

SPECIAL EVENTS: MEET JOAN EMBERY, BALL OF THE WILD & THE GREAT MIAMI METROZOO EGG SAFARI

TOUCAN TALK

MARCH - APRIL 2005

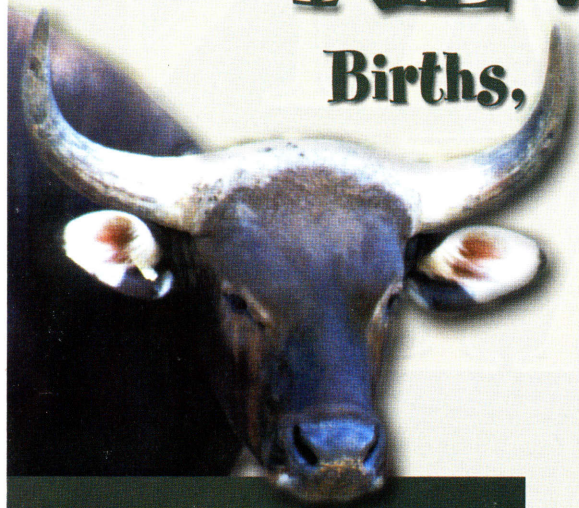
Good Reef!

**Tropical America
Building Tomorrow's Zoo**

**Studbooks
A Tool in Preventing
Animal Extinction**

NEW at the ZOO

Births, Hatchings & Acquisitions



The shy Javan Banteng, (Bos javanicus) is found throughout Asia, Indonesia and Northern Australia.



Grant's Gazelle, day old at time of photo



Anoa, in the wild, are only found on the island of Sulawesi in Indonesia.

BIRTHS AND HATCHINGS

- 1 Male Addra Gazelle (6th birth from same sire)Jan 9
- 1 Male Javan BantengJan 5
- 2 Female, 1 male Grant's GazellesDec 23, Dec 16, Dec 14

AVIARY HATCHINGS

- 2* Nicobar Pigeons (Aviary-parent-reared)Dec 30, Dec 17
- 1* Pink-necked Pigeon (Aviary-parent-reared)Dec 24
- 3* Banded Rails (Aviary-parent-reared)Dec 23

ACQUISITIONS

- 5 Female, 5 male Cairo Spiny MiceJan 12
- 2 Male ChinchillasJan 11
- 2 Female White-headed DucksJan 11
- 1 Female American MerganserJan 11
- 1* Western Hognose SnakeDec 30
- 1* Rosy BoaDec 30
- 1 Female, 1 male Madagascar Giant Day GeckoDec 30
- 1* Leopard GeckoDec 30
- 2* White's Tree FrogsDec 30
- 3 Female, 2 male Madagascar Hedgehog TenrecsDec 29
- 1 Female AnoaDec 15
- 2 Female, 1 male Jamaican IguanasDec 10
- 5* White Leghorn ChickensDec 4
- 4 Female Puerto Rican Crested ToadsDec 3
- 4* American White PelicansDec 2

*Gender undetermined

PHOTO CREDITS: (FROM TOP OF PAGE TO BOTTOM)

BANTENG : BARBARA CRUTCHFIELD
 GAZELLE : DOLORA BATCHELOR
 ANOA : STEVE WALKER
 BANDED RAIL: DOLORA BATCHELOR

Banded rail standing at waters edge

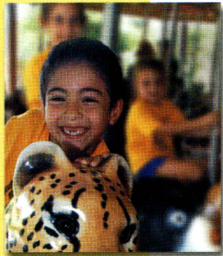


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On the Cover:

Miami Metrozoo campers enjoy a ride on the Wildlife Conservation Carousel, plus many more exciting activities. See page 8 for more details.

PHOTO: RON MAGILL



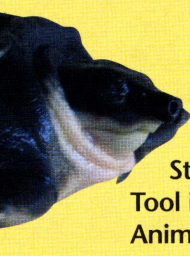
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TOUCAN TALK

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

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Toucan Talk, March / April 2005

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To all of the friends of Miami Metrozoo and the Zoological Society of Florida:

Since spring is the time for fresh beginnings, emerging blossoms, and extended daylight hours, we invite you to see the great new animals and attractions at Miami Metrozoo.

Among the newest additions to our wild family is Rosie, a 14-year-old female Black Rhinoceros who arrived from Zoo Atlanta with one very important mission- to get pregnant! Toshi, the 27-year-old male Black Rhinoceros who has been at our Zoo since 1983, was charged with the duty. Once Toshi completes his job, Rosie will



Glenn Ekey
President
Zoological Society of Florida

head back to Atlanta to bring her pregnancy to term and give birth. Make sure you take a tram tour to see her before she makes her grand exit!

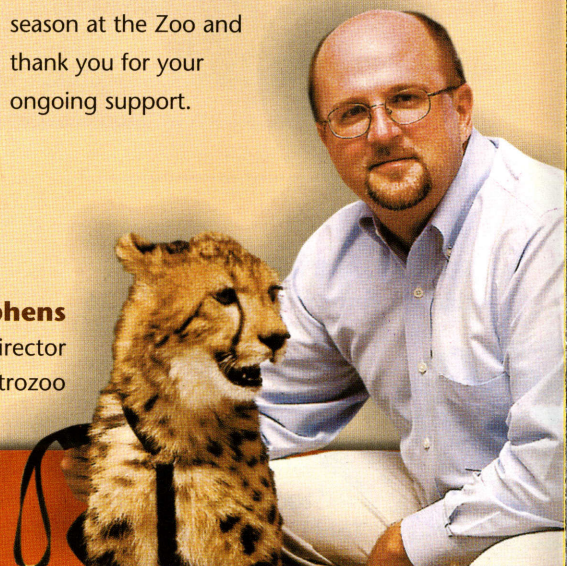
Similar to Rosie's arrival, we are extremely fortunate to have received an endangered Indo-Chinese tiger from the Fort Worth Zoo. This two year-old tiger is one of less than 2,500 of its subspecies left in the world, 43 of which are only in North America. This individual was sent to us on a breeding loan from the Fort Worth Zoo in Texas with the hopes that Metrozoo will some day be home to a successful Indo-Chinese tiger breeding program.

Spring break week, March 21-27, is "Venom Week" at Dr. Wilde's World. Captain Al Cruz from Miami-Dade's anti-venom unit is bringing venomous snakes, native to South Florida, such as the pygmy rattlesnake, water moccasin, eastern diamondback and some commonly kept

exotics like the cobra. He is hosting demonstrations on how to identify venomous snakes and tips on what to do if someone is bitten.

In addition, Dr. Wilde's World (DWW) and Africa are engaging visitors in some new animal attractions. DWW is offering everyone the opportunity to encounter a live, working bee-hive, chinchillas and a chance for kids to feel the shell of the Red-footed tortoise inside a tortoise pen. A new Africa exhibit, adjacent to the Gorillas, features the Bat-eared Fox and the beautiful Yellow-billed Hornbills.

As you can see, we have many new and exciting things happening here. We welcome you to enjoy the season at the Zoo and thank you for your ongoing support.



Eric Stephens
Director
Miami Metrozoo



Meet Our New Board Member, Alette DelPozo Rodz

Alette DelPozo Rodz, an attorney at Shutts & Bowen's Litigation Department, practices in a variety of areas that include, among many others, the defense and prosecution of commercial and corporate claims, contract disputes, creditors' rights, foreclosures, hospital medical malpractice, libel, negligence, and personal injury. Ms. Rodz's other areas of concentration are in the representation of foreign and international clients, coordination of handling of claims abroad for U.S.-based clients and all forms of international discovery and Hague Convention procedures.

Prior to joining the firm, Ms. Rodz was with a boutique litigation firm where she practiced insurance litigation, professional malpractice litigation, products liability and personal injury litigation. While at the University of Florida, Ms. Rodz was an active member of the Trial Team and on the executive board of the John Marshall Bar Association.

Aquariums date back to 2500 B.C. when the Sumerians, the ancient people of Mesopotamia, began keeping fish in small ponds as a food source. The first actual public aquarium opened in London in 1853. Three years later, the second public aquarium opened in the U.S. This "spawned" the now common hobby of displaying fish tanks in homes.

For years now, farm-raised fish have been sold in pet shops for the freshwater home aquarium. However, saltwater home aquariums are a trend that require other fish, live coral, anemones and sea stars to be taken from the wild. The saltwater fish tank requires the collection of fish from every coastline on the planet. Some of the practices employed to collect these sea creatures are sometimes "unfriendly" to the environment. The damage that is done to the fragile ecosystems of a reef can take more than a hundred years to repair.

Until recently, the captive-raising of marine life was almost nonexistent. Now, more species of fish and coral are being tank raised and propagated for the pet trade. We hope this fills some of the demand for marine animals and that it will ultimately be the only source for them.

Here at Miami Metrozoo's Toadstool, we have a new reef tank, made possible with a donation from Senator Paul B. Steinberg that contains only captive-bred animals and recycled live rock. The live rocks, seeded with differing kinds of sea life, in our tank were recycled from mining and dredging projects, where they would otherwise be discarded and declared a surplus.

Some of the sea animals that we house in our aquarium include: the very outgoing, False Percula Clownfish (*Amphiprion ocellaris*); the ever so cute Neon Gobys (*Gobisoma oceanops*); the slow-moving Fighting Conchs (*Strombus alatus*); the Caribbean Queen Conchs (*Strombus gigas*); the active, brightly colored, Orchid Dottyback (*Pseudochromis fridmani*); the blue and black Springer Dottyback (*Pseudochromis springeri*); and the majestic Kenya Tree Coral (*Capnella* sp) can be seen swaying back and forth in the water current. All of these animals inhabit our 26-gallon aquarium, giving a good example of what captive-breeding can accomplish. This is also a great way to demonstrate how we can coexist with wildlife and their habitats. Witness for yourself this busy scene from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM seven days a week at The Toadstool next to the Children's Zoo.

GOOD REEF!

By Adam Stern,
Senior Children's Zoo Keeper

Above: Orchid Dottybacks

Below: Two Springer Dottybacks float over a coral head.

Lower Right: Tree Coral

Lower Left: Conch

Tropical America

Building Tomorrow's Zoo



PHOTO: RON MAGILL

In the late 1990s, a group of leading zoo designers and animal scientists began meeting here at Miami Metrozoo. They envisioned a major, 20-year expansion of the Miami facility, that when completed, will provide unprecedented educational opportunities for students from grade school through graduate school. The new Zoo, at the center of a major development initiative that will bring jobs and resources to South Florida for years to come, will be a place for visitors from around the world to encounter a variety of animals in their natural habitat. It will focus the attention of the world on the plight of endangered species, helping ensure their survival. It will be, quite simply, the finest zoo in the world.

Because of Metrozoo's location in the only subtropical region in the continental United States, it has an opportunity to play a unique role in displaying and championing tropical species in a new exhibit scheduled to open in late 2007 called *Tropical America*. Three percent of all the land in the world devoted to zoos is encompassed by Miami Metrozoo. There is no place in the United States better suited than Metrozoo to display the drama and scale of the tropical rain forest and highlight the plight of its threatened species.

At *Tropical America's* central plaza, visitors will discover the sights and sounds of a vibrant village surrounding a large riverfront plaza cleared from dense jungle. Searching pathways leading from the plaza, zoo-goers will find jaguars, giant river otters, black caimans, harpy eagles, Orinoco crocodiles, toucans and capybaras, the world's largest rodent.

Inside *Tropical America's* Flooded Forest building, visitors will encounter an inundated

forest teeming with life, exhibits featuring species from throughout the Amazon basin and education space where programs will inform and inspire students of all ages. Visitors will walk through a jungle passage into the world of turtles, amphibians, spiders, insects and poison dart frogs. They will explore *Tropical America's* Cloud Forest building and marvel at the wide variety of reptiles and Spectacled owl. In all, *Tropical America* will be home to more than 100 extraordinary species.

For the people of South Florida, Metrozoo's *Tropical America*, larger than the average American zoo at 27 acres, offers the promise of a strengthened "pride of place." For many newcomers with roots in the nations of the hemisphere with rain forests, it represents an important cultural connection and a confirmation of their acceptance into the community's fabric. For the harried citizens and families of an increasingly crowded and busy metropolis, it will provide a needed place of respite.

The task of building a world-class zoo has begun. Each stage of the Master Plan is being carefully developed by experts in zoo architecture, animal welfare and conservation, education, and visitor comfort.

Today, the Zoological Society of Florida (ZSF) and Metrozoo are mobilizing the private and public funding necessary to bring the wonders of *Tropical America* to the people of South Florida and to the world. In its 20-year Master Plan, the ZSF is offering South Florida the opportunity to help build a resource that will provide education, entertainment and economic return for generations to come.

Studbooks as a tool in preventing animal extinction

By Adam Stern, Senior Children's Zoo Keeper

One of the ways that animal extinction can be prevented is by maintaining endangered species in captivity. With the use of studbooks, books that register the pedigrees of animals, we ensure that the animals breeding in captivity preserve their natural characteristics by keeping them genetically diverse and limiting inbreeding.

Studbooks have been most commonly used for the purpose of breeding desirable traits in horses and dogs. Today in the zoo community, animal managers use studbooks not to breed traits that are different, but rather to keep the animals from varying from their natural forms or colorations. This is done to maintain the wild characteristics in the animals so that they can be reintroduced into their native habitats. Reintroduction occurs when the danger or threat concerning the species' survival has passed or appropriate protection has been established for the habitat and species.

Studbooks have been in the zoo community since the 1950s and only recently have become computerized. The computer program enables animal managers to keep track of animal breeding, as well as their offspring, for many generations. In zoos, animals are often traded between facilities for breeding; therefore, it can become a challenge to follow them throughout their life spans.

Creating a studbook can be a complicated process. A potential studbook keeper must qualify to become a holder of a studbook by completing a class given by the American Zoo & Aquarium Association (AZA).

Upon successful completion of the course, a studbook keeper has learned how to collect information and enter it into a computer program specifically developed for maintaining studbooks called SPARKS or Single

Population Animal Record Keeping System. This program allows animal managers to make informed decisions about which animals should mate together.

Here at Metrozoo, we hold the studbook for the Leaf Turtle (*Mauremys annamensis*) from Vietnam, the Reticulated Python (*Python reticulatus*), the Pig-nose Turtle (*Carettochelys insculpta*), the Cuban Amazon Parrot (*Amazona leucocephala*), Stuhlmann's Blue Monkey (*Cercopithecus mitas*), and the Tasmanian Devil (*Sarcophilus harrisi*).



PHOTO: FORT WORTH ZOO

Above: A Tasmanian Devil (*Sarcophilus harrisi*) crawls along the rainforest floor.

Right: Vietnamese Leaf Turtle (*Mauremys annamensis*), also known as Anam Leaf Turtle



Bottom Left: Pig-nose Turtle (*Carettochelys insculpta*)

All studbooks contain information about birthdates, parents, location, collection data, transfers and reproductive history. Some of this information is collected through other zoos that house the species' records of breeding, hatching and transfers. Ideally, studbooks include a husbandry guide (care and maintenance), natural history, notes on conditions for reproduction, past and present animal holdings, as well as habitat conservation. The ultimate purpose of a studbook is to ensure the survival of endangered species in captivity through scientific breeding of the animals in the population.

TURTLE PHOTOS: ADAM STERN



Spring Camp

Monday, March 21 – Friday, March 25

For children 4-11 years old

Some animals crawl, some fly, others do not move at all! At Miami Metrozoo, camp children will discover how some amazing living creatures make use of a variety of skills as part of their peculiar survival strategies.

Monday *Life With Wings* - Animals with wings: some fly, some don't.

Tuesday *Who Lives In The Water?* - Aquatic life survey.

Wednesday *Crawling Away* - Legless animals and their survival skills.

Thursday *Climb For Your Lives!* - When staying on the ground is a bad idea.

Friday *Faster, Faster, Faster!* - Yes, we mean zooming for cover!

Camp Activities

- Wildlife presentations include live animals and animal skulls, teeth and skins
- Visits to animal exhibits and attendance at animal keeper talks
- Preparation of special treats or toys for animal enrichment, followed by a visit to watch the animals enjoy their gifts
- Show-and-tell pet pictures and pet favorite items, followed by a discussion on caring for pets
- A special lesson on caring for wildlife at the Zoo with Children's Zoo keepers
- A special lesson on backyard wildlife
- Animal themed games
- Arts and crafts

Camp Activities (Continued)

- Visit to the pine rockland forest, a native and endangered habitat
- Sprinkler playtime
- Playground time

Times: 9:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

Morning drop-off: 8:30 A.M. - 8:50 A.M.

Extended care: 3:30 P.M. - 5:30 P.M. Cost: \$35 for the week

Fees: \$160.00 (Members: \$140) **Payment is required with registration.**

Late fee: A \$10 late fee will be added to registrations received on or after Wednesday, March 16.

Discounts: \$5 discount for siblings, \$5 discount for early registration (no later than Friday, March 4)

Cancellations: Registrations cancelled on or after March 16 will be charged a \$30 cancellation fee.

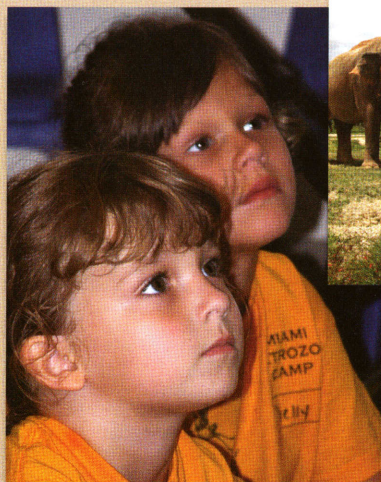


PHOTO: GUCCI SARNO



PHOTO: SHERRIE AVERY

Above: Elephants and a camper take time to study each other.

Left: Campers listen intently to a wildlife presentation.

Pre-registration is required. To register, call the Education Department at 305-255-5551. Schedules are subject to change.

Adopt-An-Animal for Mother's Day!

For many animals on the Endangered Species List, survival is a rare gift. Sponsoring an animal through Metrozoo's Adopt-An-Animal Program will help us participate in conservation and preservation programs fighting for the survival of these species. Give the gift of survival and make a bold statement of your commitment to our planet's wildlife by sponsoring an animal in the Species Survival Program. It makes a wonderful gift for any animal lover, and everyone will take great pride in knowing they've done their part in saving these irreplaceable animals.

Honor Mom for only \$25

You can become a Friend by contributing just \$25 towards the sponsorship of any animal of your choice listed below.

Metrozoo's Adopt-An-Animal Program (\$25-\$2500):

Animals in Metrozoo's Species Survival Program include: African elephants, African lions, African wild dogs, Asian small clawed otters, bongos, chimpanzees, clouded leopards, crocodile monitors, eastern black rhinoceros, gibbons, grevy's zebras, Indian rhinoceros, Komodo dragons, lowland gorillas, Malayan sun bears, orangutans, pygmy hippos, red ruffed lemurs, reticulated giraffes, scimitar horned oryx, siamangs and siamese crocodiles.

Your gift:

You will receive an adoption certificate, a fact sheet and a 4 x 6 color photo of your animal along with a colorful decal for your car. Most of all, you'll have the satisfaction of knowing that YOU made a difference in the life of your adopted animal!

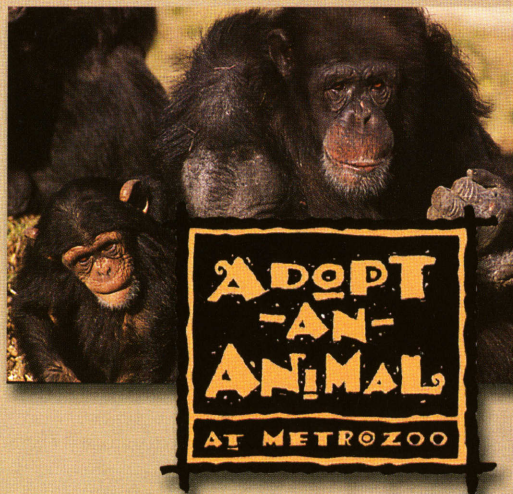


PHOTO: RON MACGILL

For complete details, please call Michelle Lloret at 305-255-5551 ext. 109 or visit our website at www.miamimetrozoo.com

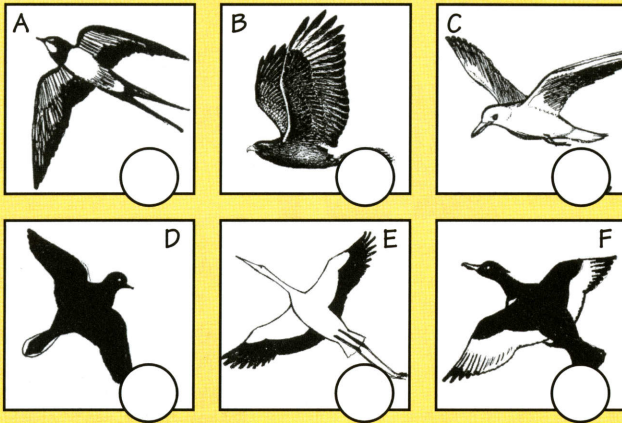
KIDZOODLE

FUN AND GAMES  JUST FOR KIDS!



Wings in the sky

1. Collared Dove
2. White Stork
3. Swallow
4. Common Gull
5. Tufted Duck
6. Everglades Kite

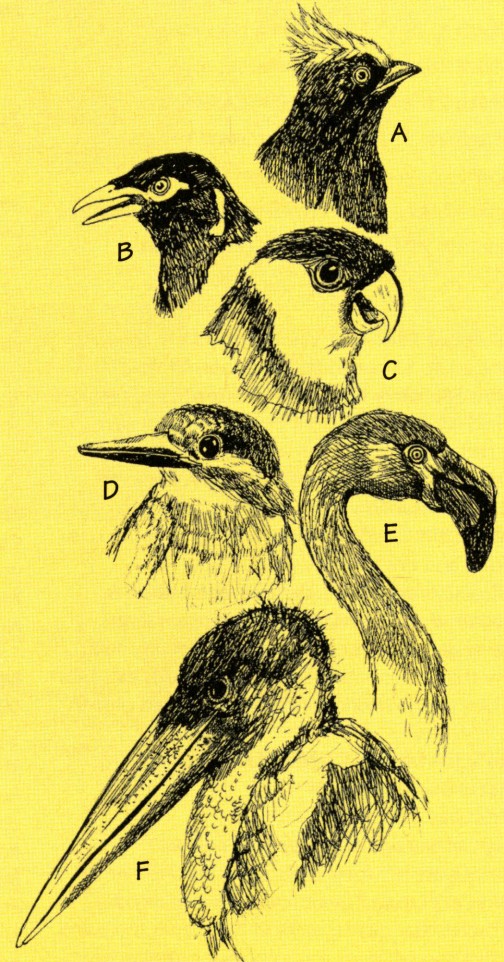


-dentify

1. Collared Mynah _____
2. Marabou Stork _____
3. Flamingo _____
4. Sultan Tit _____
5. Black-Capped Lory _____
6. White Collared Kingfisher _____

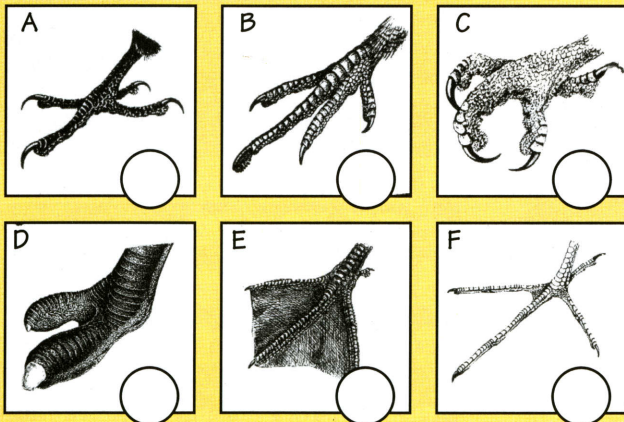
Match Birds with Diet

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| Mockingbird, Toucan <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Fish |
| Owl, Stork, Heron <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Fruit |
| Vulture, Condor <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Nectar |
| Flamingo <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Insects |
| Pheasant, Quail <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Carrion |
| Osprey, Pelican <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Plankton |
| Swift, Swallow <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Omnivorous |
| Ostrich <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Fish & Meat |
| Crow, Crane <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Seeds |
| Hummingbird <input type="radio"/> | <input type="radio"/> Plants & Grass |



Which foot is mine?

1. Osprey
2. Pond Heron
3. Woodpecker
4. Ostrich
5. Screech Owl
6. Mallard Duck



PUZZLE ANSWERS: WINGS IN THE SKY: 1=D, 2=E, 3=A, 4=C, 5=F, 6=B
 MATCH BIRDS WITH DIET: MOCKINGBIRD, TOUCAN = FRUIT; OWL,
 STORK, HERON = FISH & MEAT; VULTURE, CONDOR = CARRION;
 FLAMINGO = PLANKTON; PHEASANT, QUAIL = SEEDS; OSPREY,

WHICH FOOT IS MINE?: 1=C, 2=F, 3=A, 4=D, 5=B, 6=E
 GRASS; CROW, CRANE = OMNIVOROUS; HUMMINGBIRD = NECTAR
 EYE-IDENTIFY?: 1=B, 2=F, 3=E, 4=A, 5=C, 6=D

Zoo Programs For Members

ZOODLER ACADEMY

March - April 2005

Bring your toddler to our popular parent and child program that features story telling with lovable animal characters, an arts and crafts session and an opportunity to meet live animals in our Zoo classroom. The Zoodler Academy provides a safe and friendly environment for children to meet animals and learn about nature.



Ages: 2-4 years old

Times: Tuesdays: 1:00 - 2:00 P.M. (*New time*),
or 3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.
3:30 P.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Dates:

Tuesdays, Thursdays	Topic
March 1, 3	Zebra Stripes
March 8, 10	Who Lives Here?
March 15, 17	Amazing Asia
March 21, 24	NO CLASSES
March 29, 31	Australian Outback
April 5, 7	African Safari
April 12, 14	South American Adventure
April 19, 21	We Love Our Earth
April 26, 28	Our Scaly Friends

Member Fees (per session): \$13 per child with one adult; \$5 per additional person (child or adult)

Non-Member Fees (per session): \$15 per child with one adult; \$6 per additional person (child or adult)

Discount: \$2 off each session for Alumni of Zoodler Academy 2003-2004 Season

Note: The Zoodler Academy program is for one adult and one child.

Class sizes are limited and **pre-registration is required** of all participants. Registration forms must be filled out completely with full payment. For more information call 305-255-5551, ext. 125. There are no refunds or credits for missed classes.

BIG CAT-NAP CAMPOUT

Saturday, March 19

6:00 P.M. - 8:30 A.M.

For children ages 6 and up with an adult.

Participate in Miami Metrozoo's Second Annual Big Cat-Nap Campout! Enjoy an evening of s'mores, star-gazing, behind-the-scenes tours and other special treats. Pack up your camping gear and come on over to experience a night of wilderness, complete with sound effects (provided by Zoo animals of course)! Each camper receives a commemorative T-shirt.

Member Fees: Adults (ages 13+) \$45 per person; Children (ages 6-12) \$40 per child; Family of 4 (min 1 adult) \$160

BIG CAT-NAP CAMPOUT (Continued)

Non-Member Fees: Adults (ages 13+) \$57 per person; Children (ages 6-12) \$47 per child; Family of 4 (min. 1 adult) \$198

Discounts: Available for groups of 15 or more. Call the Education Department for more information and registration materials, 305-255-5551, ext. 125. **Pre-registration is required by March 11 and space is limited, so register early.**

WILD NIGHT

Saturday, April 2

6:00 P.M. - 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 Zoo Keeper, 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!

Member Fees: \$20 per person

Non-member Fees: \$25 per person

Pre-registration is required and children must be at least 6 years old and in first grade to participate. Select a special date for a private or public group by calling the Education Department.



ZOO INNS

Friday 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 includes a pizza dinner, continental breakfast and a souvenir. Program varies according to animal availability.

Pre-registration is required.

Capacity: Minimum group size is 15; maximum group size is 30

Member Fees: \$45 per person

Non-member Fees: \$50 per person



MAKING FRIENDS WITH BUTTERFLIES

Saturday, April 9

10:00 A.M. - 11:30 A.M.

Recommended for children ages 4 and up

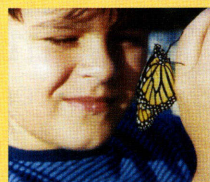
accompanied by an adult.

Bring your family to enjoy these fascinating insects in our Children's Zoo Butterfly Garden, and learn from an expert what plants will attract butterflies to your yard! You'll take home, as a gift, a favorite butterfly plant!

Member Fees: \$20 per child with one adult \$4 per additional person (child or adult)

Non-member Fees: \$24 per child with one adult \$5 per additional person (child or adult)

Pre-registration is required.



POSITIVELY PRIMATES!

Saturday, April 23

1:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.

Recommended for children ages 6 and up accompanied by an adult.

There is no business like primate business! Come learn funny and interesting facts about our apes, monkeys and lemurs. This program includes sampling some of the primates' favorite treats.

Member Fees: \$18 per child with one adult; \$4 per additional person (child or adult)

Non-member Fees: \$22 per child with one adult; \$5 per additional person (child or adult)

Pre-registration is required.



Mark your Calendars

2005 SUMMER CAMP

June - August (Monday through Friday)

9:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.

What better place is there than a Zoo to learn about animals? In this summer camp, kids get to observe wildlife, talk to



keepers, and participate in fun activities. Miami Metrozoo camp has been enriching kids' lives for years and you wouldn't want to leave your little ones out! So register early for one or all of the weeks.

Member Fees: \$140 per person

Non-member Fees: \$160 per person

Find a detailed schedule and other information in the May-June issue of Toucan Talk, on our website at www.miamimetrozoo.com or by contacting the Education Department at 305-255-5551, ext. 125.

KENYA

Departing from Miami in June

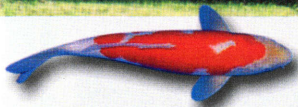
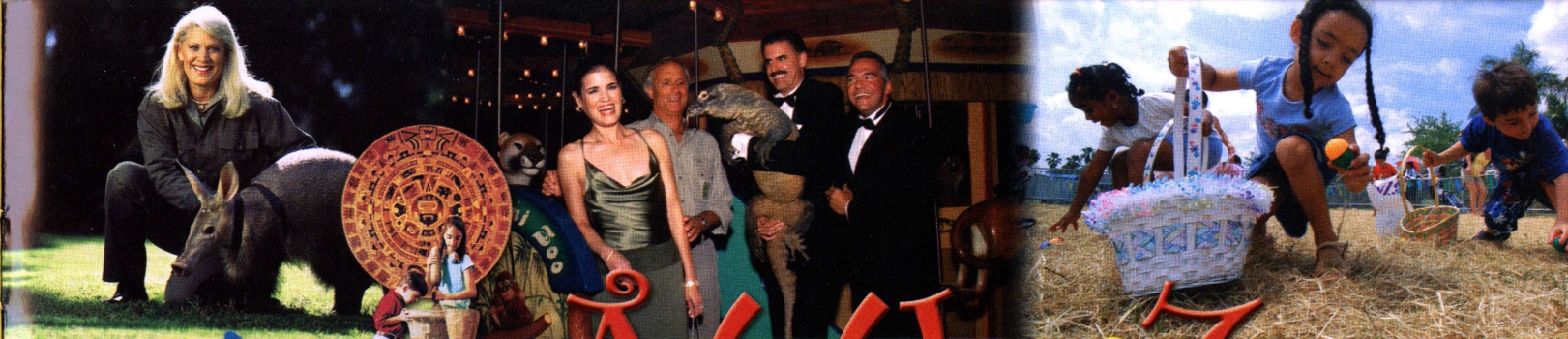
An educational expedition!

For more information visit our website at www.miamimetrozoo.com or call 305-255-5551, ext. 143.

For more Information or to Register..

Please call the Zoological Society of Florida at 305-255-5551 or visit the Zoo's website at www.miamimetrozoo.com.

PROGRAM EVENTS AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.



At the Zoo



MEET JOAN EMBERY AT THE ZOO

FOR MEMBERS ONLY!

**Saturday, March 5,
12 Noon - 2:00 P.M.**

Get together at the Picnic Field with wildlife Ambassador Joan Embery who has championed wildlife and conservation for over 34 years. Embery has appeared numerous times on television shows such as the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson and Jay Leno, Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Live with Regis and Kathy Lee and Entertainment Tonight.



BALL OF THE WILD 2005 "RHYTHM OF THE TROPICS"

**Saturday, March 5,
7:00 P.M. - Midnight**

Guests of the sixth annual gala will enjoy rhythmic tropical music, an eclectic silent auction, the culinary and visual delights of Barton G., an extravagant live auction, and of course, wild animal encounters. Animal Ambassador Joan Embery will receive the 2005 Wildlife Ambassador Award. Proceeds will benefit the Zoological Society of Florida's education and conservation programs on behalf of Miami Metrozoo. Cost: \$500 per person; Tables \$5,000-\$25,000. For more information or reservations: 305-255-5551 ext. 138.

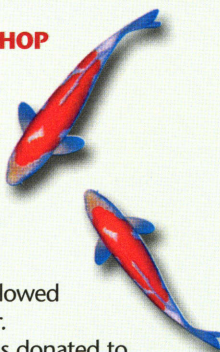


ANNUAL KOI POND WORKSHOP

**Saturday, March 12,
9:00 A.M. - 12 Noon
Castell Hammock Park
22301 S.W. 162 Avenue**

Lecture covers all aspects of Koi health, pond management, nutrition, filtration, disease prevention, and construction. Question and answer period followed by an ornamental fish farm tour.

Cost: \$20 per person. Proceeds donated to Metrozoo. To register, please call Angels Hatchery at 305-248-7777.



VENOM WEEK

Monday, March 21 through Sunday, March 27

Spring break week is "Venom Week" at Dr. Wilde's World. Captain Al Cruz from Miami-Dade's anti-venom unit is bringing venomous snakes, native to South Florida, such as the pygmy rattlesnake, water moccasin, eastern diamondback and some commonly kept exotics like the cobra. He is hosting

VENOM WEEK (Continued)

demonstrations on how to identify venomous snakes and tips on what to do if someone is bitten. Check our website, www.miamimetrozoo.com, for presentation times.

THE GREAT MIAMI METROZOO EGG SAFARI

**Saturday & Sunday,
March 26 and 27,
11 A.M. - 4 P.M.**

It's a magical day at Miami Metrozoo! With continuous egg safaris for kids 12 and younger at the Picnic and Special Events fields, activities will include: face painting, crafts, a bounce house, rock wall climbing, water tag, Radio Disney AM 990, the Easter Bunny and more!



CLOSE ENCOUNTERS

**Now open at
Dr. Wilde's World!**

Children and adults are invited to experience a variety of insects, amphibians, reptiles and mammals at Dr. Wilde's World. Kids can also climb inside the Tortoise Encounter Pen and feel the bumpy shells of the red-footed tortoises.



PAN-AMERICAN FESTIVAL

**Saturday & Sunday, April 23 and 24,
11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

Come celebrate the cultures of the different Pan-American regions at Dr. Wilde's World. There will be food, music, crafts, and more! (Name of event and times are subject to change)

SPRING PICNIC

FOR MEMBERS ONLY!

**Sponsored by COSTCO
Sunday, April 3
12:00 P.M. - 3:00 P.M.**

Bring the family to the Zoo for an old-fashioned picnic of hot dogs and hamburgers, games, animal encounters, raffle prizes and lots of fun. Then enjoy the rest of the afternoon exploring all the new animals, including the new baby male giraffe.

Cost: Payment with reservation: Adult: \$5; Child: \$3
Payment at the picnic: Adult: \$7; Child \$5

R.S.V.P required by March 28: Call 305-255-5551 to make your reservation.



HOW TO REACH US

Education Programs

305-255-5551, ext. 125

Membership

305-255-5551, ext. 136

Adopt an Animal

305-255-5551, ext. 109

Corporate and Individual Gift Giving

305-255-5551, ext. 138

Volunteering/ Walking Tours

305-255-5551, ext. 124

General Information

305-251-0400

Group Sales/ Picnics

305-251-0400, ext. 230

Birthday Packages

305-233-8389

Email: www.info@zsf.org

Website: www.miamimetrozoo.com

The Membership Department is updating its records, so please be sure to send your EMAIL address to www.gbaquero@zsf.org. We want to keep you up-to-date with the latest Zoo News and Special Events.

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

Announcements

The Zoological Society of Florida and Miami Metrozoo congratulate...

Adam Stern, Senior Children's Zoo Keeper, won Tenth Mention for his entry of the "Sucker-mouth Catfish" in the Photographic Competition "Zoom on the invasives" sponsored by the World Conservation Union (IUCN). The IUCN's mission is to influence, encourage and assist societies throughout the world to conserve the integrity and diversity of nature and to ensure that any use of natural resources is equitable and ecologically sustainable. With members from 140 countries, the IUCN has more than 10,000 internationally-recognized scientists and experts from more than 180 countries who volunteer their services to its six global commissions.



Sucker-mouth Catfish

PHOTO: ADAM STERN

Ron Magill, Communications Director, will receive the 2005 "Huellas Astrales Dr. Rolando Millás Award" for Science on April 24th at the J.W. Marriott in Miami. The Board of Latin American Friends of the Museum of Science has appointed Magill for being an exemplar individual who has contributed his talent to science. Magill is being awarded along with several other important community members, including Javier Romero, Sandra Peebles and Mike Lowell who have also contributed their talents to our society.

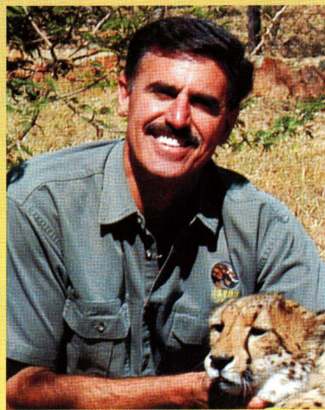


PHOTO: RON MAGILL



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