunteers!

Miami Metrozoo's Volunteers are dedicated, highly talented and always available to lend a helping hand. They are trained to work in the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia*, Dr. Wilde's World and at the Children's Zoo. They take the Zoo out into the community in our Outreach program. They give walking and guided cart tours, man the information booth, interpret animal exhibits and animal facts to guests, help with ZSF administrative work, prepare animal diets, and countless other tasks, daily. It's impossible to imagine how we could survive without this remarkable group of reliable friends.

THIS YEAR FOUR VERY SPECIAL DOCENTS WERE HONORED AT OUR ANNUAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION CELEBRATION.

The Alice Badenell Memorial Award was created last year as a tribute to former volunteer Alice Badenell's warmth, enthusiasm and commitment to serving the Zoo's guests and members. The award honors the dedication and accomplishments of two volunteers for their stewardship with the Zoological Society of Florida and Miami Metrozoo. This year's recipients of this special award are Mary McCormack and Dick Gaynor.

20,000 Hours of Volunteer Service were cheerfully and unwaveringly given by two of the most dedicated, trustworthy docents who have ever served at Metrozoo, Kathryn and Ron Medford. They are at work in the kitchen preparing the animals' daily meals at 5:30 a.m. and work at various other tasks until 4:30 p.m., seven days a week. That's a total of 40,000 hours for this couple!

We applaud ALL our wonderful volunteers and docents. You are truly great friends. Thanks for everything you do; you are greatly appreciated!

Volunteers Ron and Kathryn Medford (Top), Mary McCormack and Dick Gaynor (Bottom)



Sable Antelope

By Steven Crews, Miami Metrozoo Zookeeper



PHOTO: RON MACGILL

A small herd of sable antelope pause to make eye contact

As some of you have probably noticed, the Grevy's zebras have been moved to their new exhibit across from the gerenuk. After making improvements such as new sod on the entire paddock, the former zebra paddock will be the new home for our sable antelopes. Soon the sables will be close enough for everyone to get a better look at these beautiful creatures.

Currently we house three sables, a male and two females. The male, Buck, is 13 years old and is easily distinguished from the females by his dark brown coat. Buck was born at the Gladys Porter Zoo in Brownsville, Texas and was shipped to Metrozoo in 1993. Becky, at 11 years old, is the older of the females and was born a few months before Buck's arrival. Elyse, born in late 1995, is actually the daughter of Buck and another female, Bridget, who was moved to the Peace River Refuge on the Gulf Coast in July of last year.

The sable antelope is regarded as the most magnificent antelope in Africa and is found throughout the southeastern

wooded savannas. The males have a dark brown to black coat, which contrasts with the females' chestnut to rusty red coats. The most striking feature of the sable antelope is its semicircular, ridged horns that can vary in length from 2 to 5 feet. The horns are used for defense, and in males, for sparring in contests of dominance.

Sables live in small herds of numerous adult females and their offspring, and have a strict hierarchy according to seniority. A dominant bull accompanies each herd and is never far from the group. The status of sable antelopes in the wild varies from threatened to endangered, depending on their location within Africa.

Sable antelopes are grazers, preferring either new growth or medium height grasses. In the dry season, they inhabit areas where they have daily access to water. When the rains come, they move into broad-leafed woodlands, away from valleys. Keep your eyes on the old sable exhibit, because soon there will be a new species of antelope there for you to meet.



When you think about your Zoo's exciting plan to become the world's greatest zoo, you probably visualize images of incredible animal exhibits, families on fun outings and tourists from all over the world gravitating to Miami-Dade. But one of the most important benefits of building the Zoo's master plan will be the creation of jobs and the positive impact on the local economy.

Building the Dream

ZOO PLAN TO BOOST LOCAL JOB MARKET, ECONOMY



A study was conducted by the respected Washington Economics Group to determine the extent of the master plan buildout. By using advanced computer models, the study confirmed what was expected: The master plan buildout will bring dramatic positive economic growth and job creation to Miami-Dade county and its citizens.

In fact, the study concluded that the overall economic impact of building the Zoo's plan was in excess of \$1.1 billion over the 20-year buildout. The impact is expected to come from three different directions: construction and design, increased operational expenses and tourism increases.

"There were really no surprises in The Washington Economics Group's report," said Glenn Ekey, president and CEO of the Zoological Society of Florida. "From the beginning of this process, we knew that it made sense to build the world's best zoo in Miami. The benefits of this project for education and unforgettable family outings are now enhanced by the confirmation that this project makes such good economic sense."

Voters in Miami-Dade will have an opportunity to put *their* good economic sense into play this November 2. That's when a referendum will take place to consider passage of the county's general obligation bond (GOB) issue. One of the items expected for inclusion in the referendum will be significant dollars for Miami Metrozoo's master plan. Although the bond issue's exact configuration has not yet been established by the county commission, its passage should move the Zoo well into the future. When those dollars are coupled with the private dollars being raised for the Zoo in the Zoological Society's current capital campaign, the economic benefits to the community will be well on their way.

For more information on the GOB referendum, please visit www.miamidade.gov/bond2004.

MIAMI METROZOO'S MASTER PLAN

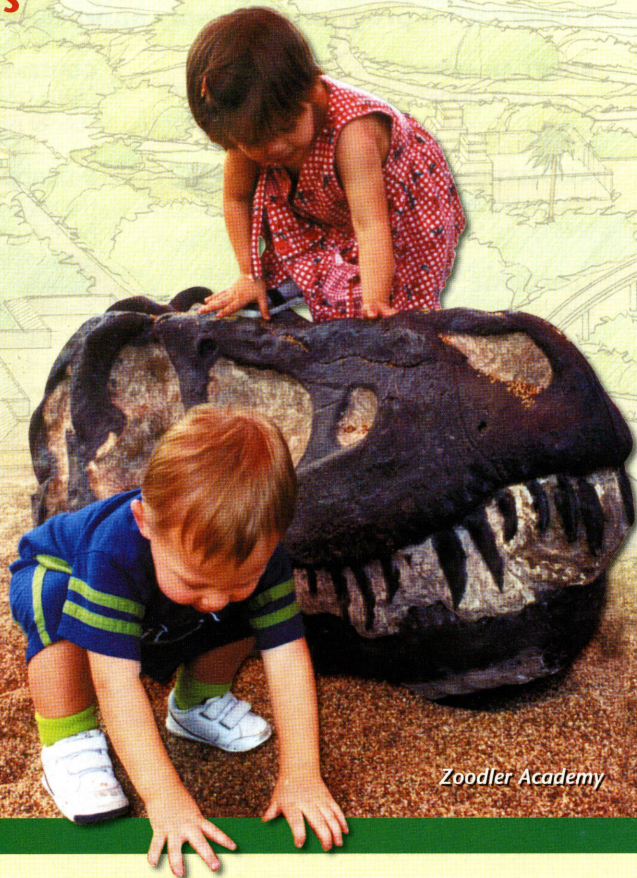
BY THE NUMBERS

THE ECONOMIC IMPACT OF CREATING THE WORLD'S GREATEST ZOO IN MIAMI-DADE:

- Overall 20-year economic impact: \$1.1 billion
- Annual jobs created in Miami-Dade: 790
- Labor income created over 20 years: \$500 million
- Tax revenues created over 20 years: \$27.4 million-local / \$29.4 Florida
- Annual tourist visit increase: 397,000



Aviary construction, 2002



Zoodler Academy

Be a Dream Builder

HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN THE GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND REFERENDUM

1. Make your voice heard.

The county commission and staff are forming the makeup of the bond issue right now. Your voice is needed to make sure that Miami Metrozoo receives a fair share of the funding that it will create. To do this, you have several options:

- **Online** - Visit www.miamidade.gov/bond2004. Visit the Citizen's Suggestion Form page and provide your input online.
- **Email** - You can email your comments to bond2004@miamidade.gov
- **Phone** - Call 305-375-2756
- **Mail** - You can mail your comments to: General Obligation Bond 2004, 111 NW 1st Street, 10th Floor, Miami, FL 33177

2. Register and vote. If you have not registered to vote, do so now. If you will be traveling on election day, ask for an absentee ballot or take advantage of early voting locations. You can do both by visiting <http://elections.miamidade.gov> or by calling at 305-499-VOTE. Registration for the November 2 election closes on October 4.

3. Participate in the campaign. Campaign work can be a fulfilling process and it's a great way to make your community a better place. As we near election day, the Zoological Society of Florida will be working hard for the passage of the general obligation bond referendum and your help will be needed. (We promise to make it fun, too!) To have your name placed on our campaign volunteer list, call Paul Vrooman at 305-255-5551 or by email at pvrooman@zsf.org.



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!

ADOPT AN ANIMAL

American Heritage School
Carole D. Crocker

ASSOCIATIONS

Tropical Flowering Tree Society & Volunteers
(225 hours) for planting 62 flowering trees

CORPORATE

Angels Hatchery
Miami Jai-Alai

ESTATE

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R. Kirk Landon
Kathryn and Ron Medford
Michael A. Nuzzo
Douglas S. Ray
Anna K. Rentz

SCOUT PROJECTS

Eagle Scout Troop 862 and their volunteers
(300 hours of service)



PHOTO: GEORGINA SALUP

Friends of the Aviary

Don't miss out on an amazing opportunity to honor or commemorate a family member, loved one or friend inside Miami Metrozoo's beautiful Aviary ... while supporting the best zoo in the world!

Hurry and reserve your permanent and very limited commemorative leaves or custom-made bird plaques on the Friends of the Aviary Tree located outside the Gift Shop at the American Bankers Family Aviary, *Wings of Asia*.

Please fill out the form and send it to Sharon Fried at the Zoological Society of Florida, 12400 SW 152nd Street, Miami, FL 33177.



Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Words to be engraved (limited to 60 Characters including spaces) per leaf and plaque _____

Bronze Leaf @ \$100 each _____ Silver Leaf @ \$200 each _____ Gold Leaf @ \$300 each _____

Choose from 4 different Bird Plaques (made of plexiglass with a walnut finish frame) @ \$1,500 each.

Specify bird(s): 1. Golden Pheasant, 2. Chestnut-breasted Malkoha, 3. Bali Mynah, 4. Jambu Fruit Dove

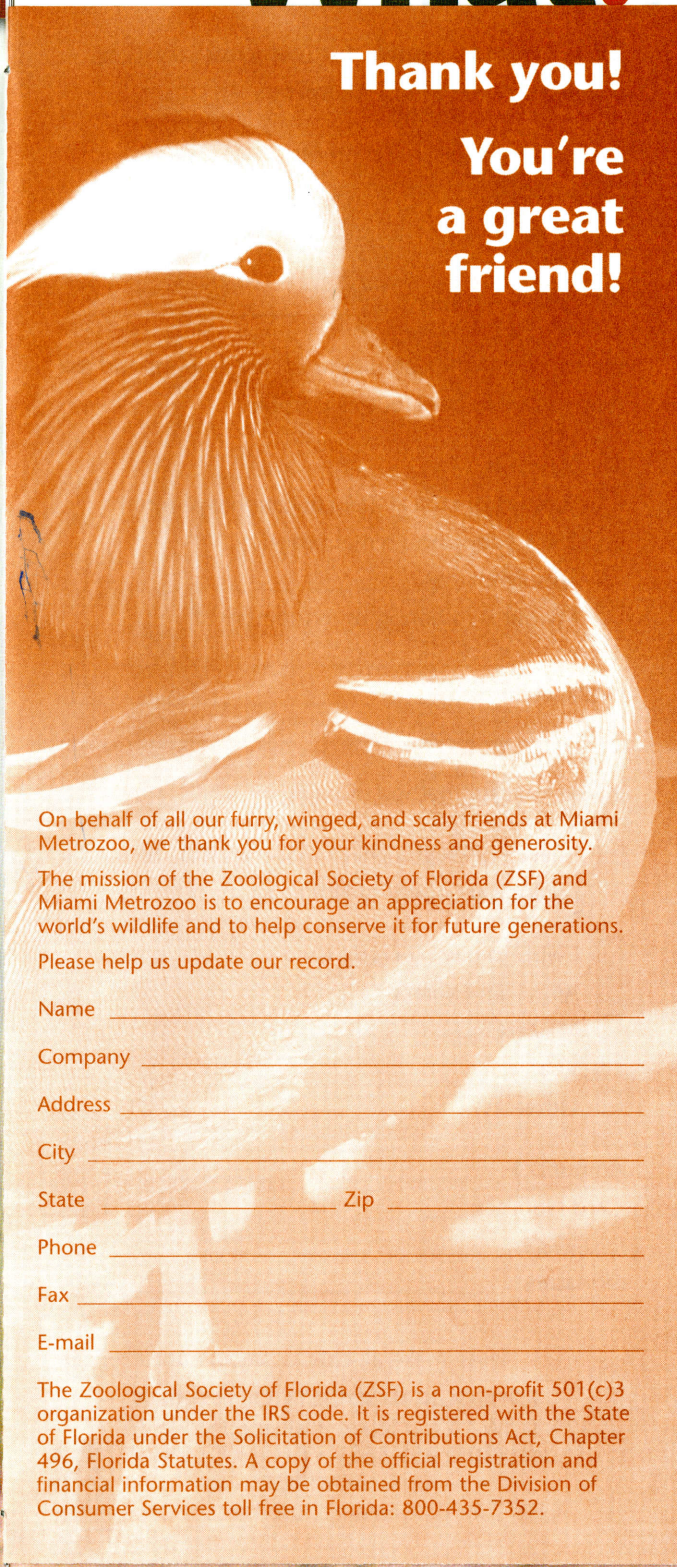
Total Amount \$ _____ Credit Card: _____ Visa _____ Mastercard _____ American Express _____

Credit Card Number _____ Expiration Date _____

For more information, contact Sharon Fried at the Zoological Society of Florida at (305) 255-5551, ext. 120.

Thank you!

You're a great friend!



On behalf of all our furry, winged, and scaly friends at Miami Metrozoo, we thank you for your kindness and generosity.

The mission of the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) and Miami Metrozoo is to encourage an appreciation for the world's wildlife and to help conserve it for future generations.

Please help us update our record.

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

City _____

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Phone _____

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The Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization under the IRS code. It is registered with the State of Florida under the Solicitation of Contributions Act, Chapter 496, Florida Statutes. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Division of Consumer Services toll free in Florida: 800-435-7352.

YES! I want to support the Zoological Society of Florida's work at Miami Metrozoo.

Enclosed is my contribution of:

- \$1,000 \$500
 \$250 \$100
 \$50 \$25
 Other amount \$ _____

We are grateful for donations of any amount and ask that you be as generous as possible.

My donation is for:

- Support of critical ZSF educational programs
 ZSF's Adopt-An-Animal program
 Specify animal _____
 My gift is in honor, or in memory of

Notification to _____

Please indicate method of payment:

- I have enclosed a check made payable to
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- I wish to pay by credit card:
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 Other

Amount: \$ _____

Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

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AFFIX
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CAMPERS!

IMPORTANT: PLEASE COMPLETE BOTH SIDES OF FORM.

CAMPERS ONLY/CAMPER'S MEDICAL INFORMATION

Emergency Contact Name _____

Phone _____

Physician's Name _____

Phone _____

Dentist's Name _____

Phone _____

In an emergency, if the parent, guardian, or designated physician/dentist cannot be reached, I authorize the Zoological Society of Florida to transport and/or obtain medical services from any physician/dentist for my child.

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 _____

Second name _____

Relationship _____ Phone _____

* A registration is complete upon receipt of a confirmation from the Education Department.

For reservations, call 305-255-5551 and mail registration form to
Zoological Society of Florida/Education Department,
12400 SW 152 St, Miami, FL 33177-1499 or fax to 305-255-7126

"What on earth is a bustard?"

By Jeff Sailer, Curator of Birds

Walking through the Ronald Regan International Airport in Washington, D.C., I was carefully carrying a small wooden box with the word "FRAGILE" emblazoned in red on the side. Inside the box were two incubating eggs just picked up from the National Zoo. As I approached the security check, the guard asked what was in the box and I replied, "bustard eggs."



A Kori Bustard at rest

"What on earth is a bustard?" the guard asked.

I often get this question whenever I talk about Metrozoo's collection of Kori Bustards and I am always hard pressed to come up with a really good answer. Bustards, you see, are a very unique group of birds.

Hailing from dry environs of Africa, Eurasia, the Middle East, India, and Australia, there are 25 species of bustards. Bustards are distantly related to cranes, but are placed in their own family by scientists. Bustards range in size from that of a chicken weighing about 1 pound to the colossal Kori Bustards, the heaviest flying birds in the world, weighing up to 42 pounds and standing over 4 feet tall.

Metrozoo houses a collection of 6 Kori Bustards. This species originates in southern and eastern Africa and is found in the savannas. Koris have a rather broad diet, eating insects, lizards, rodents, small birds, seeds, leaves, and roots. They are very fast runners and amazing jumpers. Our birds can easily leap over an 8-foot fence if startled. Despite being so large, Kori Bustards are strong fliers. In many species of bustards, the males and females are very different in size. Koris are no exception. While an

adult male may weigh over 40 pounds, slimmer females often are no heavier than 12 pounds.

Koris have huge eyes and incredibly good vision. They spend most of their day searching tall grass for prey, and their good eyesight and long pointed beaks make them formidable predators of any animal small enough for the kori to swallow. At the Zoo, we feed our koris mice, crickets, horsemeat, and specially formulated dry pellets.

Male bustards display on a dancing ground called a lek and are very impressive when displaying as they puff out their feathers and expand their throats making them look twice as large. The females pick the most virile males for mates. One male bustard will dominate the dancing grounds and most of the females will choose to mate with him.

Kori Bustards lay 2 eggs in a clutch, and the female incubates and raises the chicks. The chicks from the two eggs mentioned in the beginning of this article were hand-raised by the Bird Department and grew very quickly.

Kori Bustards are a designated SSP (Species Survival Plan) species within the American Zoological Association. We manage this species in zoos very intensively to maintain a genetically healthy zoo population. Our koris can be seen in Metrozoo's off-exhibit breeding complex when taking the Zoo's tram ride.



One-day-old chick waits for a sibling

Full-grown Bustards can weigh over 40 pounds!

There's an Alligator In My School!

Tales From The Carnival Kids Environmental Education Program

By Cecilia Betancourt, Education Specialist



The scarlet macaw is an endangered species in the wild. Students examine biofacts of other endangered species

The Carnival Kids program, now in its seventh year, offers fourth graders from three schools a fascinating series of Zoo experiences. Serving Title I schools, which have a high proportion of disadvantaged families, the program is funded by the Carnival Cruise Lines Foundation and implemented by the Zoological Society of Florida. This year, 285 students from Bel-Aire Elementary, Carol City Elementary, and Campbell Drive Elementary have visited Miami Metrozoo and the Everglades National Park.

There are four modules in the program, and each features a mix of school outreach and field trips. In these modules, students learn about animal classification, adaptations, Florida wildlife, and endangered species. Education Department staff teaches the classroom sessions that form the backbone of the program, with visits to the school before and after every field trip. Live animals and biofacts such as skins, bones, feathers and skulls, enable students to have hands-on interactions with wildlife throughout the year.

Animals in the classroom help students understand the scientific concepts as they are introduced. For the classification unit, we bring an inquisitive ferret, a glass lizard, a frog, and a scene-stealing umbrella cockatoo. Adaptations are easily grasped when students can closely examine the protective spines of a hedgehog, or the differences between a burrowing sand boa and a tree-dwelling red-tail boa. To illustrate the Florida wildlife unit, creatures like alligators and opossums come to each classroom. A scarlet macaw represents the rainforest for the endangered species unit. Complementing the excitement afforded by field trips, these visits provide the unforgettable encounters that bring the program to life.

**Examining skins.
Are they fake or real?**



PHOTOS: MICHELLE BAEZ

2004 GUIDE



CAMP TITLE ART: BAILEY GIBSON (AGE 9)

A. Past And Present Animals

Are dinosaurs ancestors of today's birds? What was it like to be a dodo, a mammoth, or a saber tooth tiger? At ZooCamp, children will explore the similarities between the birds, reptiles, and mammals of the past and the present ones, while enjoying the fascinating animals at the Zoo.

B. It Is Definitely A Jungle Out There!

In the tropics and the snow, in the savannas and the jungle, animals are struggling for survival. The daily challenges faced by animals must be overcome, or else! Campers at the Zoo will have an unforgettable time learning about the adventurous lives of their favorite animals.

CAMEL ILLUSTRATION: NATASHA MORRIS (AGE 9)



C. How Do Animals Get Along?

Can animals sometimes count on each other's help? Do different species of animals always compete and fight? ZooCamp children will be amazed by some odd couples found in the animal world. Well, as long as it works for them...

D. Lions, Tigers, And ... Meerkats!

Animals are grouped together according to traits that they have in common. This session of Camp is all about a very popular animal bunch: the carnivores (meat eaters). Carnivores can be tough and very good at using their teeth. It is true, meerkats are carnivores, too!

CONTACT US TODAY!

To register, call the
Zoological Society of Florida
at (305) 255-5551.

Schedules are subject to change.

For more information about
Miami Metrozoo, visit our
website at
www.miamimetrozoo.com.

Session dates to remember...

JUNE 14 - 18

A. Past And Present Animals.....4-6-year-olds
C. How Do Animals Get Along?.....7-10-year-olds

JUNE 21 - 25

B. It Is Definitely A Jungle Out There!.....4-6-year-olds
D. Lions, Tigers, And ... Meerkats!.....7-10-year-olds

JUNE 28 - JULY 2

C. How Do Animals Get Along?.....4-6-year-olds
A. Past And Present Animals.....7-10-year-olds

JULY 5* - 9

D. Lions, Tigers, And ... Meerkats!.....4-6-year-olds
B. It Is Definitely A Jungle Out There!.....7-10-year-olds
B. It Is Definitely A Jungle Out There!11-13-year-olds

JULY 12 - 16

A. Past And Present Animals.....4-6-year-olds
C. How Do Animals Get Along?.....7-10-year-olds

JULY 19 - 23

B. It Is Definitely A Jungle Out There!.....4-6-year-olds
D. Lions, Tigers, And ... Meerkats!.....7-10-year-olds

JULY 26 - 30

C. How Do Animals Get Along?.....4-6-year-olds
A. Past And Present Animals.....7-10-year-olds

AUGUST 2 - 6

D. Lions, Tigers, And ... Meerkats!.....4-6-year-olds
B. It Is Definitely A Jungle Out There!.....7-10-year-olds

***Note: Camp will be held on July 5**

2004 GUIDE

Camp schedule and costs

June 14 – August 6, 2004

9:00 A.M. – 3:30 P.M., Monday – Friday

Ages 4 to 13 years old. Morning and afternoon snacks provided. Campers must bring their own lunches with drinks from home.

Cost: \$160.00 per week (Members: \$140.00)

Drop off and Extended Care:

- Morning drop-off: 8:30 A.M. – 9:00 A.M.
- Extended care: 3:30 P.M. – 5:30 P.M. Cost: \$35 per week per child

Discounts:

- \$5.00 discount per additional child,
 - \$5.00 discount per additional week
- Discounts apply to immediate family only.

Registration:

- Pre-registration with payment is required by 12:00 Noon on the Wednesday preceding the week of Camp the child will attend.
- Registrations received after 12:00 Noon on the Wednesday preceding the week of Camp the child will attend are charged a \$10.00 late fee per child.

Cancellations:

- If a registration is cancelled five days or less prior to the program date, a \$30 fee is applied.



2002 CAMP ART: BAILEY GIBSON (AGE 9)

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East African Hedgehog



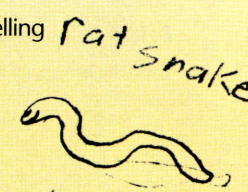
Camp activities

- Classroom presentations with animal skulls, skins, teeth, tusks, and other items
- Visit to American Bankers Family Aviary, Wings of Asia
- Visit to Dr. Wilde's World Tropical America exhibit
- Visit to animal exhibits with animal keepers
- Arts and crafts
- Classroom preparation of special treats and toys for animal enrichment, followed by a visit to watch the animals enjoy their gifts
- Visit to the pine rockland forest, a native and endangered habitat
- Classroom preparation of diet for some of the Children's Zoo animals
- Close-up classroom encounters with small birds, mammals and reptiles
- Water play (children should have a change of clothes)
- Playground time
- Songs, games, and storytelling

Slop bear



Jason Armada
My favorite thing about Zoo Camp is seeing the animals jumping around having fun. I love asking the zoo keepers about the animals. I like seeing behind the scenes. I also like seeing the keeper feed the animals. We also get to make projects for the animals. Sometimes you get to feed the ducks. On the last day you get to go to the water part. Metro Zoo Camp is the best!



CAMP LETTER: JASON ARMADA (AGE 9)

ANIMAL ILLUSTRATIONS: SARAH JOSEPH (AGE 8)

KIDZOODLE

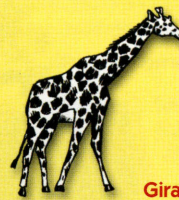


An Extreme Experience!

Mammals live on land and in the sea. They have hair, are warm-blooded, and nourish their young with milk. They are herbivores (eat plants), carnivores (eat meat), omnivores (eat plants and meat) and insectivores (eat insects). Besides mammals like bears, antelopes, dolphins, cats, apes and humans, there are some mammals that have extreme characteristics, which make them even more unique.

Name the mammals known for the following extremes:

- The slowest mammal is a _____.
- The smelliest mammal is a _____.
- One of the smallest mammals is a _____.
- The tallest mammal is the _____.
- The mammal with the highest percentage of body fat is the _____.
- The smallest newborns are marsupials, living in pouches, like the _____.
- The largest mammal in the sea is the _____.
- The fastest mammal is the _____.
- The largest land mammal is the _____.
- One of the only venomous mammals is the _____.
- The second loudest mammal is the _____.
(The first loudest mammal is the Blue Whale).
- The oldest (longest) living mammals on the planet are the _____ and _____.



Giraffe



African Elephant



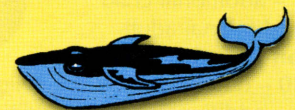
Cheetah



Humans



Koala



Fin Whale



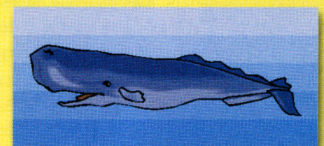
Striped Skunk



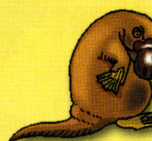
Bumblebee Bat



Howler Monkey



Blue Whale



Duckbilled Platypus



Tree Sloth

(Circle the animals that live at Metrozoo.*)

ANSWERS: AN EXTREME EXPERIENCE: 1. Tree Sloth*, 2. Striped Skunk*, 3. Bumblebee Bat, 4. Giraffe*, 5. Blue Whale, 6. Koala*, 7. Blue Whale, 8. Cheetah*, 9. African Elephant*, 10. Duckbilled Platypus, 11. Howler Monkey*, 12. Fin Whale and Humans



ZSF Member Programs



KEEP YOUR COOL Saturday, August 7, 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

How do elephants keep cool in the hot sun? Why do tortoises hang out in their shallow pool? Come and see how our animals survive the hot summer weather without air conditioning! Our personalized cart tour will give you reason to brave the heat and visit our cool friends. Then we'll enjoy chilly refreshments to help us "Keep our Cool." *Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.*

COST:

Members:

\$18 – one adult and one child
\$4 – additional child or adult

Non-members:

\$20 – one adult and one child
\$5 – additional child or adult



ZOO BABIES AND FAMILIES Saturday, July 17, 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

Metrozoo's family is growing fast, so come and meet some of our newest residents! Parents and children

embark on a narrated cart tour to discover zoo babies and learn about their family lives. *Recommended for young children and children must be accompanied by an adult.* Class size is limited and pre-registration is required.

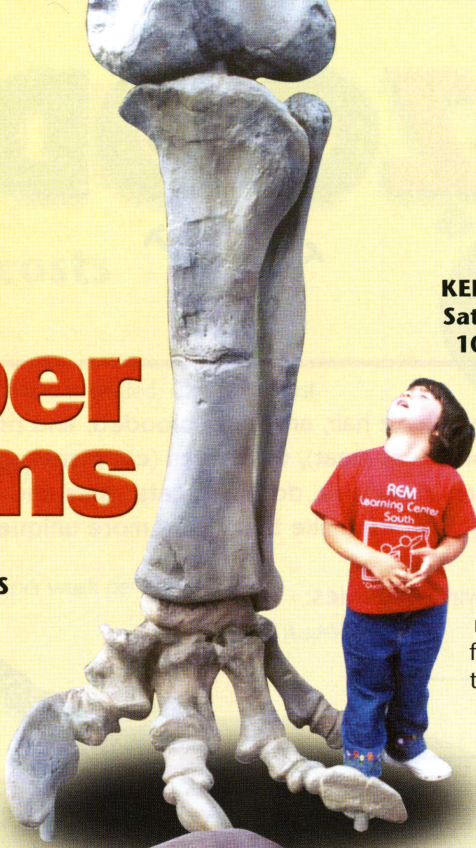
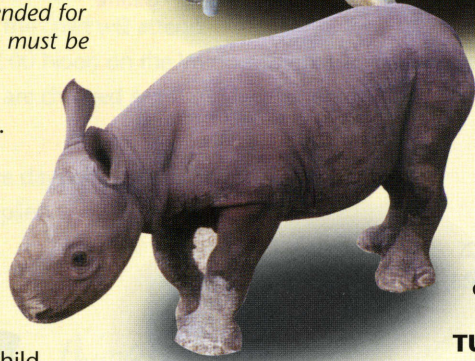
COST:

Members:

\$18 – one adult and one child
\$4 – additional child or additional adult

Non-members:

\$20 – one adult and one child
\$5 – additional child or additional adult



ZOODLER ACADEMY

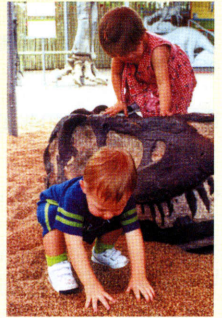
Bring your toddler to our popular parent and child program for two. The Zoodler Academy provides a safe and friendly environment for children to meet animals and learn about nature. The program includes a story, craft project, touch table, and live animals.

TUESDAYS

2-3-Year-Olds: 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.
August 24 *It's a Jungle Out There*
August 31 *Animal Families*

THURSDAYS

2-4-Year-Olds: 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.
3-4-Year-Olds: 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.
August 26 *It's a Jungle Out There*
September 2 *Animal Families*



ALL ZOODLER PROGRAMS

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 2003-2004 Season: \$2.00 discount per class.

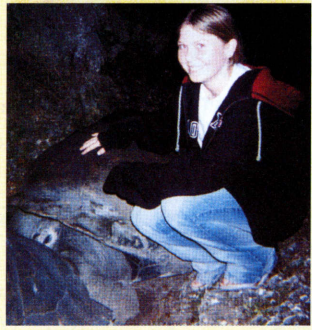
Note: The Zoodler Program is for one adult and one child. Class sizes are limited and pre-registration is required. Additional participants must also pre-enroll in order to attend class. No refunds or credits for missed classes.

Summer Special

WILD NIGHTS

**Saturday, July 17 and Saturday, August 28,
6:00 – 9:00 P.M.**

Take an adventuresome behind-the-scenes tour to see wild animals up-close in their night habitats! Guided by a knowledgeable zookeeper, you will experience the roar, scent, and behaviors of the great beasts under an evening sky. Guests are served a pizza dinner before a trek into the wild!



Children must be at least 6 years old and in first grade to participate. Pre-registration is required.

Or select a special date for a private group.

COST:

Members:

\$20.00 per person

Non-members:

\$25.00 per person

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.



Zoo Events

Seasonal fun for everyone



WHO WANTS TO BE A SUPER HERO? MEET SPIDER-MAN, WOLVERINE AND SPIDER-GIRL
July 3 & 4, 1:00 P.M. and 3:00 P.M.

Your wall-climbing Super-Hero friends will be at Miami Metrozoo to celebrate this weekend's opening of the new "Spider-Man 2" Movie. Maybe YOU can be one of the children on stage at the Zoo with your favorite Marvel character. Spider-Man, Spider-Girl and Wolverine will interact with children on stage and with the audience. Following the 30-minute presentation you can meet and greet the Super-Heroes and be photographed with your favorite real-life Super-Hero, creating a treasured and lasting memory of this special event.

WONDERS OF TROPICAL AMERICA: AMAZON ALIVE!
At Dr. Wilde's World, 10:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

Enjoy a unique hands-on, interactive adventure into the very heart of Tropical America. Back by popular demand, this fun exhibit features new animals from giant centipedes to the goliath birdeating tarantula, to Amazonian fish and funky-looking turtles. Awaiting you at the George Batchelor Theater is a movie with surround-sound to immerse you into the tropical rainforests of Panama, Central America and northern South America. Inspect the artifacts and crafts made by the indigenous rainforest people, marvel at the live animals, and be challenged to identify hidden wonders throughout the exhibit. There are storybooks, puzzles, puppets and rubbing stations for children. Future exhibit plans include a working beehive and a corral where children can climb in and interact with tortoises (sorry, no adults inside the corral).

LUNCHEON AND SPECIAL PRESENTATION FOR MEMBERS ONLY



CHEETAH & WILD DOG CONSERVATION
By Vanessa Bauer, Assistant Director of the De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Center
August 5, 12:30 P.M. at Miami Metrozoo
(Location to be announced at Gate)

Join us for a picnic-style lunch and a very special slide show presentation by Vanessa Bauer, Assistant Director of the De Wildt Cheetah and Wildlife Center in South Africa. Savannah and King George, Metrozoo's cheetah ambassadors, will be on hand to greet you, as they and some of the Zoo's wild dogs came to us from the De Wildt Center. Also hear from Metrozoo's Goodwill Ambassador, Ron Magill and veterinarian, Stephanie Monnier, who will have just returned from a July trip to the De Wildt Center where they will have been working with cheetahs and wild dogs and their conservation programs in the wild. This is one event you won't want to miss!
Seating is limited: Reservations are required and are on a first-come, first-served basis



THE AMERICAN BANKERS FAMILY AVIARY, WINGS OF ASIA
Free Flight Aviary
Daily, 10:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Encounter rare and exotic Asian birds close-up and in free flight. Watch them build their nests and care for their young.
Bird Feedings - Daily, 10:30 A.M. & 2:30 P.M.
 Follow the bird keepers for fun and information while they go throughout the aviary feeding the birds.

Indoor Activities - Daily, 9:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
 Observe ducks swimming on top of and under the water with fish and turtles through the viewing glass of the indoor, air-conditioned Observation Center. Step out behind two waterfalls to see the aviary from a duck's eye view, and learn how you can participate in local conservation efforts in the Potamkin Conservation Center. Gift shop features Asian gifts.

Dinosaur Encounters - Daily, 9:30 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.
 View a film showing the link between dinosaurs and birds at the Field Research Center, then search for the skeleton of a 40-foot-long carnivorous dinosaur in a mock fossil excavation dig pit.



GRADE "A" KIDS
June 14 — August 13
10:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.

Good report cards can mean big rewards this summer at Miami Metrozoo, maybe even free Zoo admission! Throughout the summer, from June 14 until the beginning of school this fall, Miami Metrozoo will give \$1.00 off the admission price and a sticker for every "A" any student has earned on his/her report card. Parents will be given a bumper sticker stating *My Child Is A Grade "A" Kid At Miami Metrozoo*, and each student honored will receive a sticker to wear. Students presenting a report card with at least one "A" can also sign the "A" List, a large sign at the Zoo's entrance that lists the child's name, school and the number of "A's" earned.

COOL ZOO SUMMER FUN
All of June, July and August

Play on cool water slides around the Zoo. Enjoy cool water mist, shady areas, a water play area and fun activities for everyone. There are lots of ways to keep cool at the Zoo this summer, so be sure to bring a bathing suit or change of clothes for the kids. Children love the seahorse water playground next to the Children's Zoo. Check out the misters along the walkways and the one in front of the Chimpanzee exhibit that is controlled by the chimps.

NEW THIS SUMMER are the very popular surrey quadracycles for easily getting around the Zoo, water cycles on the lake, improved misters along the Zoo paths, and cool water play zones with amusements like inflatable water slides, slip & slides and a soaker maze!
 Chickee huts, covered rest areas and the air-conditioned free monorail will help you escape the sun and heat as you travel throughout the Zoo. Cool down with an ice cream and a variety of live musical performances throughout June, July and August.



TOUCAN TRADER GIFT SHOP COUPON
IT'S ALL ABOUT SPIDERS!

Kids, get your free spiders while the supply lasts!
OFFER EXPIRES AUGUST 31, 2004

CALENDAR EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. For more information, please call Miami Metrozoo at (305) 251-0400 or visit the Zoo's website at www.miamimetrozoo.com.

A Tropical Adventure.

Miami Metrozoo's Expedition to Costa Rica February 3 – 12, 2005



Immerse yourself in the lush rainforests of the Tirimina Reserve. Leisurely cruise down the Sarapiquí River. Explore the fascinating wildlife sanctuary, coastal areas and waterways of the Tortuguero National Park by boat. Witness the effects of the deepest active volcano in the world. Enjoy early morning birding.

Join Miami Metrozoo on a 10-day, 9-night expedition to Costa Rica! Travel from the cosmopolitan city of San Jose to the incredible Monteverde Cloud Forest Preserve, laden with orchids and bromeliads and home to over 400 species of birds, including the resplendent quetzal. Visit the dramatic Arenal National Park to witness the amazing spectacle of powerful Volcan Arenal. Conclude your stay with a visit to San Jose's Simon Bolivar Zoo, Gold Museum and National Theater.

This close encounter with the Costa Rican rainforest will be a sampling of *The Hidden Ruins of Tropical America*, Miami Metrozoo's upcoming 25-acre exhibit, currently in the design stage and the second phase of the Zoo's 20-year master plan.



**Meet your ZSF
Tour Guide
Cecilia Betancourt,
ZSF Education
Specialist**

My first word was not "mama" or "dada." It was "dog." My earliest childhood memory is

of a trip to the park to find new seeds and leaves for my collection. Perhaps it was inevitable that I would end up working at the Zoo. My job in the Education Department enables me to share experiences in wildlife and nature with children, at the Zoo and in the Everglades National Park.

Coming from a family that loves to travel, I have had the good fortune to visit Panama, Costa Rica, Brazil, Colombia, and the Dominican Republic. My longest stint in Latin America was a year in Mexico, as an intern at a university field station for studies abroad. I'm thrilled to be leading this trip, and I look forward to meeting each of you as we prepare for our Costa Rican adventure!



Cost: \$2995 from Miami
Travel: American Airlines from Miami to San Jose, Costa Rica.
Book early before this ZSF-led expedition sells out!

**For information and a brochure, please call
Cecilia Betancourt in the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF)
Education Department at (305) 255-5551.**



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