



What's New at the Zoo?

The Calgary Zoological Society Newsletter

Spring 2009

Koala ambassadors arrive in Calgary

They're here! The Calgary Zoo is thrilled to host two male koalas as part of the San Diego Zoo Koala Education and Conservation Loan Program. The process to bring the koalas, Mundooie and Budaru, to Calgary started almost six months ago with applications for import permits and the start of construction on a new habitat in the zoo's Australia building.

Koala caretakers

A team of two full-time zookeepers, Barb Campbell and Cindy Kam, and relief zookeeper Kati Hrynewich are responsible for the day-to-day care of Mundooie and Budaru. Taking care of koalas takes special knowledge, so training is an important part of the loan program. Two weeks before the koalas' arrival, Barb travelled to San Diego Zoo to spend time with the koalas and for training. Barb made the return trip to

Calgary with the koalas and a zookeeper from San Diego who stayed during the koalas' first two weeks in Calgary to ensure they settled into their new surroundings comfortably and to provide training for the other members of the Calgary Zoo's team.

Both Barb and Cindy worked with koalas when they last visited in 1999. "Some of my most vivid memories are spending time on my hands and knees counting poop," recalls Barb.

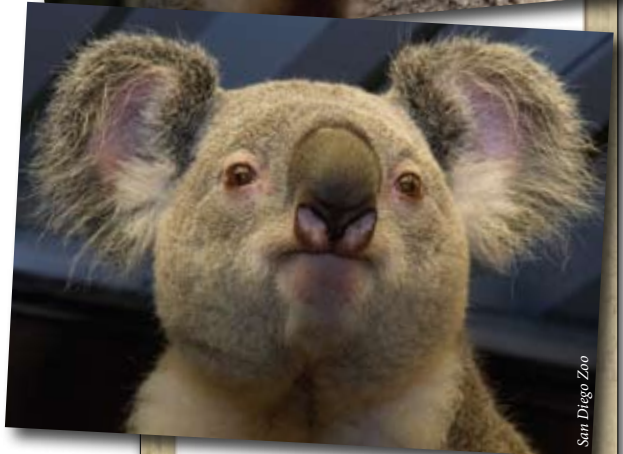
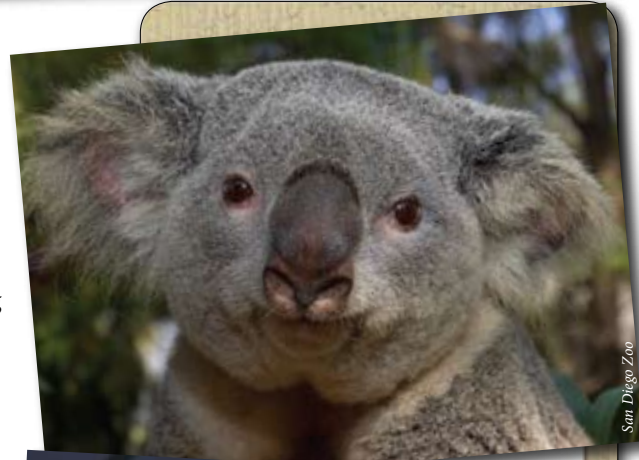
Zookeepers weigh the koalas and their poop every day to make sure they are eating enough and taking in enough water. Koalas don't drink so they get their liquids from the eucalyptus they eat.

Picky eaters

As a northern zoo, providing food for koalas is a bit tricky. Zookeepers have a selection of eucalyptus because koalas are picky eaters with discerning taste buds.

Continued on page 2.

Zookeepers Barb Campbell (left) and Cindy Kam (right) in the new koala habitat.



Meet Mundooie and Budaru

Mundooie (top) and Budaru (bottom), both males, were selected as koala ambassadors because they are not currently part of the San Diego Zoo koala breeding program. Mundooie, whose name is an Aboriginal word meaning 'foot', was born in May 2000. Budaru is named after a place in Australia and was born in April 2004. Both will be at the zoo until mid-September.



A big "ta" to our sponsors (It's Aussie for thank you)

Thank you to our community sponsors, FT Services, FedEx and Sunwest Aviation for making the koalas' visit to the zoo possible.

"We are excited about this unique opportunity to support conservation while providing an educational experience that highlights our Australian connection in the Calgary community," says Andy Mackintosh, President and CEO of FT Services.





KOALAS

Koalas

Continued from page 1.

"They often have a favourite flavour of the day and will turn up their noses at anything else," explains Barb.



©iStockphoto.com/leptiphys

Koalas eat only about 120 of the world's 600 species of eucalyptus.

The zoo's koala visitors eat eucalyptus leaves shipped twice weekly from Arizona by FedEx. "FedEx has a long history of transporting rare and delicate cargo. When the Calgary Zoo told us about the need for a timely and reliable shipping solution for the eucalyptus the koalas eat, we were happy to help," says Stephen Anderson, Senior Communications Specialist at FedEx Express Canada.

Eucalyptus is toxic to most animals, but koalas have special teeth and stomachs to eat it. Eucalyptus takes a long time to digest, so they spend 18 to 20 hours each day resting in tree forks and snack four to six times a day between snoozes. "It's a treat to see them, even when they're sleeping," says Barb. "As zookeepers, we are happy to see these beautiful animals resting – it means that they are content and feel safe."

What's New at the Zoo?

A Calgary Zoological Society newsletter for members.

Published four times per year by
The Calgary Zoological Society
1300 Zoo Road NE
Calgary, Alberta T2E 7V6
403-232-9300
www.calgaryzoo.com

© 2009, The Calgary Zoological Society.
All rights reserved.

Editor:
Michelle Woodard

Contributors:
Sandie Black, Estelle Blair,
Julie Ann Gauthier, Laura Glick,
Anna Hargreaves, Jill Hockaday,
Corinne Hannah, Doug Whiteside.

Koala FAQs

Following are some of the most commonly asked questions during the koalas' last visit to the zoo in 1999. We hope you enjoy this rare and unique opportunity to see these amazing animals.

Are they soft?

"Yes! Their thick, woolly fur and 'teddy bear' expressions give koalas a cuddly appearance, but the claws they use to hold onto trees can make them a bit of a handful," explains zookeeper Barb Campbell. "Our koala visitors are native to the warmest climates in Australia so they have less fur than koalas from cooler places." Their fur protects them from both high and low temperatures and also acts like a raincoat to repel moisture when it rains.

Why do they stink?

"Male koalas definitely have a strong odour – they smell a bit like stinky sweat socks," says Barb. "The first thing they do is mark their trees using a dark-coloured scent gland on their chests." The scent gland is easy to see and is often mistaken for a pouch.

Why are they separated?

"Koalas like to see and call to each other, but they are very particular about their trees. It's the same in the wild – they live in loosely overlapping territories within eucalyptus forests," explains Barb.

Koalas spend almost all of their time up in the trees. They can move between branches and only venture down to the ground to move from one tree to the other. They walk with an awkward looking gait and can run, if they need to.



©iStockphoto.com/JonasEriksson

Did you know
that koala is an
aboriginal word that
means "no drink?"

Want to learn more? Check
out our koala education
programs on page 10!

Aren't they called koala bears?

Koalas are not true bears nor are they closely related. "Koalas belong to a group of animals called marsupials," explains Barb. "Make sure to visit some of their relatives – kangaroos and feather-tailed gliders – in the Australia and Creatures of the Night Building."

Is this as big as they get?

"It depends on location of home range," says Barb. "Koalas in cold southern regions are larger than their relatives in warmer northern regions." The largest males reach 10 - 12 kilograms and smaller males are around 5.5 kilograms. Females are generally smaller than males.

Contributing to koala conservation

The Calgary Zoo is contributing to conservation work in Australia as part of the San Diego Zoo Koala Education and Conservation Loan Program. Overall, koalas are a protected species, but the eucalyptus trees they need for food are not. The biggest threat to koalas is loss of habitat. When they are forced into urban areas they face a new set of problems including swimming pools, power lines and traffic. And more than 4000 koalas are killed each year by domestic cats and dogs.



Growing by leaps and bounds

An update on giraffe calf Sherri

Running, ruminating and resting with her mom are the order of the day for Sherri, the zoo's giraffe calf born last July. In the past several months, Sherri has done a lot of growing – she's now over 2.4 metres (eight feet) tall, about 43 centimetres (17 inches) taller than when she was born. Giraffes are the tallest animals in the world and Sherri could reach up to 5.5 metres (18 feet) by the time she is full grown at five years of age.

"Giraffe calves are quite dependent on their moms, but Sherri is bit more independent than usual," says zookeeper Mona Keith. "She can be pretty bold with the other giraffes, but gets a gentle reminder from her dad, Tenga, when she forgets the rules."

Today, Sherri eats hay, pellets and will continue nursing from her mom Carrie, until she is between nine and 12 months

old. Next on the menu are fruits, veggies and browse (leaves from trees and bushes). Giraffes are ruminants which means they have stomachs with compartments to digest their food. After chewing and swallowing their food the first time, perhaps later in the day when they are resting, the partially-digested food (cud) can travel back up their throats and into their mouths for more grinding. The cud goes down and continues through the other compartments to be thoroughly digested. Sherri started to "ruminant" at about four months old.

One of Sherri's biggest milestones was her first visit outside when she was three days old. Most of the other 14 giraffe calves born at the zoo since 1967 have been winter babies and haven't made their outside debuts until they were several months old. "Sherri



Bill Quayle

Sherri, the zoo's giraffe calf, with zookeeper Mona Keith. Sherri was named by Calgary Zoo donors Mike and Sherri Balm in September 2008.

loves to run," says Mona. "She's fast, but her dad Tenga is still faster. Adult giraffes can run up to 55 kilometres per hour, but generally only when they're startled. Young giraffes run for fun."

Eventually, Sherri will leave the zoo to join another herd at a different accredited zoo. Make sure to enjoy her while she makes the Calgary Zoo her home!

Hellos and goodbyes

Stay up-to-date on new animals at the zoo, animals that have moved to another part of the zoo and others we've said goodbye to.



Gibbon gets female friend

We are happy that Tunku, our male gibbon, has a new friend. The female gibbon, named Sukuru (pictured here), is

keeping Tunku company in their habitat in the South America building.



Kathleen Hewitt

Rescue birds ambassadors for their species

The Calgary Zoo and the Calgary Humane Society partnered to help two beautiful hyacinth macaws find a home at the zoo. Hyacinths are one of the world's largest parrots and an endangered species. The pair is now part of the zoo's Education Department where they will play an important role in educating the community about exotic birds. You can see them in the South America building sharing space with the zoo's anteaters.



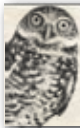
Plans for new troop members

Zoo animal care staff are working with the Bronx Zoo to make arrangements for two male and two female western lowland gorillas to join the zoo's troop. There are no exact dates yet, but progress is being made on the transfer. Watch for updates in future newsletters.

Goodbye to Malti

The zoo would like to thank everyone for their condolences for the loss of Malti, the zoo's young elephant. On November 1, 2008, Malti lost the battle against the devastating elephant herpesvirus that had afflicted her in the week preceding her death.

During her short life, Malti made a true impact on zoo staff, volunteers and visitors and a significant contribution as an ambassador for her species.



Ask a zookeeper

In our November issue, we invited you to send us your questions for our zookeepers. We love to get your questions, keep sending them to: michellew@calgaryzoo.ab.ca. You might see the answer in one of our future issues!

Where do you keep your crocodile eggs?

From Ruby, Age 4

You might have noticed our volunteer educators, also known as docents, around the zoo with biofacts, including crocodile eggs. Some of the zoo's more than 2400 biofacts are real and others are replicas, but they all help docents and education staff at the zoo teach our visitors about animals and nature. Biofacts include everything from a tiger's pelt to owl pellets.

We have several locations throughout the zoo where we keep biofacts, including crocodile eggs, for use in our education programs and by docents. These areas aren't open to the public, but we make sure to have our biofacts out on grounds as often as possible so people can see and touch these amazing pieces of nature.

Zoo educator Dawna Sagi with the zoo's crocodile egg biofact.



The road less travelled

A self-guided winter walk through our northern wonderland

Bundle up and immerse yourself in a northern wonderland right in the heart of the city – the zoo's Canadian Wilds. The animals are used to mounds of snow and chilly wind so you may see all sorts of activity in the quieter winter months.

Start your tour at the Canadian Wilds entrance at the north end of the Baines Bridge. After passing cougars and bears in their winter homes (our bears do not hibernate because they have access to food year-round), you'll find one of the few social predators, our pack of wolves.

Just howling around

The four female wolves can often be seen exploring their environment and keenly observing visitors. Our pack includes Arctic and grey wolves that have been together since they were young pups. Like a wild pack, they have a leader, or alpha female, that guides daily activities such as eating. Their favourite foods in the wild are hoof stock animals including deer, caribou and moose, though they will also eat smaller prey.

Bison herd takes on a "Blizzard"

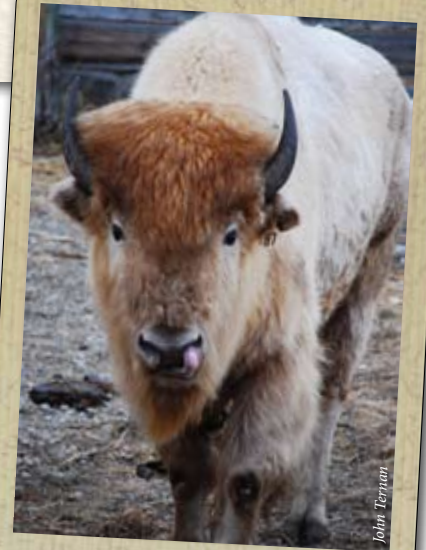
The wolves' neighbour is too large to be a prey animal – wood bison tip the scales at between 300 and 900 kilograms. These large herbivores are social creatures and are found in herds up to 30 animals strong.



Top: Grey wolf
Bottom: Arctic wolf



North American porcupine



Blizzard, a white buffalo visiting from Assiniboine Park Zoo in Winnipeg.

Visiting our one female and juvenile bison in their main habitat is Blizzard, a three-and-a-half-year-old male white buffalo from Assiniboine Park Zoo in Winnipeg. At first glance, you might think that Blizzard is an albino – as his name hints he is all white – but his colouring is due to a rare genetic occurrence where dark pigment is absent in an animal's fur. White bison are extremely rare and have great spiritual significance in the First Nations' plains culture.

Heading northwest along the path from the bison habitat, you will pass by Dall's sheep, an aviary with many birds of prey including great horned owls, and Rocky Mountain goats.

A prickly group

As you round the curve past the bighorn sheep, look down and see if you can spot Canada's second-largest rodents (only beavers are bigger) – North American porcupines. You can often spot our females, Kakwa, Needles

and her daughter, Pins, snoozing in a hollowed log. If the weather is warmer, they will amble around for a short time to munch on greens and the occasional veggie treat.

– Laura Glick,
Education
Program
Supervisor



Alpine ibex “Izzy” gets special care from medical experts inside and outside the zoo

Have you ever noticed signs that say “Animal under veterinary care” in some animal habitats at the zoo? These four simple words represent our commitment to providing excellent health care for all of the zoo’s animals.

Working together to provide excellent veterinary care

Our veterinary team works closely with the zoo’s animal care staff to ensure our animals get the procedures and treatments they need to treat illnesses or injuries. In special cases, we also draw upon the experience and generosity of a number of veterinary and human medical specialists in the community including surgeons, anesthesiologists, radiologists, oncologists, ophthalmologists, internal medicine specialists and pediatric neurologists. In addition, we communicate with other zoo veterinarians from around the world to ensure our animals receive the best and most current treatments available.

Izzy’s trip to the Animal Health Centre

A great example of what can happen when we work with other veterinary specialists is the case of our 10-year-old female Alpine ibex (*Capra ibex*) named “Isabella” or “Izzy” for short. Izzy is easy

to recognize because she was born with her right ear missing. When she was about six years old, she developed a limp on her left front leg associated with arthritis in her carpus, or wrist. Initially we used medication to manage her pain, but over time the treatments lost their effectiveness.

After consulting with Dr. Remedios, a veterinary surgeon at Western Veterinary Specialists in Calgary, we decided that surgery to fuse the bones in her wrist was the best long term option. After Izzy was placed under anesthesia, surgery was carried out by Dr. Remedios and the veterinary team to prepare the wrist bones to allow them to fuse. Then a 17-centimetre-long stainless steel plate was surgically centred over Izzy’s wrist joint and attached with 11 bone screws. Izzy recovered well from the surgery and for eight weeks had a cast to provide additional support. When radiographs (often called x-rays) showed that she was fully healed, we removed her cast, and she did very well on her reconstructed limb.

For over three years after surgery, Izzy was able to navigate the rocks and logs in her zoo habitat. However one day in late November 2008, after jumping down from the rocks, she reinjured her left forelimb. X-rays showed that she had fractured her radius, one of the bones in her leg, at the first screw that secured her stainless steel plate. Once again, we consulted with Dr. Remedios and decided that a longer plate was necessary to bridge the fracture and continue to provide the support Izzy needs for her active lifestyle. Izzy underwent a second surgery by Dr. Remedios to remove the original stainless steel plate and replace it with a new 23-centimetre plate attached with 18 bone screws.

Izzy recovered well over the next few days. Her stitches were removed three weeks after the surgery and she enjoyed



Izzy at the Animal Health Centre in December all decked out in her festive cast.

some rest and relaxation time in December at the Animal Health Centre where her leg continued to heal under her festive cast.

In the wild, injured wild mountain goats inevitably fall prey to predators or starvation. Because Izzy lives at the Calgary Zoo, we were able to provide her with the best medical care possible. Watch for Izzy back on top of the mountain in her habitat just inside the zoo’s West Entrance.

- Dr. Doug Whiteside and
Dr. Sandie Black, Zoo Veterinarians



An x-ray of Izzy’s leg three weeks after her latest surgery shows good healing already underway. You can see the 23-centimetre stainless steel plate and 18 bone screws that bridge the fracture and provide support.

Did you know?

The Zoo’s Animal Health Centre has two veterinarians, one veterinary intern, three animal health technologists, and two zookeepers. Combined they share over 150 years of zoological experience.



CONSERVATION OUTREACH

Zoo supports shining example of conservation in Kenya

Home to East Africa's largest rhino population, one of Kenya's most important populations of reticulated giraffes, a herd of 300 elephants and the world's largest single group of endangered Grevy's zebra, Lewa Wildlife Conservancy is a shining example of leadership in animal conservation. But at Lewa, the story is about more than the animals.

Today, over 30 years after it was founded, Lewa works with its surrounding communities to ensure they directly benefit from wildlife conservation. Over 1200 people, mostly local Samburu people, are employed in research, tourism and community-building activities. In large part, income from tourism flows back to communities and supports drinking water projects, health clinics, schools and other community-building enterprises.

"If you closed your eyes and dreamed of what the zoo's flagship conservation project – the Wechiau Community Hippo Sanctuary – could be 30 years from now, it would be Lewa," says Brian Keating, the Zoo's Head of Conservation Outreach. "We are proud to continue to support Lewa and its important work. They are a global leader in demonstrating how private landowners and local people can make a difference in conservation."

From cattle ranch to rhino reserve

In the late 1970s, Ian Craig took over his family ranch called Lewa Downs to run a cattle operation. After realizing that raising cattle in a drought-stricken land had no future, he became interested in land conservancy. A short time later the Lewa

Did you know?

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy is one of many national and international projects supported by the Zoo's Conservation Fund each year.



©iStockphoto.com/EcoPic

Lewa Wildlife Conservancy was founded over 30 years ago to breed endangered rhinos. Today it is a model of conservation for several species.

Wildlife Conservancy was born with the original goal of breeding endangered white and black rhinos.

"Fast forward thirty-odd years and an amazing transformation has taken place," says Kevin Strange, Senior Advisor, Conservation Outreach. "Ian has devoted almost all of his land holdings to the conservation enterprise and has convinced a dozen local communities to join the project. In all, the Northern Rangelands Trust controls 800,000 acres with Lewa as its flagship property."

What was once an overgrazed landscape in which local people struggled to survive is now a conservancy that supports thousands of individual endangered animals. And Lewa is fast becoming one of Africa's experts on transferring some of these endangered animals back into protected areas throughout east Africa.

A Grevy's zebra. Lewa is home to the world's single largest herd of this endangered species.



Les Stegenga

ZOOFARIS



Photo: L. Stegenga

Discover Life on Earth!

2009 DEPARTURES

EGYPT & JORDAN: Mar. 2-22 w/Barb Campbell. CA\$8,679 from Cairo. Pyramids, Luxor, Aswan, Petra, Wadi Rum, Dead Sea.

PERU SPRING BREAK: Mar. 21-Apr. 1 w/Judy Archer. CA\$4,115/child; \$4,250/teen; \$4,295/adult. Spring Break. Great family adventure!

CHINA: Apr. 11 - 30 w/Gayleen Jorgensen. CA\$5,725 from Beijing. Great Wall, Forbidden City, Terra Cotta Warriors, Li River, Lijiang, Tibetan Zhongdian & Shanghai. Special feature: Giant Pandas.

SUMMER SAFARIS - Great for families:

ECUADOR: June 28-July 17 w/Gayleen Jorgensen. CA\$7,050/child; \$7,790/adult, from Quito. Amazon, Andes & Galapagos.

KENYA - 2 departures: July 1-17 w/Margie Woo; July 31-Aug. 16 w/Laura Glick. CA\$6,275/child; \$7,395/teen; \$7,950/adult. 2 spaces left (looking for roommates for a male and a female). Masai Mara, Samburu & beach time.

TANZANIA: July 9-27 w/Les O'Brien. CA\$4,899/child; \$6,265/teen; \$6,575/adult. Ngorongoro Crater, Serengeti & Zanzibar.

CHINA ECLIPSE QUEST: July 9 - 23 w/Don Hladiuk. CA\$3,850 from Hong Kong. Longest eclipse of the 21st century from our exclusive viewing site plus great touring.

KENYA & TANZANIA - Fall Safaris

(1) Sept. 11-28 w/Les O'Brien.
(2) Sept. 21 - Oct. 8 w/Barb Campbell. CA\$8,779 from Nairobi. Classic East Africa: Samburu, Ngorongoro, and the amazing migration.

BORNEO: Sept. 29 - Oct. 21 w/Anne Wolever. CA\$5,450 from Kuching. Search for orangutan, Bornean elephant, and Sumatran rhino in this seemingly untouched world.

INDOCHINA: Sept. 25 - Oct. 13 w/Denell Falk. CA\$6,625 from Hanoi. Truly amazing! UNESCO sites (Halong Bay, Hoi An, Temples of Angkor & Luang Prabang) & Mekong Delta.

2010 trips coming soon!

Start planning now for your next trip. Supporting Conservation Outreach. Call Civilized Adventures at 403-205-4120 or see www.civilizedadv.com

HORTICULTURE AND CONSERVATION

It's thumbs up for umbrella bamboo

Bamboo that is hardy for Calgary? You bet! After three years of evaluation in the Alberta Perennial Trials umbrella bamboo (*Fargesia murielae*) gets the nod from our test site in the Dorothy Harvie Gardens. Certainly the maximum height of 60 centimetres fell short of the three to four metres of growth expected in warmer climates but our specimens definitely had the cute factor.

Native to China, this species is the hardiest of all bamboos and one of the most beautiful. Arching stems, graceful fine-textured foliage, bluish new growth and a tidy clumping habit make umbrella bamboo a desirable ornamental.

Position your umbrella bamboo in a sheltered location in your garden. Cool morning sun only and evenly moist soil will ensure best results. Although our specimens did not receive any special treatment, topping plants with winter mulch may improve



overall performance. Colourful brochures recounting Alberta Perennial Trial graduates like the umbrella bamboo are available at the zoo's North Star gift shop, with new results now available annually.

– Corinne Hannah, Horticulturist

Help the ENMAX Conservatory grow



As a member of the Calgary Zoo we invite you to participate in a very unique part of our history and our future.

The Calgary Zoo will complete the upgrades and renovation of the ENMAX Conservatory and redesign of the Dorothy Harvie Gardens by November 2009. This project is budgeted at \$25 million. We've have been very successful in garnering financial support from the City of Calgary, the Province of Alberta, corporate businesses and special friends like you in our community.

Make your mark on our unique donor tree

An artistically unique donor tree, located in the main entrance of the ENMAX Conservatory, will offer giving levels of \$500, \$1,000, \$5,000, and \$10,000 and up. It's a perfect gift for the mom and dad who have everything, daughter or son, grandchild, really any family member.

Some of our friends have already stepped forward; if you or your company has already made a contribution to this project, we thank you and urge you to consider making an additional gift. If you have not yet made your donation, we would ask you to please send it as soon as you can – online, by calling 403-232-7774 or at the zoo. Please visit www.calgaryzoo.com for details on the giving options that are part of this exciting project.

Every gift makes a difference!

Please visit www.calgaryzoo.com or call 403-232-7774 to give your gift right away.

New youth volunteer program launched

If you enjoy the zoo and want to get to know the animals even better than you know them now, volunteering is a great way to get started. The zoo's new youth volunteer program is scheduled to launch this summer. For more information, including a program snapshot and to download an application form, please visit the Volunteering section at www.calgaryzoo.com.



Annual General Meeting

Discovery Passport members are invited to attend the Calgary Zoological Society's Annual General Meeting.

**Wednesday, April 29
4:00 pm
Safari Lodge Canada**

Please enter the zoo through the former south entrance (at the Security Building). For more information, please contact Marlene Taverner at 403-232-9319.



CONSERVATION RESEARCH

Meet Ghana's amphibians

Alberta is home to 12 amphibian species – not bad for such a cold, dry place, but we've got nothing on West African countries like Ghana. Only half the size of Alberta, Ghana contains an amazing 76 amphibian species: 75 frogs and toads, and one caecilian, a type of limbless, underground amphibian only found in the tropics.

Teaming up to save amphibian species

West Africa is not only a hot spot for amphibian diversity but also for threatened species. Sadly, many are at risk of losing their habitat; Ghana has one of the highest deforestation rates in West Africa. The good news is that most amphibians don't need a lot of space, so conserving small pieces of high quality habitat can make a big difference. The Nature Conservation Research Centre and the Calgary Zoo are working to protect natural areas in Ghana – saving Ghana's amphibian riches is just one of many potential benefits from these community-based conservation initiatives.



P. Naskrecki

Amphibian hot spots

Why does West Africa have so many amphibians? Almost all groups of plants and animals are more diverse the closer you get to the equator, but amphibians especially tend to thrive in moist, tropical areas. One reason is that amphibians are ectotherms, or 'cold-blooded', and tend to do better in warmer climates. Another reason is their amazing skin, which is so permeable they can breathe through it! This enables many species to spend long periods of time underwater, but the downside is that amphibians dehydrate faster than mammals, birds or reptiles. Only a few, highly specialized amphibian species can survive in very dry areas without permanent water bodies so most prefer to hang out where it's humid, like the coastal forests of West Africa.

Weird and wonderful frogs

In addition to high species diversity, Ghana and West Africa also contain many evolutionarily unique species of frogs. For example, the Togo slippery frog belongs to a small family that diverged from other amphibians five million years before dinosaurs became extinct – that's a lot of evolutionary time. This tiny species is only found in the highlands of Togo and Ghana. Surprisingly, this small species is closely related to the largest frog on earth, the Goliath frog of Cameroon, which can grow as big as a large house cat!

– Anna Hargreaves

Left: This 'swamp frog' (Amietophrynus togoensis) breeds in slow moving streams. To stop its eggs from being washed away it glues them to the ground with mud.



**Ghana,
West Africa**



J. Yonash



©Mark-Oliver Rödel

Above Left: This brave and widespread frog named Hylarana albolabris is found in southern Ghana and much of West Africa. Why is it brave? It breeds in streams associated with dwarf crocodiles!

Above Right: The Yapo River Frog (Phrynobatrachus villiersi). This Ghanaian frog depends on undisturbed old growth forest, which is in short supply these days. Females lay eggs in small, dried-out puddles just before it rains and the tadpoles live in the puddle until they change (metamorphose) into frogs.

**Join us for
our first ever
research talks!**

Free with zoo admission!

**Are heavy metals dragging down
Canada's Arctic shorebirds?**

Tuesday, March 10

Savannah Classroom – 1:40 - 2:10 pm

**Gas-field swift fox: finding foxes
where no-one has gone before**

Wednesday, June 24

Savannah Classroom – 1:40 - 2:10 pm

Husky Energy Endangered Species Reintroduction Research Program

Husky Energy is a proud sponsor of the Husky Energy Endangered Species Reintroduction Research Program at the Calgary Zoo's Centre for Conservation Research. This program is vital to the preservation of endangered species in Alberta and Canada and demonstrates Husky's stewardship and support for the ecosystems on which we all depend.





A glimpse into nightlife on the Prairies

There's more going on after dark on the Prairies than you might think. Researchers are getting amazing glimpses of swift foxes and a few other species, using motion-sensor camera trapping. But the images the cameras capture are more than just pretty pictures. They are giving researchers with the zoo's Centre for Conservation Research (CCR) a chance to see how endangered species, such as swift foxes, behave in the dark.

CCR researchers use the cameras, along with other research tools such as spotlighting and catch and release trapping, in industrialized areas of southwestern Saskatchewan to find out how swift foxes behave around human-made structures.

The information will help researchers decide which habitat conservation measures will be most effective for this endangered species. To make the best choices, they need to know how the animals interact with both natural and human-made features in their environments.

In order to capture a perfect shot, cameras are aimed at a wooden post, scented with mackerel oil as bait. Without



A swift fox is captured on film using motion-sensor camera trapping techniques that are part of a CCR research project.

a flash, the only evidence of the camera is a small red light which, judging by the photos of animals caught eyeing the lens, seems to attract much curiosity.

With the research in its initial stages, these cameras have already proven to be very successful. The photos not only provide a picture of nightlife on the Canadian prairies, but also give researchers and resource managers the information they need to help sustain the swift fox population and its grassland habitat.

Swift fox genetic research supported by Provident Energy

The CCR's new swift fox genetic research project sponsored by Provident Energy will gather information needed to evaluate the genetic diversity of the swift fox population on the Canadian prairies. Using fur samples collected over the last 13 years, this study will result in a wealth of data regarding swift fox breeding, dispersal behaviour and abundance. This information is crucial to estimate the sustainability of the Canadian swift fox population and to help implement better conservation initiatives on a continental scale.

Through its sponsorship, Provident Energy is helping us answer questions and ensure the recovery of swift foxes in Canada.



Lu Carbyn

Meet the swift fox

Species: *Vulpes velox*

Claim to fame: Lives up to its name – can run at remarkable speeds of up to 60 kilometres per hour (cyclist Lance Armstrong pedals at an average of 40 km/h)!

Size: One of the smallest members of the canid family (which also includes wolves, coyotes and dogs). About the size of a house cat – 2.5 kilograms.

Why are they endangered? Trapping, habitat loss, predation and poisoning. Have been reintroduced in Canada, but conservation is still important.

Food: Rabbits, rodents, birds, insects and vegetation.

Amazing adaptability: Are able to hunt in +40 degree heat and -40 degree snow storms.

Home range: Short and medium mixed grass prairie, from southern Alberta and Saskatchewan to Mexico.

Swift foxes at the Zoo? Come meet Beren and Foxy Cleopatra in the Canadian Wilds area of the Zoo. They're nocturnal (active at night), so the best times to visit are first thing in the morning or in the late afternoon.



Events & Edventures

Breakfast with the Koalas

Come on down mate! Fill up on a hot pancake "brekkie" at Kitamaba Cafe and listen to some "kool" stuff about koalas. Go on a short walkabout over to the Australia building and take a gander at our visitors from San Diego. You will get a private viewing of these non-bears while the zookeeper completes her morning routine. Ages five and older only.

Dates: Saturday, March 7,
Sunday, March 15,
Saturday, March 21 **or**
Sunday, March 29

Visit www.calgaryzoo.com for additional dates.

Time: 7:45 - 9:15 am

Cost: Adult \$45 Child \$29 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)



Bill Quayle

Elite Eat – Koalas

Join us for a very special opportunity to meet the koalas! Start the night with cocktails and a special peek at our koalas before they tuck themselves in for the night. Then, head

back to Safari Lodge for a fabulous "Down Under" dinner and a pouch-full of koala stories and pictures from our very own koala zookeeper and zoo veterinarian. You'll learn about the importance of koalas, their conservation and the zoo loan program. Price includes dinner, program and koala visit. Please note: seating will be preassigned in tables of six based on when program tickets were purchased.

Date: Wednesday, April 8

Time: 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Cost: \$75 per person

In the Heat of the Night

New Location!

This romantic evening includes a delicious candlelit dinner buffet in the zoo's Safari Lodge. Follow dinner with a naughty talk about the mind boggling world of critter romance! The program includes dinner, a natural history presentation, live music and a cash bar. Adults Only.

You can also surprise your sweetie with a plush turtle for only \$10!



Dates: February 13 **or** 14

Time: 6:00 - 10:00 pm

Cost: \$80 per person for tables for two,
\$75 per person for tables of four or six

For more information and to book your table, call Estelle at 403-232-9362.

Now our education programs are only a click away

We're excited to announce that you can now register for many of our education programs online. Programs with a computer mouse icon beside the dates are available for online registration at www.calgaryzoo.com.



Safari Brunch has returned for 2009!

Visit www.calgaryzoo.com for details.



presents



easter

eggstravaganza

**Friday, April 10 and
Saturday, April 11
9:00 am to 4:00 pm**

Hop on down for some Easter fun! Enjoy entertainment and maybe even a treat from the Cadbury Bunny. It will be an egg-stra special Easter at the Calgary Zoo!

This is a value-added event, regular Zoo admission applies.

ANIMAL AND BEHIND-THE-SCENES PROGRAMS



Behind the Scenes with Lions

New Dates!

Discover our pride ... of lions, that is! This popular program includes an interactive and informative talk about lions followed by an unforgettable opportunity to join zookeepers behind the scenes. Maximum group size is 20 people. Ages eight and older only. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Dates: Saturday, February 21,
Saturday, March 28,
Sunday, April 19 or
Saturday, May 23

Time: 12:15 - 1:30 pm

Cost: Adult \$60 Child \$55 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Behind the Scenes with Tigers

New Dates!

Discover interesting facts about Siberian (Amur) tigers, their adaptations, behaviours and more. Then enjoy a fascinating feline encounter. Maximum group size is 20 people. Ages five and older only. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult. Register early for this popular program!

Dates: Saturday, March 14,
Sunday, March 29,
Saturday, April 11, Sunday, April 26,
Saturday, May 16 (Adults Only) or
Sunday, May 31

Time: 1:45 - 3:00 pm

Cost: Adult \$60 Child \$55 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Zookeeper for a Day

Ever dreamed of being a zookeeper? Spend the day with the zoo's animal care staff and help them prepare meals, feed animals, clean habitats, change exhibits, learn about our animal enrichment program and Species Survival Plans, and more. This popular program is available a limited number of times each month. Choose from Destination Africa (mostly indoors), Eurasian Carnivores (outdoors), Canadian Wilds (outdoors). Adults only. Call Estelle at 403-232-9362 for more information.

Date: Based on availability

Time: 7:00 am - 2:30 pm

Cost: \$375

Behind the Scenes with Giraffes

New Dates!

Find out what it's like to stand right beside a giraffe – see how long their eyelashes are and learn what colour their tongues are! Enjoy an interactive interpretive talk, then journey behind the scenes and meet the giraffes up close. Maximum group size is 40 people. Ages five and older only. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Dates: Sunday, March 8,
Saturday, April 4 or Sunday, May 3

Time: 1:45 - 3:00 pm

Cost: Adult \$60 Child \$55 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Red Panda Zookeeper Workshop

New Dates!



Get nose-to-nose with red pandas, Bactrian camels, fallow deer and pot-bellied pigs.

Experience part of a zookeeper's morning routine and get hands-on experience with activities that could include preparing food, cleaning habitats and participating in the animal enrichment program. Group size is limited to four to provide an unforgettable experience. Ages eight and older only.

Children must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Date: Saturday, March 21,
Saturday, April 4, Saturday, April 18,
Saturday, May 2 or Saturday, May 23

Time: 8:30 - 10:00 am

Cost: Adult \$95 Child \$75

Behind the Scenes with Bears

New!



Bears are the ultimate symbol of Canadian wilderness. Join a zoo interpreter for a private program about these fascinating and complex animals. Then, meet a zookeeper for a truly unique behind-the-scenes experience with our bears. Maximum group size is 25 people. Ages five and older only. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Dates: Saturday, April 25 or
Sunday, May 17

Time: 10:15 - 11:30 am

Cost: Adult \$60 Child \$55
(10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Around the Globe Animal Tour and Behind the Scenes

New!

Join us as we "travel" to visit magnificent animals found around the world. The program includes three behind-the-scenes experiences as well as informative tours and interpretive talks. Adults only.

Date: Saturday, May 30

Time: 9:45 am - 3:30 pm

Cost: \$180 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Elephant Encounter

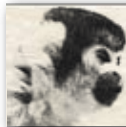
New!

Ever wonder what the largest animal at the zoo has for a snack? Learn about elephants through an interpretive talk and then visit with members of our herd and even get a chance to feed them a healthy treat. Maximum group size is 25 people. Ages five and older only. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult. Allergy alert: peanuts. Please note that this is not a bath time program.

Date: Sunday, March 1,
Sunday, March 8,
Saturday, April 25 or
Sunday, May 24

Time: 12:15 - 1:30 pm

Cost: Adult \$70 Child \$65 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)



CHILD AND FAMILY PROGRAMS

Storytime at the Zoo

Listen to all your favourite zoo and animal stories in the Discovery Centre Atrium. Zoo education volunteers will read wonderful animal stories from a selection of children's books and show neat things for the kids to look at and touch, every Thursday. This program promotes literacy and animal awareness. Stories are suitable for children three to five years old.

Dates: Thursdays, February 5 - April 16
Time: 11:00 - 11:30 am
Cost: A donation of \$2 per child will be dedicated to the Zoo's education programs.



New Dates!

Kindermusik – Zoo Train

(Toddlers 1.5 – 3 years)

Your toddler and a train make a natural match – always on the move. Enjoy stuffed animals at the petting zoo (feel free to bring your own special animal). Wear long white socks on your hands for polar bear paws. Sing songs for clapping time and use music to help children regulate emotions. Each family receives a hardcover book, funky chunky animal shaker – in elephant or giraffe shapes (chosen at random), CD with slip-in lyric book, and home activities poster.

* For more program information please contact Best Beginnings at 403-455-5137.

Dates: Mondays, February 23 - March 23
Time: 9:30 - 10:30 am or 10:45 - 11:45 am
Cost: \$130 per child (One adult per child included in price)

New!



Northern Night Sleepover

Experience the mystery and magic of sleeping in Cequel Energy Lodge. Enjoy a starlit tour of the Northern Forest, games and activities, a late night snack and a special edu-tainment program. Awake to the playful antics of our river otters, enjoy a hot pancake breakfast and receive a day pass for admission to the zoo. Ages five and older only. Children must be accompanied by a paying adult.

Date: Overnight on Saturday, March 7
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 am
Cost: \$55 per person

Youth Group Zoo Sleepovers

Looking for something different for your Guide, Scout or youth group? Imagine sleeping on the African savannah, exploring Eurasia at night, discovering the wonders from Down Under or touring the Canadian Wilds by moonlight. Treat yourself to an amazing experience when you spend the night at the Calgary Zoo. All sleepover programs include a guided tour, interactive storytelling and songs, bedtime snack, buffet breakfast and a day pass for admission to the zoo. We'll even provide the cots, you just need to bring your sleeping bag and a sense of adventure! For more information, visit www.calgaryzoo.com or call 403-232-9353 to book your youth group sleepover. Cost is \$55 per person.



Home School Day

New!

Home schooled children get spring fever too! Join us at the zoo for a fun and educational field trip. Hands-on, interactive programs based on Alberta's curriculum give children from Kindergarten to grade six a unique learning experience – and we have something for preschoolers too. Learn about some of our resident reptiles, get to know our gorilla troop, or discover your green thumb! For details, visit www.calgaryzoo.com.

Preschool (18 months – 5 years)

Wee Wiggles – Reptiles 10:30 - 11:00 am
Wee Wiggles – Birds 1:30 - 2:00 pm

Grades 1 – 3

Life Cycles of the Young & Slimy 10:10 - 11:30 am
Connecting with Peru 1:10 - 2:30 pm

Grades 4 – 6

Green and Gorgeous 10:00 - 11:40 am
Wisdom of Gorillas 1:00 - 2:30 pm

All Ages

Reptile program 3:00 - 3:30 pm

Date: Friday, April 24
Time: See individual programs above
Cost: \$10 per child, per program



Birthday Party Package Includes:

- Admission to the Zoo for up to 20 people
- Themed activities
- A private room for cake and opening gifts
- A guided tour
- Beverages
- A special gift for the birthday child
- Birthday Party Host
- Zoonique treat bags available

Children 5-12 years old (2.5 hour party)
\$350 (\$325 for Calgary Zoo Discovery Passport Members)

Children 3-4 years old (1.5 hour party)
\$250 (\$225 for Calgary Zoo Discover Passport Members)

Call 232-9353 to register today or visit www.calgaryzoo.com for more information.

AVAILABLE ON SATURDAYS AND SUNDAYS YEAR ROUND.



Earth Day

Sunday, April 19

Celebrate Earth Day at the Calgary Zoo! We are your ultimate conservation resource for all things Earth Day – enjoy displays, demos and learning for the whole family.



© iStockphoto.com/PIKSEL

Hullabazoo

Proudly brought to you by 88.9 Shine FM & Calgary's Child Magazine

Saturday, May 9, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Bring your family to Hullabazoo – your whole herd will enjoy a fun-filled day!

- Go wild with our Scavenger Hunt and enter to win fabulous prizes.
- Join zoo naturalists for lively presentations throughout the day.
- Enjoy interactive theatre under the 'big top'!
- Bring giggles to your gang with our roving performers.
- Get your hands dirty in the Calgary Co-op plant-a-pot garden area – games, magic, crafts, face painting and more!

Admission: Free for zoo members. One free child's admission with each paid adult admission (must present online discount coupon available at www.calgaryschild.com, www.cjsi.ca or www.calgaryzoo.com).

Generously sponsored by the Calgary Zoo and Calgary Co-op.

Free for zoo members!



Get Ready for Zoo Camps

Children and teens can explore the zoo in our week-long day camp programs. Qualified staff design unique programs so kids can attend more than one week. A Calgary Zoo Summer Camp baseball cap or bucket hat is included with every registration! Bagged lunch options are available for \$45 per camper, per week. Visit www.calgaryzoo.com for more information.

Zoo Tots (ages 4-6)

Children ages 4 to 6 will enjoy a fun and educational half-day camp looking at animals through games, songs, activities, animal visits, stories and crafts.

Dates: Weekly June 29 - August 21

Time: 8:30 am - 12:00 pm **or** 12:45 - 4:15 pm, Monday Friday

Cost: \$144 per child (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Zoo Camps (grades 1-6)

Budding zoologists discover the natural world through activities, games, crafts, stories, interpretive programs and animal visits.

Dates: Weekly June 29 - August 21

Time: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

Cost: \$249 per child (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Art Camp (grades 3-6)

Art Camp includes all the same fun-filled activities as other summer zoo camps with an emphasis on art projects.

Dates: Weekly July 27 - August 21

Time: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

Cost: \$269 per child (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Youth Wildlife Workshop

Design and build enrichment projects for our animals and watch them enjoy your creations! Teens get a chance to explore animal behaviour, wildlife conservation and take on a leadership component with younger camps. Includes a half-day rafting component with RiverWatch water ecologists.

Dates: Weekly July 6 - August 14

Time: 8:30 am - 4:30 pm, Monday - Friday

Cost: \$254 per youth (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)



Registration

Please visit www.calgaryzoo.com for more information and to register. If



you do not have Internet access, please call us at 403-232-9300 and we can mail or fax registration forms to you. Register early to avoid disappointment!





ADULT PROGRAMS AND COURSES

Zoo Photo Safari



Our unique collection of plants, animals and birds makes for a sometimes challenging, but highly rewarding photography experience. Join instructor Barry Giles for a guided photo safari on grounds as you

explore some of the tricks of successful zoo photography. Cover a wide range of subject matter in the zoo's Canadian Wilds. Working knowledge of your camera and its functions is required. Adults only.

Date: Saturday, March 14 – Canadian Wilds
Time: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm
Cost: \$65

Green Home Care Products

New!

Learn how to create green home cleaning products using essential oils, beeswax, liquid catile soap, baking soda and vinegar. Take home an all-purpose cleaner for kitchen and bathroom counters, a window cleaner, wood polishing paste to revitalize any wood and a fabric softener for your wash. You'll also get tips and formulas for other household cleaning jobs. Presented by Soap and More.

Date: Thursday, March 19
Time: 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$50



Drawing and Mixed Media

New!

Are you looking to expand your drawing skills or give it a try for the first time? At the zoo we have the perfect environment with great subject matter year round! Using a variety of black and white and colour media

(soft pastels/conté crayon, ink and watercolour), join instructor Averie Moppett to explore drawing techniques and composition in this engaging class. Each session is unique so you are welcome to continue throughout the year. All levels welcome!

Dates: Tuesdays, March 31 - May 5
Time: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Cost: \$230 plus supplies

Create your own Spring Container

New!

Welcome spring with a container full of colour, designed for a sunny outdoor spot in your garden. Join instructor Kathleen Smyth to learn about which seasonal plants are the best to use and why, soil choices, and ongoing care. Then create your own container to take home. Hardy spring plants are the focus, with suggestions for updating your container as the season progresses. A great Mother's Day gift or special day spent with your mom. Bring your own container, small hand shovel and gloves. All other plants and supplies are included.

Date: Sunday, May 3
Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm
Cost: \$70 per person



Aromatherapy Candles

New!

Craft your own environmentally-friendly candles. You will make three container candles, one glass jar candle and one smaller glass container candle, a travelling aromatherapy candle in a metal tin and two natural tea lights. All supplies are included (non-lead cotton wick, essential oils, white and yellow beeswax and soy container wax.) Make them for yourself or as a great Mother's Day gift. Presented by Soap and More.

Date: Thursday, May 7
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Cost: \$45



A Journey to Africa

New adults only event!
Saturday, March 14
6:00 pm to 11:00 pm
\$75 per person +gst

These new cultural, interactive dinners have been designed to take you on an exotic journey without having to pack your bags!

Our first dinner will highlight Africa! Cocktail hour will feature African entertainers followed by a travelling dinner. Visit the food stations and sample African fare, followed by an interactive activity, a game or lesson all keeping with the theme. Enjoy your dessert while listening to one of our keepers talk about their favourite African animal!

This jam packed evening is a great value for only \$75.

Couples and singles welcome.

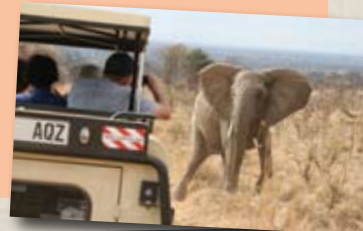
Cash bar available.



Speaker's Bureau

Are you looking for a unique speaker or presentation for your corporate event, banquet, community program or conference? The Calgary Zoo offers a wide variety of nature, travel and horticulture presentations that we can bring to you! Funds raised from these speaker programs support the zoo's conservation and education programs.

For more information, visit www.calgaryzoo.com or email gillianc@calgaryzoo.ab.ca.



Malcolm Lund

ADULT PROGRAMS AND COURSES



Window on the World Series

Join experienced naturalists, travellers and adventurers for slide shows and presentations that take you to remote corners of the world. Presentations are from 7:00 - 9:00 pm. Each presentation is \$18 per person (20% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*). Enjoy our enhanced intermission featuring touch tables and a coffee kiosk. For more information on each program, visit www.calgaryzoo.com.



Aspects of the Middle East

Lebanon, Syria and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan have rich cultural, historical and archaeological aspects. Join Andy Stuart-Hill on an adventure

down the Euphrates

River; camp in the Arabian desert with the ghost of Lawrence of Arabia; discover the Biblical Mount Nebo and swim in the Dead Sea. Andy's travel experience, insight and storytelling will take you back to the time of pilgrim ways, trade routes and Crusaders.

Date: Wednesday, February 25



Japan's Winter Wildlife

Join Trish Lund, the zoo's Senior Manager of Education, for a photo safari exploring Japan's untamed side. The scenery, animals and culture will surprise you.

Discover stunningly beautiful, but rare, Japanese cranes as they dance and display. Journey by boat in pack ice to discover Steller's sea eagles and enjoy spending some time with extraordinary Japanese macaques.

Date: Wednesday, April 22



Japanese macaque



Garth Irvine

Bringing Up Baby

Join Garth Irvine, gorilla zookeeper, for an entertaining and fascinating look at caring for these gentle giants. The past two years brought many challenges, including a new baby. Learn about the day-to-day care of our troop as well as the innovative and groundbreaking methods used to successfully raise baby Yewande.

New!

Date: Thursday, April 2
Time: 7:00 - 9:00 pm
Cost: \$18 (20% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)



Reinventure Travel Can Change Your Life

Travel allows us to reinvent ourselves over and over. Carol Patterson, former Calgary Zoo trustee and author of *Reinventure: How Travel Adventure Can Change Your Life*, believes no one comes home unchanged. Formerly an oil accountant, Carol used travel to create

a new career as an ecotourism planner. She will share stories from Africa, Iceland, and Borneo, and show how your life can be reinvigorated through travel.

Date: Thursday, April 30



New!

From Snow Fleas to Polar Bears

Join award-winning author Jamie Bastedo for a highly entertaining slide show exploring the fascinating faces of snow and ice as well as the impact of its demise in the Arctic due to climate change. Jamie is an ecologist and author from Yellowknife who has been described as "A writer with a gift for explaining the mysteries of the natural world."

Date: Wednesday, March 11



Seniors' Programs

Are you looking for a different indoor activity for seniors in the winter weather? The zoo's senior services program would love to bring a small piece of the zoo right to your lodge, care home, community centre or church. Imagine touching the pelt of a Siberian tiger or the skin of a python! Our one-hour presentations are interactive, educational and fun. If you are interested in learning more about our "Zoo to You" or other seniors' programs please call Pauline at 403-294-7677.





GARDENING FROM SCRATCH

For aspiring gardeners and gardeners new to the Chinook zone – no experience necessary.

Getting Grounded Presentation Series

We love gardening in Calgary, and we want you to love it too! This series of talks is perfect for new homeowners unfamiliar with basic garden care or experienced gardeners adapting to Calgary's unique gardening challenges.

Days: Tuesdays Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cost: \$20 per program (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)



Mary Ross

Uninvited Guests

Learn to recognize common garden intruders and better determine whether they are friend or foe, minor inconvenience or major threat.

Date: Tuesday, February 24

TLC for Gardens

Maximize your effort and protect your investment by learning the essential tasks specific to Calgary gardens.

Date: Tuesday, March 3

Woody Plant ID

New!

Perfect for serious beginners and seasoned veterans, this challenging course will teach you how to identify plants and introduce you to the universal language of Latin plant names enabling you to communicate with other gardeners. This 20-hour course sets the foundation for future gardening education and is a prerequisite for several of our horticulture courses, including the Master Gardener Training Program. Course materials are included but additional texts are suggested in class.

Dates: Thursdays, April 2 - May 28

Time: 9:00 - 11:30 am

Cost: \$199

Alberta Author Speakers Series

The Prairies are rich in skilled garden writers. Here's your chance to hear them share their passion and expertise on a variety of gardening topics. Check this space for upcoming authors in this series.

CSI – Calgary Insects with Ken Fry

New!

Ken Fry is one of the authors of *Garden Bugs of Alberta: Gardening to Attract, Repel and Control*, and a wonderfully entertaining speaker. Join us for an evening dedicated to figuring out who the prime suspects are in your garden. Follow the trail from visible damage on your plants to the culprit. Learn to make educated decisions on whether control is necessary, and if so, how and when. Ken's book will also be available for purchase.

Date: Tuesday, May 5

Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Cost: \$20 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Crash Course in Tree and Shrub ID

New!

Are you curious about the trees and shrubs you see in your neighbourhood? This intensive workshop will introduce you to the trees and shrubs most commonly seen in Calgary. We'll provide you with tips for identifying plants and choosing appropriate plant material for your yard. This is the perfect introduction if you are thinking of taking our Woody Plant ID course.

Dates: Friday May 29 and

Saturday May 30

Time: Friday - 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Saturday - 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cost: \$100



DIGGING DEEPER

For more experienced gardeners seeking to improve their skills – experience is an asset but not mandatory.

Pruning Clinic

Join a certified arborist for an informative day-long clinic. We'll cover the basics of proper pruning for the health and vigour of trees and shrubs in the classroom then venture outside for a hands-on component where you can practice your technique. Bring hand-pruners and be sure to register early for this popular program!



Date: Sunday, February 22

Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Cost: \$75

Espalier Clinic

New!

If you want to maximize your yard's planting space, this hands-on workshop is for you! Espalier is the art of training trees to branch in formal patterns along a wall, trellis or other structure, allowing you to incorporate more woody plant material without giving up garden real-estate. Instructor Amanda Chedzoy will cover plant selection, growing conditions and the techniques of pruning and training, then you can give them a try.

Date: Saturday, March 14

Time: 1:00 - 3:30 pm

Cost: \$55 (includes all supplies)

Grafting Clinic

New!

Many plants we purchase are the result of grafting – tender roses on hardy rootstocks, weeping trees on straight trunks. Grafting can also repair a damaged tree or create one that produces more than one kind of apple! Join expert Amanda Chedzoy for a hands-on clinic appropriate for both home gardeners and industry members interested in expanding their skills. Bring a sharp pocket knife and hand-pruners.

Date: Sunday, March 15

Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

Cost: \$75 (includes all supplies)

Space is limited. Call 403- 232-9300 or visit www.calgaryzoo.com.

Branching Out Presentation Series

Having mastered basic gardening techniques, most gardeners seek to deepen their knowledge and refine their garden. This series of presentations will help you to look at your garden with a more discerning eye, providing you with the tools you need to evaluate and improve your garden's look and functionality.

Days: Tuesdays
Time: 6:30 - 8:30pm
Cost: \$20 per program (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)

Beautiful Gardens by Design

'Happy accidents' in the garden occur when a coincidental or experimental combination or placement has particularly pleasing results. Gardeners can learn how to create these scenarios purposefully rather than by accident, applying universal design principles to create greater unity and balance.

Date: Tuesday, March 17

Colour Theory for Gardeners

Colour can have a huge impact on the overall visual appeal of a garden. Join landscape designer Sue Gaviller as she discusses colour attributes, colour schemes and how colours can influence, and be influenced by, such factors as light, the surrounding landscape and human perception.

Date: Tuesday, March 31



Hardscaping Basics

Most gardeners focus on the plants in their gardens, but hard landscaping elements are what create the structure and backdrop that set plants off to their best effect. In this class, we'll look at elements such as decks, fences,

pathways and shade structures and discuss what's possible and what's popular.

Date: Tuesday, April 7



Putting Nature First

With a few simple techniques, you can welcome local wildlife species, practise environmentally friendly pest management, and conserve water – all

without compromising the aesthetics, function or beauty of your yard! Join us to learn the first steps toward making your landscape a sustainable ecosystem, in tune with nature.

Date: Tuesday, April 21

Make More Plants

There's something deeply rewarding about seeing plants in your garden that you have grown yourself. Beyond the cost-savings and increased plant choices, propagating your own plants, whether from seed or by vegetative techniques, adds a whole new dimension to the practise of gardening. Join us in these day-long sessions that include a lecture, demonstrations and hands-on activities, covering all steps, materials and conditions in detail. Bring your lunch for these intensive, day-long workshops.

Day: Sundays
Time: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Cost: \$85

Starting from Seed

Let us take the mystery out of growing plants from seed by introducing you to techniques of selecting, collecting, saving, and starting seeds.

Date: Sunday, March 22

Vegetative Propagation – Woody Plants

Purchasing trees and shrubs can be expensive, so let us teach you the techniques of starting plants from cuttings (soft-wood, semi-hard wood, hard-wood) and by layering. Grafting and budding will also be discussed.

Date: Sunday, April 5

Vegetative Propagation – Herbaceous Plants

The techniques covered in this class will allow you to make more of your favourite perennials, annuals, even house plants. Going beyond the familiar splitting and dividing, we look at separating bulbs and generating new plants from leaf, stem and root cuttings, as well as layering.

Date: Sunday, April 19

Insects in the Garden

Advance your knowledge about insects in the garden – both pests and beneficials. This day-long clinic will include more detailed information on insect life cycles, identification and control.

Dates: Saturday May 23
Time: 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
Cost: \$85

A GROWING OBSESSION

For anyone who loves gardens, gardening and plants. Everyone is welcome.



Spring Garden Tour to Vancouver, British Columbia

Join a small group of fellow garden enthusiasts on an intimate tour of the best gardens Vancouver has to offer. We'll visit the internationally recognized Van Dusen Botanical Garden and explore the many themed gardens at the University of British Columbia Botanical Gardens. Be ready to bring home a few plants from the specialty nurseries on our itinerary, and enjoy an exclusive look at a select group of private gardens. Price includes hotel accommodation, six meals, garden admissions and transportation in Vancouver. For details, visit www.calgaryzoo.com. Call Estelle at 403-232-9362 to book your spot.

Date: Monday, March 30 - Friday, April 3
Cost: \$1250 based on double occupancy

What is Horticultural Therapy?

Horticultural Therapy (HT) uses plants and the natural world to improve the social, spiritual, physical and emotional wellbeing of individuals who participate in it.

This two-day course, taught by Christine Pollard of Home Farm, will introduce the basics of horticultural therapy so that you can begin to explore its potential and value. Appropriate for those involved in health care, social work, horticulture or other related fields, this course can stand on its own, or provide the foundation for further investigation of horticultural therapy.

Date: Saturday, March 21 and Sunday, March 22
(Please note that these are new dates, replacing previously published dates.)
Time: 9:00 am - 3:30 pm
Cost: \$250

Grass with Class

New!

If the only grass in your garden is your lawn, you need to take this workshop! Ornamental grasses are more than trendy – they're an integral part of the modern landscape. Drought tolerant and fuss free, this diverse group of plants is used prolifically in the European 'New Wave' style and are emblematic of the prairie landscape. Explore both tender and hardy choices and learn how to use their texture and movement to create year-round drama and interest.

Date: Tuesday, April 28
Time: 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Cost: \$25 (10% discount for *Discovery Passport Members*)



Hands-on Hypertufa Planter

New!

Create an impressive hypertufa planter, ideal for succulents and alpine plants. Hypertufa is lightweight artificial stone with a natural look that ages well in the garden. Our instructor will guide you through the process leaving you comfortable enough to try it out on your own. All materials and moulds are included, but please bring your own dust mask and dish gloves. Sign up early for this very popular program.

Date: Saturday, May 2
Time: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Cost: \$90



Garden Centre Bus Tour

New!

Join us for a bus tour to garden centres you might not have seen before. We'll head north to Red Deer and Dentoom's Greenhouses which offers a staggering array of plants, from small plugs to larger pots and hanging baskets. Then we'll stop in at E&M Woodland Farm – famous for creating the most gorgeous hanging baskets. At least one more stop is planned for this trip. Bring a plastic container to hold your plant purchases and pack a lunch and beverages for the day. Our luxury bus leaves the zoo's North Parking Lot at 7:30am sharp!

Date: Tuesday, May 12
Time: Leaving 7:30 am sharp and returning around 5:30 pm
Cost: \$49

Mother's Day Brunch

Give Mom the morning off! We'll fill your bellies with a fabulous brunch buffet followed by a humorous look at motherhood in the animal kingdom, including stories about our own zoo moms. After the show, we'll give you a special map so you can visit these moms and wish them a Happy Mother's Day!

Please note: Seating will be preassigned in tables of eight based on date of registration.

Tickets go on sale March 1, 2009

Date: Sunday, May 10
Time: 9:00 am **or** 11:30 am **or** 2:00 pm
Cost: Adult/Youth \$36.95
Senior \$34.95 Child \$22.95
Children under three are free, but must have a ticket to attend

Mother's Day Sleepover

Here's your chance to sleep with one of the biggest moms on the Savannah – a hippo! Bring Mom down to the zoo for an evening celebrating one of the most important roles in nature, motherhood. Learn about mothers who sacrifice life and limb for their young, mothers who never leave their wee ones' side, and mothers who opt for the tough love approach instead. Program includes a themed tour and activities, stories, songs, snack, craft to pamper mom, and buffet breakfast. All children must be accompanied by an adult and ages five and older please.

Date: Overnight on Friday, May 8
Time: 7:00 pm - 8:30 am
Cost: \$55 per person

Thinking ahead for Father's Day?

Visit www.calgaryzoo.com in early March for details and tickets for our Father's Day Brunch.





Attention Discovery Passport Members!

Evening Explorations begin in May

Wander the zoo after hours on Wednesdays and Sundays to visit our featured animal. We have a dedicated zookeeper available to answer your questions and education volunteers with touch tables of animal biofacts that are sure to amaze young and old zoo visitors alike.

Stay tuned to www.calgaryzoo.com under Memberships for the schedule of featured animals!



Your opinion counts – thank you members!

The Calgary Zoo would like to thank all members who took the time to fill out the 2008 membership survey. We appreciate your feedback; this valuable information helps us make informed decisions about the membership program and other areas of the zoo.

We made a random draw from all surveys and would like to congratulate Loretta L for winning our early bird prize, Nora R for the grand prize and Jennifer S for the kids' survey.

New! Online donation options now available

Contributing to the zoo's many programs is now even easier. For more information on how you can make your zoo donations online, visit www.calgaryzoo.com.

Go green! Read your newsletter on-line

Did you know that receiving your newsletter by email can help our conservation efforts? You'll be saving trees and the zoo will redirect the money it saves in mailing and printing costs toward its conservation programs.

Simply email your request to memberships@calgaryzoo.ab.ca and let us know that you would like to participate. We will discontinue your hard copy newsletter and send you an email message each time a new issue is published. Thank you for going green!

Remember to keep your card!

Did you know your membership card is reusable? Keeping your card not only saves you money (we charge \$5 to reprint lost or discarded cards), but it also saves administrative costs for the zoo. Additionally, reusing your card reduces waste – imagine if all of our 80,000 members recycled their cards year after year.

To register for zoo programs

To register for a program, please phone 403-232-9300 or visit the Calgary Zoo Guest Relations Desk at the North Entrance (9:00 am - 5:00 pm daily). Many of our programs also have an online registration option. If there is a computer mouse icon beside the program dates, you can register at www.calgaryzoo.com.

Calgary Zoo Discovery Passport Members receive a discount on selected education programs. Unless otherwise listed, program fees do not include GST and are nonrefundable and nonexchangeable. Registrations are accepted in the order in which fees are received. For all programs, enter via the Calgary Zoo's North Entrance. Please note that prices and dates are subject to change.



DON'T MISS OUT ON A GREAT OFFER IN 2009!

Buy a new adult Discovery Passport membership in 2009 and you will receive a \$20 dinner coupon from one of Calgary's most popular family establishments.

Purchase or renew an adult Annual Pass and receive a \$10 dinner coupon.

Smitty's Family Restaurants
(five participating Calgary locations).



Take advantage of these special offers for 2009 today!



Pucker up! Can you identify these zoo animal lips?

In celebration of Valentine's Day, we're challenging you to identify our animal smoochers. Some are scaly and others are furry – can you guess who's who? Send your answers to us at the address on the bottom of the page, along with your name, age and telephone number by March 1, 2009. You could win a prize! Congratulations to the winner from our November 2008 issue, four-year-old Alyson Buffam.

Photos: Mark Brett, Bob Hart, Jill Hockaday, David Johnson, Rick Murphy



Your guess: _____

Hint: Be careful - these lips are dangerous!



Your guess: _____

Hint: You will need a ladder!



Your guess: _____

Hint: A great Canadian kisser!



Your guess: _____

Hint: You would have to get wet to kiss these lips!



Your guess: _____

Hint: Better check with Kakinga first!



Your guess: _____

Hint: These lips are pretty big!

Answers (Clockwise from top left): Dwarf crocodile, giraffe, moose, hippopotamus, western lowland gorilla, tilapia fish

We welcome and value your comments and suggestions about this newsletter. If your address has changed or if you would like more information on donation options, please contact us at:

The Calgary Zoo
1300 Zoo Road NE, Calgary, Alberta
T2E 7V6

Phone: 403-232-9300 Fax: 403-237-7582
donations@calgaryzoo.ab.ca

Please send me information about:

- ☐ Conservation ☐ Education Programs
☐ Legacy Giving ☐ Annual Giving

I have enclosed a gift of:

- ☐ \$100 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$25 ☐ Other \$ _____

Charitable Registration # 118824192 RR0001



Recycled
Supporting responsible use
of forest resources
www.fsc.org Cert no. SW-COC-001383
© 1996 Forest Stewardship Council

