



# MYZOO

FOR MEMBERS OF WOODLAND PARK ZOO • SPRING 2017



**MEET HUDSON THE ARCTIC FOX!**  
GET TO KNOW THIS AMBASSADOR ANIMAL

IT ALL BEGINS WITH CARING.

Dear Friends,

Each year, February reminds us to pay a little extra attention to those special beings in our lives for whom we care so much. Accordingly, this issue brings you all manner of love stories illustrating how we provide the very best care for animals, as well as what it means to strengthen an ethic of care in our community.

This month is also an exhilarating time for the zoo, as staff and volunteers prepare to launch the upcoming season of new and inspiring up-close animal experiences for you. Chief among them, a long-time visitor favorite, the popular raptor flight program, is getting a makeover. With triple the space, you'll enjoy more guest seating, lively interaction with new and diverse animals, and exciting new demonstration routines. As with last year's new Alvord Broadleaf Theater and more animal experiences at Zoomazium, this enhancement is part of a multi-year expansion of our Ambassador Animals program.

I'd like to emphasize why we're making such improvements. We strive to get you closer to animals not just because it's awesome, but because such experiences foster empathy and care for wildlife and all living things.

Empathy is receiving renewed attention in research, the media and school curricula. With the speed of change in our lives and increasing threats to biodiversity, empathy skills cannot be overrated. Several top zoos, including your zoo, are leading rigorous research on how people experience empathy by connecting with animals. Evidence shows that up-close encounters deepen the innate bond humans have with animals and also shape, long term, how people identify with them in emotionally positive ways. Both aspects are essential to motivating conservation behaviors.

At the zoo, you get close, you learn, you get real. When you take action and engage your social network, your multiplier effect truly contributes to a growing global social movement for conservation.

And that is the reason why modern zoos exist: to help society create a new relationship with nature grounded in an ethic of caring—for individual animals, for entire species, and for the planet we share with wildlife.

Sounds like a great love story to me.



Alejandro Grajal, PhD  
President and CEO

LETTER  
FROM THE  
PRESIDENT



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## LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Hello, Hudson! As you'll see, we can't get enough of this handsome little fox. With winter-white fur, adorable leaps and bounds and a few signature moves, this arctic wonder is our Spring 2017 sensation. You'll also find stories about a special gorilla friendship between Leo and little Yola, a spotlight on working with Ambassador Animals, extraordinary care for animals young and old, and a close look at how your conservation dollars help wild animals here in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Thank you for reading, for being members and for loving animals as much as we do. We look forward to seeing you soon!



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ

## ON THE COVER

*Hudson the arctic fox, an Ambassador Animal, pauses just long enough for the camera to catch his adorable pose. The young fox is energetic and playful, enough to give our photographer a run for his money!*



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ

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## OUR MISSION

WOODLAND PARK ZOO SAVES ANIMALS AND THEIR HABITATS THROUGH CONSERVATION LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGING EXPERIENCES, INSPIRING PEOPLE TO LEARN, CARE AND ACT.

## ZOO HOURS

**MAY 1 – SEPTEMBER 30**

9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**OCTOBER 1 – APRIL 30**

9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY**

## FIND US ON



@woodlandparkzoo

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# LEO and YOLA: A Gorilla Story

Yola successfully stole the show at Woodland Park Zoo last summer, but the gorilla keepers are convinced that silverback Leo is the real star of the group.

When Leo first arrived in Seattle in 2008, he was 30 years old and had somewhat of a complicated past. Leo was born at Gladys Porter Zoo in 1978, at a time when the importance of a gorilla-reared infant was not fully understood. Leo was hand-raised by keepers until 4 years old and afterwards he lived at a handful of other zoos, each with short-term and disruptive attempts at socialization with other gorillas.

By the time Leo arrived at Woodland Park Zoo, he'd developed a reputation the Gorilla Species Survival Plan (a nationwide team of gorilla experts) noted as being "socially challenged."

Fortunately, Seattle would be a good fit for Leo. Not only did we have a large variety of companion combinations for Leo, but we also had the space to accommodate such introductions. In addition, we had keepers who were experienced in successfully introducing non-reproductive males to females.

After a long and careful process, one that operated strictly on gorilla time, Leo began to form a cohesive group with females Nadiri and Akenji. They had established a bond, but it wasn't until Nadiri's pregnancy by another male, and Yola's auspicious arrival on the way, that Leo grew into the silverback he is today.

**Gorillas are social animals. They benefit from each other's company in the same ways that human families and groups do: they build alliances, provide companionship, create a sense of safety, but most importantly, they learn from one another.**

As far as we knew, Leo had never been in close proximity to an infant before Yola. His newly found comfort as a silverback would once again be tested, as the social subtleties were sure to shift once Nadiri had her baby. How would Leo adapt?

It didn't take long for keepers to notice that Leo would often situate himself where he could watch Yola. Yola and her human caretaker would sit next to Leo while he ate or engaged with another keeper, allowing Yola to gain confidence in his proximity.



Yola



Leo



*Yola sits with mom Nadiri*

It was during this time that Leo showed further interest in Yola by soliciting touch through the mesh and content grunting (“Hello” in Gorilla) whenever she made contact. Leo was always calm and Yola picked up on this, establishing from the very beginning a positive and respectful relationship with one another.

When it was time to begin physical introductions, Leo was invited into a shared room with Nadiri and Yola, separated by wire mesh. This allowed Nadiri to adjust to Leo being in an area that she and Yola usually had to themselves. As Leo was given access to the back half of a room, Nadiri and Yola were given access to the front half of that room, as well as several adjacent rooms where Nadiri could move away from Leo if she felt uncomfortable.

At first Leo was a bit nervous, choosing to sit on his favorite bed and observe from there. Nadiri showed protective behavior by picking Yola up and carrying her from room to room. After 12 days of this, Nadiri, Yola and Leo seemed comfortable with one another, respecting personal space, grunting contently during transitions, eating near one another, passing closely by one another and, most importantly, agreeing to participate in the introductions each day. The introductions had not only shown that Nadiri had protective instincts towards Yola, but that Leo might share those instincts as well. When aunt Akenji was introduced to Yola, Leo immediately showed silverback behavior, standing up for Yola whenever Akenji became too animated. Leo was now a true silverback protector.

Visit Yola, Leo, Nadiri and Akenji at 12:30 p.m. daily and remember to **#GrowWithYola** to share your favorite memories of this little gorilla and her incredible family.

Both Leo’s and Nadiri’s natural instincts seem to have kicked in with Yola around and it’s wonderful to witness their relationship evolve. When it comes to the big guy and the newest member of the group, Leo and Yola’s relationship couldn’t be better. It’s not uncharacteristic of silverbacks to be great dads; playing with their kids and even carrying them around from time to time, but Leo’s early experiences could have easily hindered his ability to deal well with an infant.

Instead, he has proven invaluable to the group’s success. Yola really seems to find comfort in his presence, and will play with abandon near him, assured in the fact that she’s safe to do so.

It will be interesting to watch Leo and Yola’s relationship grow as she gets older. Yola is now comfortable enough to run to Leo for comfort and safety.

We are so thankful for these wonderful gorillas whom we are privileged to know. The gorillas are here to teach us, encourage us, and inspire us to care about the importance and beauty of their existence among us in this world. The lives of their wild counterparts depend on this understanding.

The gorillas at Woodland Park Zoo are compelling ambassadors for the critically endangered gorillas in Africa threatened with extinction. Woodland Park Zoo supports conservation efforts for the western lowland gorilla through the Mbeli Bai Study, one of the zoo’s Wildlife Survival Fund projects.

*Stephanie Payne-Jacobs, Gorilla Keeper*

*Photos by Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ, unless otherwise noted.*



*Yola is confident in Leo’s shadow*

# OH, BABY!

**It's hard not to smile at a baby animal. After all,** there's nothing more exciting than witnessing a clumsy lion cub learning to walk on its oversized paws, a fluffy flamingo chick running at top speed, or a tiny turtle hatchling moving its legs for the first time. Their small stature, adorable faces and playful personalities captivate us for hours. But it's important to remember, with great cuteness, comes great responsibility. Baby animals can be very fragile during their first few weeks (or even months) of life. During this time, they rely on their parents for food, protection and social interaction, key factors in growing, learning and developing the natural behaviors of their species.

Our zookeepers and animal health team work round-the-clock to ensure every newborn is in good health and receives quality care. Zookeepers monitor every baby's progress diligently but avoid contact as much as possible to allow the parents to do most of the

work, just as they would in the wild. But sometimes, extenuating circumstances can require staff to become more involved in a baby's care. Whether it's a high profile youngster like baby gorilla Yola, or one of several duck hatchlings, our zookeepers and animal health team are dedicated to giving each and every animal the best possible care.

While the adorable baby being cared for often steals the spotlight, the dedicated care to keep them thriving often goes unseen. "Many hours, late nights and expertise are poured into these youngsters," said animal curator Jennifer Pramuk. "The heroes behind these successes are the keepers and vet techs, and the team that works hard on developing the birth management and rearing plans for every animal. Often, the tremendous work by these folks goes unsung." Here are just a few of those stories:

## Olive the Porcupette Born: May 7, 2016

Shortly after Olive was born, her mom, Molly, developed a mammary infection and was unable to nurse. During the first few weeks of her supplemental feeding, zookeepers separated Olive and Molly during the day but allowed Molly access to her baby overnight. After the first few weeks, Olive was given access to the exhibit with Molly during the day, with zookeepers only pulling her off exhibit to syringe feed. "Porcupines are quite precocious at birth and require very little in the way of human care," said zookeeper Samantha Milne. "We made the decision to hand rear Olive because we needed to be sure she was consuming enough calories to gain weight. Unlike other mammals that are far more dependent on other needs when hand reared, we only had to assist feed Olive."

While being syringe fed, Olive received more attention and spent more time with her keepers than a mother-reared porcupette would. "She became somewhat accustomed to being held regularly," said Milne. "Because of her extended time with keepers, Olive is a bit more social and less reactive than previous porcupettes. She often runs to the door when we are around and solicits attention and/or food. She is easily hand fed and tolerates being touched on her stomach or paws while eating." In fall 2016, Olive moved to Los Angeles Zoo where she is now a member of their Ambassador Animals program.



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ

## Kolbi the Wallaroo Born: November 6, 2015

Kolbi is the third wallaroo joey to be hand reared by our top notch team of zookeepers and animal health professionals. “Kolbi’s mother, Tullah, has struggled in the past to provide the needed nutrition to raise her joeys,” said zookeeper Beth Carlyle-Askew. This is how the keepers knew to monitor Kolbi’s progress—they observed Kolbi out of the pouch more frequently and for longer times than was appropriate for his age.

Kolbi was continuously monitored and put on a rigorous bottle feeding schedule. “During this time we focused on his nutrition, growth, mental well-being and overall developmental health,” said Kimberly Dawson, veterinary technician. “We took specific metrics, such as foot and tail measurements, along with daily weights, to monitor his physical development. We also continued to encourage natural behaviors right away through play and movement, to not only support his mental well-being and intrinsic behaviors, but also strengthen those large muscle groups needed to become a successful hopper. Pouches, similar to a pillow case but made from heavier material, were hung up for Kolbi to sleep in. Just five days later, Kolbi was already gaining weight consistently and getting healthy. Within a month, he was able to begin one-hour-a-day visits to the exhibit to be reintroduced to the mob (a group of wallaroos).

Since he began introductions to return to the mob, Kolbi has been doing very well. “He is more independent and adventurous than our two previous hand-reared joeys,” said Carlyle-Askew. Soon, Kolbi will move to African Wildlife Park in Mexico where he will start his own family.



## Paco and Pluma the Flamingo Chicks Hatched: August 22 and September 10, 2016

Paco and Pluma both started out in an awkward situation: as eggs, they somehow rolled off their parents’ nest leaving them unattended. “It’s quite common for flamingo eggs to roll out of the nest,” said animal curator Mark Myers. “In the wild, and at WPZ, nesting colonies are very dynamic and involve constant bickering between pairs. Eggs sometimes roll off the nest during those squabbles or eggs fall out of the nest if birds are startled. In the wild, eggs that roll off the nest never survive as they are likely crushed, damaged or not incubated. However, when we find such eggs, we have the option of putting them in our artificial incubators, and we can hand-rear chicks to give them a chance at survival.”

“At the time the eggs hatched, there were no potential foster parents so our team stepped in to care for the two chicks,” said Myers. “Because we had to pull Paco and Pluma for hand-rearing, we were able to raise them together.” Keepers used a feather duster to give each chick the sense of a mother flamingo brooding the chick. As the chicks grew, keepers held indoor exercise sessions to encourage them to walk and stretch their growing legs. “Both chicks began with indoor-only exercise sessions and, once they were big enough, graduated to longer, outdoor sessions.”

Since they are so comfortable with staff and guests, Paco and Pluma will act as ambassador animals for the zoo with the goal of incorporating them into future programming and, potentially, up-close experiences with guests.

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*Alissa Wolken, Staff Writer*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## AT WOODLAND PARK ZOO

- .....
- THRIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS ..... **FEBRUARY 28**
- ROSE PRUNING DEMONSTRATION ..... **MARCH 4**
- SPRING SAFARI:  
*African Wildlife Conservation Day* ..... **APRIL 8**
- BUNNY BOUNCE  
AND EASTER ENRICHMENT ..... **APRIL 15**
- SUMMER ZOO HOURS BEGIN ..... **MAY 1**
- MOM & ME ..... **MAY 13**
- EARLY MORNING BIRD WALK ..... **MAY 20**

Be on the lookout for tickets to **BECU ZooTunes**  
presented by **Carter Subaru** on sale this spring!

Visit [www.zoo.org/zootunes](http://www.zoo.org/zootunes) for details.

#ZooTunes #musiclovers



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ

# MOM & ME

SATURDAY, MAY 13



Moms and families enjoy lots of fun activities on the North Meadow and all moms receive half-price admission!

SAVE THE DATE

July 14, 2017

## URBAN EXCURSION

Our Toast to Wildlife

For more information, visit  
[www.zoo.org/jungleparty](http://www.zoo.org/jungleparty)



41<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL  
JUNGLEPARTY





# <ZOOHACKATHON>

Woodland Park Zoo was recently transformed into a hub for emerging technology, bringing together creative minds to tackle one of the largest conservation issues of our time: wildlife trafficking.

In October 2016, the U.S. Department of State approached six zoos across the world to serve as host sites for the first-ever Zoohackathon, an event that would challenge local digital experts to develop new technological tools to reduce the demand for illegally traded wildlife products.

It's no surprise Woodland Park Zoo was chosen. Not only is our region home to the world's technological leaders, Washington is also the first state to pass, by vote, a ban on selling products made from endangered species. Voters approved Initiative 1401 in November 2015 by just over 70 percent—an unprecedented and overwhelming show of support for protecting some of the most trafficked species in the world.

Our Zoohackathon consisted of six teams of coders, designers and technologists—participants who ranged from high school and

college students to seasoned professionals—working together for one weekend to address complex problem statements submitted by wildlife professionals.

Statements challenged the teams to introduce technology to people living near busy areas so they might report potential poachers, or to create an app for international travelers who unknowingly purchase items made from endangered species.

The weekend culminated with each team presenting their solution to our panel of experts. The winning solution came from the team “Oily Palms,” who created a tool for

citizens to report local deforestation activity to authorities. The winners from each host site were submitted to a global competition; congrats to San Diego team “WildTrack” as the overall winner! On behalf of all animals whose parts are worth a high price on the black market, we thank our Zoohackathon participants.

**Not only is our region home to the world's technological leaders, Washington is also the first state to pass by vote a ban on selling products made from endangered species.**

*Kerston Swartz, Staff Writer*

*Photos by Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ*





# SIT, STAY, GOOD 101

**A recycling raccoon, a pair of pigs who can fly and a trio of cockroaches who wait patiently in single-file for their snack—anything is possible with positive reinforcement training and a lot of patience.**

Ask Rachel Salant and she'll tell you, working with animals is a dream job, but it takes a lot of work! She's an animal behavior expert after all, and her entire philosophy revolves around patience, patience, patience. Rachel is the zoo's collection manager of Ambassador Animals. She helps caregivers and animals work together as a team, preparing animals to play a unique role as ambassadors for their species. The job is not just about training animals, it's as much about training people too.

Whether she is working with a zookeeper or a patas monkey, Rachel says the key to success is a simple formula. She describes her philosophy as motivating animals to move away from or toward something. For those of us who have tried to convince Fido not to

chew on the wall, Rachel's recipe for success may sound too easy, but she swears by it.

Rachel explains, "There are two ways to motivate. You can either add or remove something from the animal's environment that either rewards or does not reward." One example of this might be to add a favorite toy or treat as a positive reward for a behavior. Another approach would be to take away a distracting item; it's not necessarily seen as a punishment, but rather you are giving the animal a chance to focus on the task at hand. Rachel insists that training does not happen overnight, but in the end, if the animal trusts and respects the process, it will increase the odds of a successful result.

Inspired by animal programs she watched as a kid, Rachel was determined early on to carve out a career in animal behavior and training. She was drawn to the idea of working with animals, but also educating people and helping humans understand

the importance of protecting wildlife.

Rachel explains that throughout her career, she has seen firsthand how one encounter with a creature can really shape how a person relates to or advocates for animals in the wild. The most exciting part of training is that it's a chance to actually communicate with an animal. It's a conversation. It's learning to work together. It's taking time, and having the patience to really listen and watch another creature.

Rachel accepts that sometimes the animals she works with do not want to participate. Sometimes they do not want to do anything, and that's okay. It's all about setting up a safe space and allowing the animal to choose whether or not it participates. Animals are just like people; if a porcupine is having a bad day, Rachel doesn't push it. In this way, the animals know that Rachel is open to working with them, but they have to be ready to work with her too.



Dennis Dow, WPZ





Training starts with a good foundation: trust. She does not command an animal to do anything; rather she asks them to participate. Establishing baseline behaviors brings predictability to her training. For example, most of the animals Rachel works with have a crate, den or box that is their safe place. Sometimes the safe zone is just an area, or even a log or branch. The animal knows that if it needs to leave (see grumpy porcupine), it can safely exit the scenario.

After the basics are set, Rachel and the other trainers can begin to bring other, more complex scenarios into the mix. Adding a new human, new prop or another animal means things are going to get more complicated.

Animals don't speak our language, so asking them to perform a complex task is tricky. Imagine trying to explain to a raccoon that you want her to walk across a room and pick up only the red items and recycle them. It can work if you appreciate that animals are unique learners. Just like people, some of them are visual learners, some like to copy, some like to practice. Rachel says she's worked with sister raccoons who both learned to pull a lever in completely different ways. While the end result was the same, Rachel had to tailor her training to each sister. If you're curious, one raccoon preferred learning with a target pole and a clicker to guide her toward the lever, wherein a treat was produced after the lever was pulled, and the other only responded after peanut butter was smeared across the lever. We all have our preferences.

**Knowing the behavior of individual animals is also important. A feather ruffle, a wag of a tail and a cheerful vocalization are usually universal indicators for a willingness to work together, but every animal has their own cues and responses.**

Again, the best thing to do is take cues from the animal. Watching their behavior tells Rachel what is going on. If Lola, our aplomado falcon, doesn't want to fly around the raptor yard, it might be because the crows are bothering her. If Lucy, the recycling raccoon, won't tag her normal spot, perhaps the sun is shining into her eyes. Paying attention to the environment is really important.

Knowing the behavior of individual animals is also important. A feather ruffle, a wag of a tail, and a cheerful vocalization are usually universal indicators for a willingness to work together, but every animal has their own cues and responses.

Choosing the right animal and the right person for the job is also key. Some people have a way with birds, some speak reptile. Some people might try to train a troop of cockroaches, just to see if it can be done. Chemistry between a trainer and an animal can help, but making accommodations to make the animal feel comfortable is most important. The cockroaches are comfortable, we checked.

"I'm so inspired to work with the dedicated keepers and wonderful animals at Woodland Park Zoo. Being able to show off the close relationships we have with these animals is really engaging for visitors. It's motivating to see our guests watch what is possible," says Rachel. You'll have a chance to see Rachel and her team of dedicated and talented keepers in action this summer at our Ambassador Animals program. We won't spoil the surprise, but let's just say pigs will fly.



There are a few things that can set you up for success when attempting to change your own pet's behavior. Whether working with a cockroach or a Leonberger, the tips below will come in handy.

## TIPS AND TRICKS FOR SUCCESSFUL TRAINING:

**RESEARCH:** Always do your homework when deciding to become a pet owner. An animal's lifespan is a great commitment. Be sure the animal is a good fit for your home and that your family is a good fit for the animal.

**HISTORY:** If you can, find out about the individual animal's history. Is it a rescue pet? Do you know the animal's prior training or living situation? These things can help you better understand their perspective.

**RESOURCES:** There are many great books and smart online resources for training. Look up local animal behaviorists that use positive reinforcement-based techniques you can enlist if you need their help. It's good to have a solid plan before you begin.

**TECHNIQUES:** A clicker is just a tool, it won't train your dog. Three border collies might learn the same behavior three different ways. Use positive reinforcement, creativity and patience in your practice.

**CONSISTENCY:** Once your animal has a behavior down, the training is just beginning. If you stop reinforcing the behavior, eventually the animal will unlearn it. Occasional reminders allow your pet to get consistent feedback.

**FAMILY:** Make sure your entire family is aware of the plan. The animal will do best if everyone is able to reinforce the process and provide positive feedback. This is also a wonderful chance for each member of the household to bond with their pet.

**FUN:** Pets love to interact with you! Keep the training engaging for the animal and fun for the people and you will do well.



Kirsten Pisto, Editor

Photos by Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ, unless otherwise noted.

# 2017 THRIVE LEADERSHIP AWARDS

## Introducing the 2017 Thrive Leadership Awards!

Woodland Park Zoo thrives as a result of a diverse and generous community of people who further our mission and touch countless lives of all species. The 2017 Thrive Leadership Awards is a new opportunity for your zoo to honor the people among us who demonstrate exceptional leadership in saving wildlife and wild places, inspiring millions of annual visitors and friends to learn, care and act.

On February 28, 2017, Woodland Park Zoo's Board of Directors and President and CEO Alejandro Grajal, PhD, will recognize leaders who, by pushing boundaries, creating change and giving selflessly, are making a difference in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Please join us to celebrate the stories and impact of the following individuals and families:

### WPZ Conservation Leadership Award

Rodrigo Medellín, PhD

### Outstanding Philanthropic Leadership Award

Rick and Nancy Alvord

### Guy C. Phinney Corporate Leadership Award

Brown Bear Car Wash and the Odermat Family

### WPZ Youth Conservation Award

Katherine Fry

For more information about the 2017 Thrive Leadership Awards, please visit: [www.zoo.org/thrive](http://www.zoo.org/thrive)

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## THE BAT MAN OF MEXICO Film Screening and Reception

Please join us at a special screening of "The Bat Man of Mexico," a BBC-produced film chronicling how Dr. Rodrigo Medellín and "Bat Friendly" tequilas and mescals are revolutionizing Mexico's tequila industry and saving species. This event is free and includes a Q&A with Rodrigo and a "Bat Friendly" tequila cocktail tasting!

March 1, 2017 | 6:30 p.m. | MOHAI, 860 Terry Ave N., Seattle

There is no cost to attend the screening. Ages 21+. Charitable contributions will be invited.

For more information please visit: [www.zoo.org/thrivefilmscreen](http://www.zoo.org/thrivefilmscreen)

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS:



## FEELING INSPIRED?

### Help bats at home!

Create a bat habitat in your yard by leaving hollow trees and snags or hanging a bat house in a sunny spot 12 to 15 feet off the ground.





# QUARTERS FOR CONSERVATION



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ



Dennis Dow, WPZ

Have you noticed the Quarters for Conservation kiosks at both zoo entrances? Ever wondered what purpose they serve? When you're eager to see your favorite animals, it's easy to walk right past them without realizing that you're bypassing a golden opportunity to take a conservation action and put your membership dollars directly toward helping the animals you love.

A portion of your membership dues directly supports field conservation programs in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. When you vote for your favorite conservation project at one of the Q4C kiosks, we listen. Projects with the most votes receive the most zoo funding, so your choice makes a difference—and you can vote every time you visit!

## HOW DO I VOTE?

Ask for a token at either zoo entrance or Guest Services every time you visit and drop it in the slot next to one of six featured projects that you'd like your membership dollars to help fund. You can also vote online! Visit [zoo.org/quarters](http://zoo.org/quarters) and cast a vote from your phone or home.

**Did you know?** Both Q4C kiosks are actually old metro bus shelters, redesigned and retooled by creative zoo staff!

## WHAT A DIFFERENCE YOU'VE MADE!

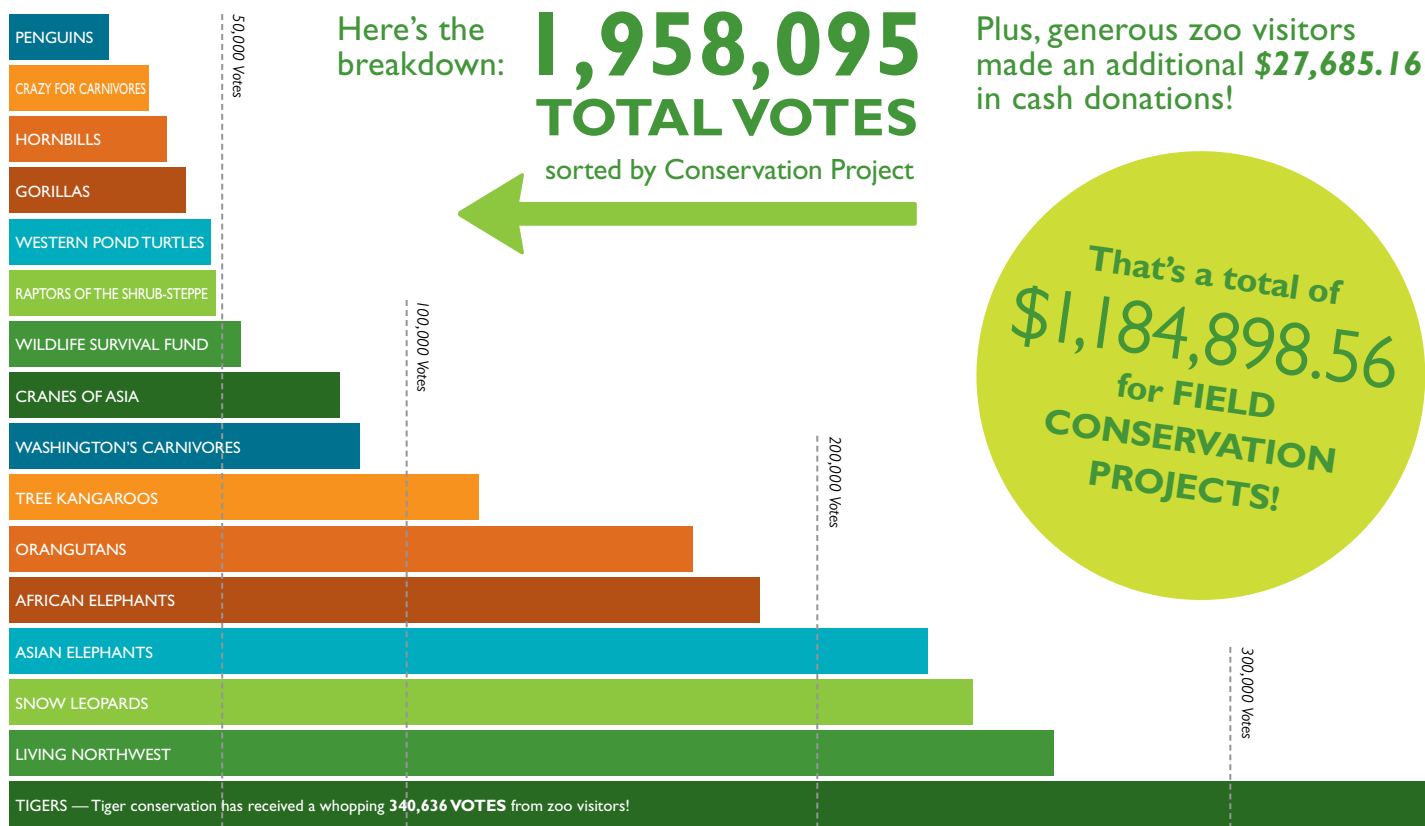
Since the launch of Q4C five years ago, your membership has helped us give nearly \$1.2 million dollars to field projects supporting animals and wild habitats in need of urgent protection. Thank you for taking conservation action!

*Two million members and guests have already voted to support conservation projects around the world—thank you for telling us which projects are most important to you. If you haven't already, it's time to join in the fun!*

# YOU HAVE IMPACT AROUND THE WORLD



From 2012-2016, Quarters for Conservation has made a **HUGE impact** for wildlife.









The *WORLD* is a book,  
and those who do not  
*TRAVEL*, read  
only a page.



Explore the Galapagos with the Tip Top Fleet, including luxury marine Catamaran Tip Top II, first class yachts Tip Top III and Tip Top IV, or diving ship Nortada.

Follow in the footsteps of Darwin, explore the legendary islands and see amazing animals under the guidance of an experienced naturalist. It's the trip of a lifetime.



Mention Woodland Park Zoo and 15% of your cruise fees will be donated to support the zoo's world-wide conservation work.

*Tip Top Travel and Rolf Wittmer Turismo believe in environmentally sound operations, using bio products derived from renewable resources, meeting international standards for quality management and environmental management systems.*

[www.rwittmer.com](http://www.rwittmer.com)

[woodland-zoo-member@tiptoptravel.ec](mailto:woodland-zoo-member@tiptoptravel.ec)  
(+593 2) 256-3181 • (+099) 813-3772



# MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

## WHAT'S NEW FOR YOU

You know membership is the perfect way to share delight, discovery and lifelong memories with your whole family. Now, we've made that even easier with the new Family Passport membership.

This all-in-one package includes 2 named adults and their children plus 1 flex guest. It comes with all the standard membership benefits, plus exciting new benefits: 2 free animal feeding passes and 5 free carousel rides. All that for only \$195!

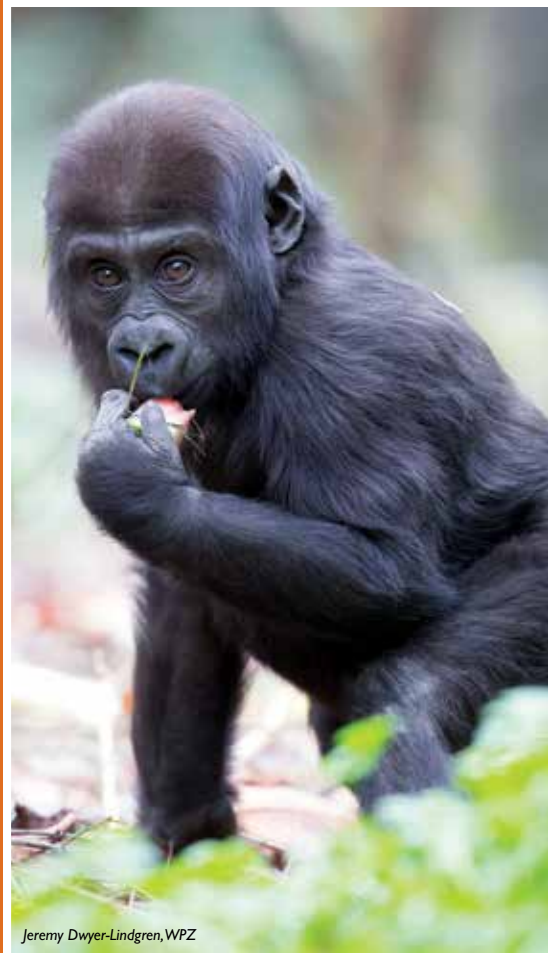
Being a member is also your way of showing your support of animals while enjoying zoo membership benefits. You're a champion for wildlife and wild habitats that need our urgent help.

If you want to do even more, the new Conservation Partner membership level is a great way to feel good about helping animals. At \$295, it includes all the benefits of Family Passport plus more, including invitations to special insider events and programs. And you're making an even bigger difference!

*We'd love to hear what you think of these new membership levels. And please keep sending us your photos and stories about your zoo visits by using **#wpzmember** when you post your pictures, or send them to us directly at [membership@zoo.org](mailto:membership@zoo.org).*



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ



Dennis Dow, WPZ



Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ

Sharing your photos on social media?  
**Use #WPZmember**

# EAU DE WOLVERINE?

*New high tech devices successfully attract wolverines for Northwest study on carnivores*

As part of a Woodland Park Zoo and US Forest Service wildlife study, remote cameras and new, innovative scent lure dispensers installed last winter in Washington's Cascade Mountains have successfully captured images of wolverines, a carnivore rarely seen in the wild.

Researchers deploy motion sensor remote cameras and odorous scent attractants to capture images of elusive species such as wolverines, lynx, fishers, cougars, grizzly bears and gray wolves, but in the past, have faced challenges during the winter.

Scents naturally fade and need to be refreshed every few weeks, explains Robert Long, PhD, carnivore research ecologist and senior conservation scientist in Woodland Park Zoo's field conservation department. "Deep snow and dangerous avalanche conditions in the Cascades typically make it too dangerous in backcountry terrain to routinely change out baits or replenish odorous lures," says Long. "We needed an electronic device that would predictably dispense a small but regular amount of liquid scent."

Long teamed up with an Idaho Fish and Game colleague and Mike Sinclair, a Microsoft research engineer, to build the device. Sinclair designed the missing piece—a processor board—that

ultimately led to a high-tech dispenser lure capable of dispensing scent all winter long.

Twenty-four new dispensers were deployed in the North Cascades over the 2015-16 winter and were retrieved in early July. Long reports that wolverines were detected at 13 of the 24 stations, with a possibility of four to seven individuals represented. This is an extremely positive result given how widely these individuals roam and the vastness of the survey area. The cameras also lured other animals including Canada lynx, cougars, bears, Pacific martens and at least one gray wolf.

"The new scent dispensers did their job," said Long. "When used in the winter, or even in the summer, the dispensers dramatically increase the period of time that carnivore survey stations can be left out in the wild. Places too dangerous to access by researchers in the winter can be surveyed and researchers in the summer don't have to revisit stations every three to four weeks to replenish scent or bait. This amounts to a tremendous savings in resources and increased safety for researchers."

*Gigi Allianic, Staff Writer*

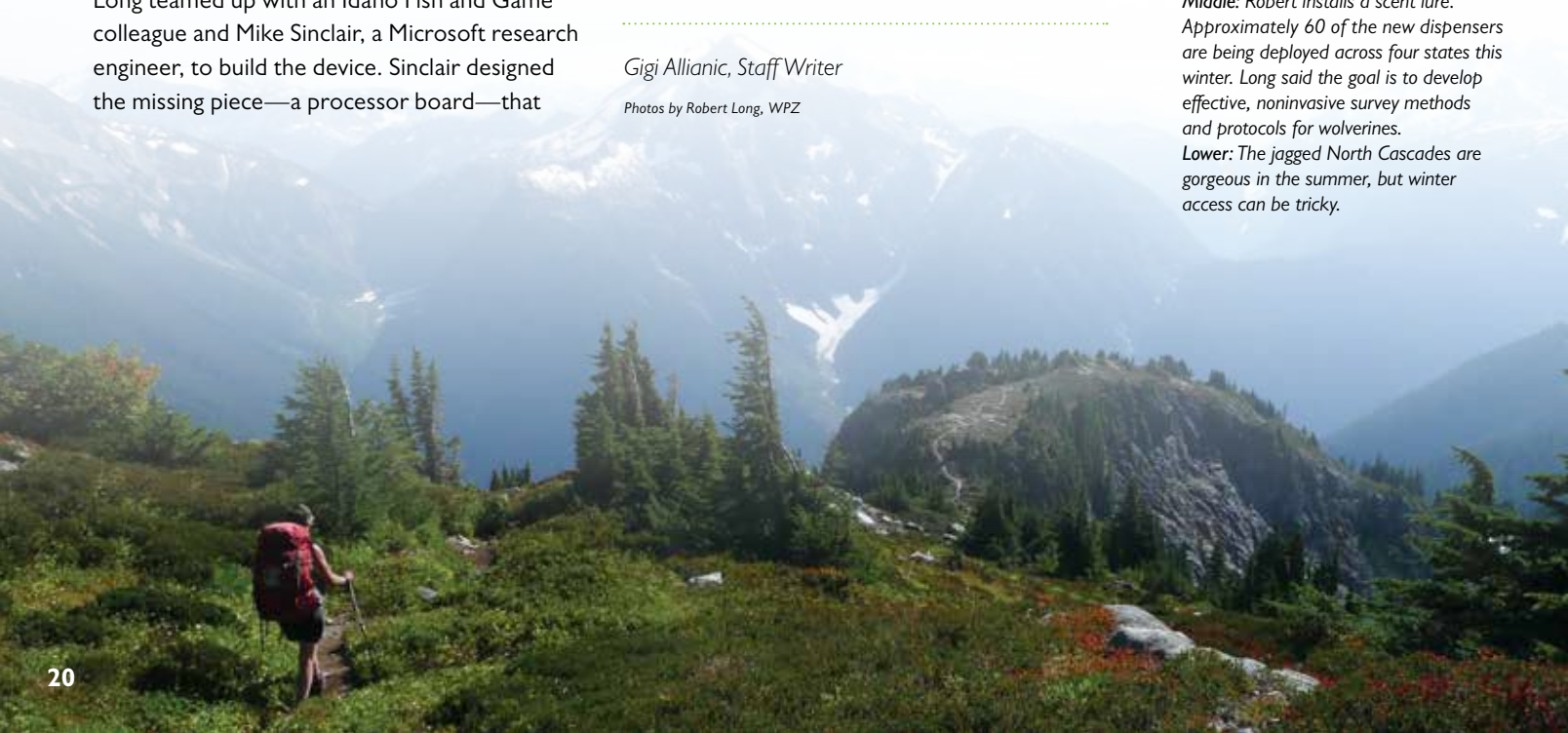
*Photos by Robert Long, WPZ*



*Top: A wolverine, in a snowy landscape, caught on camera. The wolverine is the largest terrestrial member of the Mustelid family which includes fishers, martens, ferrets, weasels, badgers and otters. Under the federal Endangered Species Act, the wolverine is currently being considered for protection as a threatened species.*

*Middle: Robert installs a scent lure. Approximately 60 of the new dispensers are being deployed across four states this winter. Long said the goal is to develop effective, noninvasive survey methods and protocols for wolverines.*

*Lower: The jagged North Cascades are gorgeous in the summer, but winter access can be tricky.*



# BIRTHDAY PARTIES AT THE ZOO!

## CELEBRATE YOUR CHILD'S BIRTHDAY AT THE HISTORIC CAROUSEL!

Host a birthday party in the carousel party room and enjoy all-day zoo admission for you and your guests.

Create memories they will never forget with options for face painting, animal encounters, unlimited carousel rides and more!

For more information call 206.548.2590  
or email [groupsales@zoo.org](mailto:groupsales@zoo.org)

[www.zoo.org/birthdays](http://www.zoo.org/birthdays)



10% discount  
for zoo  
members

# ZOOPARENT ARCTIC FOX ADOPTION SPECIAL

Welcome arctic fox Hudson to Woodland Park Zoo with an animal adoption in his name! This snow-white stunner is the newest member of our star-studded Ambassador Animals program. Adopt now and receive a plush animal, adoption certificate and more. Best of all, your support helps fund the daily care and feeding of the zoo's inhabitants.

### YOUR ADOPTION PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Arctic fox plush
- Color photos of Hudson
- Personalized adoption certificate
- ZooParent window cling
- Animal fact sheet
- Online recognition for one year

Or, upgrade your adoption to the \$100 level and receive two one-time-use admission passes and your name on the ZooParent recognition sign on grounds for a full year, starting March 2018.

Visit Hudson at the Alvord Broadleaf Theater, located behind Zoomazium, and visit [zoo.org/zooparentspecial](http://zoo.org/zooparentspecial) to adopt him!

Available through April 30, 2017



\$69

Actual plush may vary.



# LIVING THE GOLDEN YEARS



WEST AFRICAN DWARF CROCODILES,  
48 years, The pair, born in 1968 have produced 14 babies together

*Woodland Park Zoo is home to a lot of very senior animals; here are a few animals that have lived long and comfortable lives thanks to our team of animal health professionals and dedicated keepers.*



SOUTHERN THREE-BANDED ARMADILLO  
Maria, 25 years. Her 25th birthday was a smash!



NORTH AMERICAN RIVER OTTER  
Duncan, 18 years (orphaned in wild, 1998)

When we think of aging, we look to our elders to show us how it's done, and here at the zoo there are some furrer examples of aging gracefully.

Getting older can be rough on the body, but with the right health care plan, assistance from geriatric specialists, physical therapy, medication and lifestyle changes, people can enjoy many active, healthy golden years. For decades, humans have known the healing benefits of physical therapy and specialized nutrition. Today, rehabilitation techniques are emerging as a new standard in the best animal care programs in zoos around the country, and Woodland Park Zoo is at the forefront of providing this specialized care.

In 2012, our senior veterinary technician, Harmony Frazier, became the first licensed veterinary technician in a zoo to be certified as an animal rehabilitation practitioner; she is also licensed as an animal massage therapist and trained as an animal osteoarthritis case manager.

Along with physical rehabilitation programs such as massage, acupuncture and heat therapies, our animals receive individualized nutrition plans focused on age-related needs and, if required, additional vitamins or medicines that promote healthy, comfortable lives. As part of the zoo's exemplary care, our elderly animals are under a prescribed program to help manage their geriatric infirmities. "Just like people, many older animals experience osteoarthritis, so they are given daily medications to help maintain their mobility, and provided vitamin and mineral supplements for overall health," explains Dr. Darin Collins, the zoo's director of animal health.

When it comes to an animal's longevity, it's all about the species. Aging gracefully means looking at a species' mean life expectancy, or typical lifespan, which is not the same as the species' maximum lifespan. For example, humans can live up to 110 years old, a maximum lifespan, but the average human lives to 71 years old (the average American's life expectancy is 78). This is also true for animals. For example, the oldest gorilla

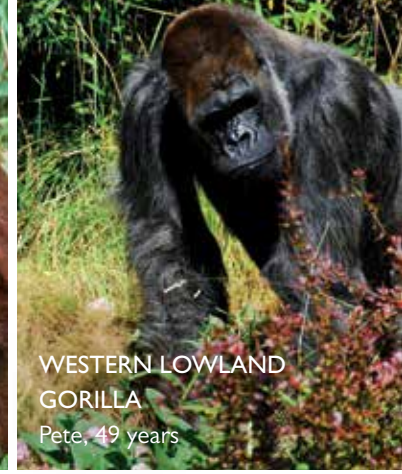
on record was a 60-year-old gorilla named Colo, who lived at Columbus Zoo, but the typical life expectancy of a gorilla is 31.9 years for males and 38.3 years for females.

Nina, our beloved grandmotherly gorilla, lived at Woodland Park Zoo until she passed away at age 47 in 2015. Walking by the gorilla exhibit, you couldn't help but check in on the wrinkled Nina, famously posing with her trademark stick and pink tongue. Her attention to visitors endeared her to hundreds of thousands of guests, and although most folks knew Nina was old, they might not have guessed that she had far outlived her species' benchmark age. "A few decades ago, gorillas lived only into their 30s or even younger. Today, the species, particularly female gorillas, can live into their 40s and 50s," explains animal curator Martin Ramirez.

**Our more elderly animals are living their golden years in a community that couldn't possibly love them more.**



ORANGUTAN  
Chinta, 49 years



WESTERN LOWLAND  
GORILLA  
Pete, 49 years



YELLOW-SPOTTED AMAZON RIVER TURTLE,  
52 years



LAUGHING KOOKABURRA  
Tanami, 25 years



WESTERN LOWLAND GORILLA  
Nina, 47 years (died in 2015)



ENGLISH SPOT RABBIT  
Emma, 13 years (received acupuncture and massage therapy, died in 2017)

Our animal health team is dedicated to providing specialized health care plans for all of our animals to ensure they are thriving—our elderly animals are no different. Animals may experience some of the same aches and pains of aging as people, they may be more sedentary, develop arthritis or experience gradual weight loss. Bette Davis once lamented that "Getting old is not for sissies," but with a crew of dedicated keepers, a world-class animal health team and a community of adoring fans, our more ancient animals are living their golden years in a community that couldn't possibly love them more.

Emma, a 13-year-old English spot rabbit who lived until January 2017, received acupuncture and massage therapy. Keeper Diane Abbey reflects on Emma's health plan, "WPZ is an awesome place to work to be able to collaborate with really great teams of animal care and veterinary specialists who are willing to put in the extra time and effort to give animals like Emma a really extra special time here at the zoo."

Kirsten Pisto, Editor

Photos by Dennis Dow, Ryan Hawk, Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, and Ryan Hawk; WPZ

# ANIMAL SPOTLIGHT: ARCTIC FOX

## When it comes to enchanting creatures, it's hard

to find a more charming species than the arctic fox. Seemingly pulled straight from a fairytale, these captivating canines are incredibly tough and inhabit some of the most frigid habitat.

Resourceful, energetic and smart, this fox can adapt to any season and extreme environments. In the wild, arctic foxes are opportunistic and omnivorous feeders; they will eat virtually anything edible. Small mammals make up their preferred summer diet, but they also eat plants, bird eggs, insects and fish. Winter diets include marine mammals, birds, seals, invertebrates and carrion. They also eat berries and seaweed.

Arctic foxes have extremely long and bushy tails that muffle the sounds made by their bodies crossing terrain. They also have incredible hearing and wide, front-facing ears, which allow them to locate the precise position of their prey beneath the snow. When an arctic fox hears its next meal under the snowpack, it leaps into the air and pounces, breaking through the layer of snow right onto the prey beneath.

While many mammals hibernate during the winter, the arctic fox remains active throughout the frigid months. Their physical characteristics of superb insulation with fur and fat, combined with a stocky body shape enable the arctic fox to conserve body heat. During winters, their densely furred paws prevent heat loss through their feet.

Arctic foxes live in small burrows, which are also used to store surplus food. Families consist of a single adult male, an adult breeding female, one or more other adult females and up to seven pups. Pairs usually mate for life. Dens have a central chamber and multiple entrances for use in emergencies. Some of these dens have been in use for generations.

They appear, and disappear, into the snowy landscape. This seemingly magical creature, beloved by many and celebrated in indigenous folklore around the North, is a reminder of nature's incredible ability to thrive.

*Kirsten Pisto, Editor*

*Photos by Dennis Dow and Jeremy Dwyer-Lindgren, WPZ*

## COAT OF MANY COLORS

The arctic fox has dense fur with an especially thick and fine undercoat that comprises 70% of its coat. They shed their coat twice a year. In springtime, they lose their long winter coats, and in autumn they start acquiring a new winter pelt.

A camouflaging change in color accompanies these molts. Arctic foxes come in two distinct color morphs: the white or polar and the blue morphs. The familiar pure white winter pelt is the white morph commonly associated with arctic foxes. After the spring molt, the white morph has a short summer pelt that appears gray to brown on the face, legs and upper body, while the under body fur is lighter colored. In contrast, the blue morph spends summer with a dark brown, black, light gray or steel blue coat that lightens during the winter. However, the blue morph never turns truly white in color. In the far north, 99% of all arctic foxes are white morphs.



*Here you can see examples of the variation in coats.*





Winter wonder: Arctic foxes have a tremendous tolerance for cold. Their metabolic rate only starts to increase at  $-58^{\circ}$  Fahrenheit and they only start to shiver when temperatures reach  $-94^{\circ}$  Fahrenheit!

# Meet Hudson!

*Keeper and trainer, Regina Smith, gives us the scoop on Hudson.*

**Born:** Great Bend Zoo and Raptor Center, May 20, 2016.

**Favorite objects:** Heavy duty dog squeaky toys, cardboard paper towel rolls and lightweight cardboard boxes (that have squeaky toys hidden inside).

**Favorite treats:** Dog kibble, mixed veggies (except one\*), silverside fish and meatballs!

**Least favorite treats:** \*Lima beans

**Favorite activity:** Sneaking up on his keepers and then running away at top speed when we try to catch him.

**Where does Hudson hang out when he is not visiting with guests or training?** If Hudson is not participating in a training session, he is usually curled up in one of his outdoor runs keeping an eye on what zoo staff and volunteers are doing. Hudson most often chooses to sleep next to a small stump.

**Tell us a bit about Hudson:** As an Ambassador Animal, Hudson does not live on exhibit; his role will be to give zoo guests the opportunity to have an up-close encounter with an arctic fox and hopefully an opportunity to watch him do some natural behaviors during a stage program. Hudson is very playful, intelligent, and is always ready to interact (aka have fun) with his keepers. He seems shy at first with new people, but quickly warms up to them—especially if they have treats for him!

**Is he especially bonded to one of his keepers?** That's a hard question! I think I have the closest relationship with him, but it may be due to the fact that I was able to work with him when he first arrived. Hudson does well with all his keepers, but when we are asking him for new behaviors or ones that make him more nervous, he is more willing to try them with me.

**What type of training has he received?** As you will see, Hudson is a smart fox and a quick learner. He responds to target and clicker cues and can play follow-the-keeper or stand on a scale to be weighed. He loves to show off his signature arctic fox pounce!

**Does he hang with any of the other Ambassador Animals?** Hudson's neighbors are Edna the chicken, Skyáana the porcupine, Lucy the raccoon, Calvin the opossum and Blueberry the hornbill.

**Adorable level:** 10



## EARLY CHILDHOOD CLASSES

Designed for parents/caregivers to attend with their children.

See our website for class descriptions.

### WALKIN' AND ROLLIN'

**Ages:** Birth–18 months

**Time:** 9:00–10:30 a.m.

**Fee:** \$100/6-week session each adult/child pair

9117: Wednesdays, Mar 15–Apr 19

### TINY TYKE TIME

**Ages:** 18–36 months

**Time:** 9:00–10:30 a.m.

**Fee:** \$100/6-week session each adult/child pair

9217: Wednesdays, May 3–Jun 7

### ZOO SPROUTS

**Ages:** 3–5 years

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Fee:** \$25 each adult/child pair, \$10/ additional child 3–5 years

3197: Mar 14, Bug Bonanza

3107: Mar 28, Colors of the Wild

3217: May 9, Growing Gorillas

## SENIOR PROGRAMS

### SENIOR CLASSES

Each class generally includes an educational presentation and an activity before heading on grounds for a short zoo tour.

See our website for class descriptions at [www.zoo.org/education/adult](http://www.zoo.org/education/adult)

**Time:** 10:00–11:30 a.m.

**Fee:** \$20

5137: Mar 8, A Kangaroo Mob

5217: Apr 19, Malayan Tigers

5227: May 10, Animal Enrichment

### SENIOR ZOO WALKERS

For individuals 55 and older, please see our website for information at [www.zoo.org/education/adult](http://www.zoo.org/education/adult)

## PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Kids will enjoy a fun-filled evening with zoo staff inside Zoomazium while you enjoy a night out on the town. Supervised activities include games, an educational film, a live animal encounter, plus pizza for dinner!

**Ages:** 4–11 years

**Fee:** \$30/child, \$22 each additional sibling

**Time:** 5:30–10:00 p.m.

4137: Saturday, Mar 11

4217: Friday, Apr 28

## SCHOOL YEAR CAMPS

These camps coincide with select days off of school for several local school districts. PM Extended Day is available for all full-day sessions.

### ANIMAL ARCHITECTS (5-DAY CAMP)

Animals can be amazing builders! Together we will learn what animals build and why, and even try to re-create some animal structures of our own.

**Half-Day Session:**

**Ages:** 4–6 years

**Fee:** \$200

6217: Apr 10–14, 9:00 a.m.–noon

**Full-Day Session:**

**Ages:** 5–9 years

**Fee:** \$320

6227: Apr 10–14, 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

## SCOUT CLASSES

Each class is designed to meet scout award requirements for Girl Scout Brownies, Girl Scout Juniors or Cub Scouts. One adult for every 6 scouts is required and included in the registration fee.

See our website for more information at [www.zoo.org/scoutclasses](http://www.zoo.org/scoutclasses)

**Age:** 5–12 years

**Time:** 10:00 a.m. – noon

**Fee:** \$18/scout, \$10/additional adult

1137: Mar 11, Into the Wild  
(Cub Scout Webelos Elective)

1217: Apr 22, Bugs  
(Girl Scout Brownies Badge)

1227: May 13, Animal Habitats  
(Girl Scout Juniors Badge)

## BUG CLUB

**Ages:** 5–12 years

**Time:** 10:00 a.m.–noon; Mar 26, Apr 23, May 21, Jun 25

**Fee:** \$55 per quarter plus a one-time \$12 materials fee for new members

## PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

Bring your young learners to the zoo for a fun-filled class including a guessing game with animal specimens and a short tour! Programs are 45 minutes to one hour long and available to kids aged 3–5 in groups of 10–18 children and one adult for every four children. Offered Sept.–April each year, please call for availability.

**Fee:** \$12.25 per person, includes admission

### WHO AM I?

- African Savanna
- Tropical Rain Forest
- Family Farm

## ZOO OVERNIGHT AND EVENING ADVENTURES

All Zoo Adventures include an exclusive after hours look at the zoo! Overnight Adventures also include a light breakfast and morning tour. Zoo Adventures are offered March through mid-November. Program runs rain or shine so come prepared for any weather.

**Ages:** 7 years and up

**Time:** Overnight Adventures run 6:30 p.m.–9:30 a.m.

Evening Adventures run 6:30–10:00 p.m.

**Fee:** Prices range from \$40–60/person, depending on location selected.

For more information and to register, visit [www.zoo.org/overnights](http://www.zoo.org/overnights). Questions? Email [classes@zoo.org](mailto:classes@zoo.org)

### ADVENTURES FOR YOUR GROUP OF 22 OR MORE

Choose your location:

- Education Center (sleep indoors)
- Zoomazium (sleep indoors)
- North Picnic Area (bring your own tent)

Choose your adventure:

- A Zookeeper's Life for Me
- Operation: Conservation **NEW!**
- Living Wild

### ADVENTURES FOR INDIVIDUALS AND SMALL GROUPS

Are you an individual or a small group but still want to join a Zoo Adventure? Join us on these dates for an evening or overnight adventure in Zoomazium!

Aug 4: Operation: Conservation

Aug 19: Living Wild

Sep 15: A Zookeeper's Life for Me

### SCOUTS FOR ADVENTURE

Multiple dates are reserved for small scout groups; information is available on our website.

## SUMMER CAMPS

Camps at Woodland Park Zoo are a terrific blend of learning and fun!

**Age Requirements:** Ages listed for each camp indicate the age the child must be before the first day of camp.

Summer Camps are offered June 26-September 1.

For the safety of the animals and participants, students will not have direct contact with the zoo's animals. Children are assigned to age-appropriate groups.

**We cannot accommodate all "group with" requests.**

### Extended Day for all summer camps:

Mornings available Tuesday-Friday, 8:00-8:45 a.m. **Fee per child:** \$28 Tuesday-Friday or \$8/day

Afternoons available Monday-Friday, 4:00-5:30 p.m. **Fee per child:** \$50/week or \$12/day

### Kinder Camp

Children must be **fully** potty trained. North and South End curricula are offered each week throughout the summer

**NORTH END:** Children will be based in the carousel party rooms and from there explore animals of the Northern Trail, Tropical Asia, Australia and more! Drop-off and pick-up for these sessions take place at the zoo's old North Entrance.

**SOUTH END:** Children will discover the wonders of the African Savanna, Tropical Rain Forest and other exhibits on the southern half of the zoo. Drop-off and pick-up for these sessions take place at the Education Center entrance near the zoo's South Entrance.

#### Half-day Session:

**Ages:** 3-4 years  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-noon  
**Fee:** \$200

#### Full-Day Session:

**Ages:** 4-5 years  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$320

### Zooper Day Camp

We offer two themes so campers can attend one or two weeks of Zooper Day Camp. Each curriculum is offered every other week.

#### ONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

Campers will be empowered to make a difference for wildlife and their families and communities with small actions they can do every day. We'll learn how these actions have impacts in our homes, our state and even globally!

#### SURVIVAL STRATEGIES:

**To-Do list:** find food, escape predators, conserve energy, locate watering hole...so much to do if you are a wild animal trying to survive! Join us for an exciting look at the many different survival strategies animals employ.

#### Half-day Session:

**Ages:** 4-6 years  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-noon  
**Fee:** \$200

#### Full-Day Session:

**Ages:** 5-9 years  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$320

### Discoveries Day Camp

Offered in partnership with Seattle Children's Theatre Drama School, Discoveries Day Camp offers a blend of theatrical and environmental education.

**Registration for Discoveries Day Camp is through Seattle Children's Theatre and begins Feb. 6, 2017.**

To register, call 206.443.0807 ext. 1186 or go to [www.sct.org/School/Classes](http://www.sct.org/School/Classes).

**MAGIZOOLOGY:** It is a race against time to get our magical zoo ready for its grand opening. We will learn how zoo staff care for real plants and animals. Then, using this knowledge, our magic zoology skills and a healthy dose of imagination, we will embark on adventures to feed dragons, keep disappearing creatures in their exhibits and build a new home for a baby chimera.

**I SPY:** Penguins in the savanna? Disappearing monkeys? There's something strange going on with the animals and it's up to our secret agents to solve the mystery. We will travel around the world sorting things out as we learn about animal behavior. Use your detective skills to track down the culprit and restore order to the animal kingdom.

#### Full-day Session:

**Ages:** 5-7 years  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
**Fee Before June 1:** \$340  
**Fee After June 1:** \$365

### Zoo University (Zoo U)

10 to 14 year olds study more advanced subjects while playing topic-based games and making new friends at the zoo. Group age offerings vary by week. Each curriculum is offered weekly, depending on students' age.

**ANIMAL BEHAVIOR:** Investigate what motivates animal behavior and how animals "learn" to do these things. Participants will think like scientists as they explore animal behaviors and design their own projects focusing on interesting animal behaviors from snow leopards to gorillas to humans!

**ANIMALS ON THE FLY:** Take off with us as we explore the flying animals around the zoo. Through games, observations of zoo animals and experiments, participants will discover what makes flight possible.

#### Full-day Session:

**Ages:** 10-14 years  
**Time:** 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$340



Dennis Dow, WPZ



Dennis Dow, WPZ

# ANIMAL

# TRACKERS



Magpie Feathers: Where is the magpie?

Chris Kluener works as our computer expert, but in his spare time he is an avid animal tracker. He enjoys the outdoors and the creatures that live in the Pacific Northwest. Animal tracking is a great way to figure out which animals might have been in an area. Let's talk to Chris and learn a little more about how to look for animal clues:

**WPZ:** *What are some ways to tell animal tracks apart?*

**CHRIS:** We look at the number of toes, the pad location/shape, the overall shape of the track, the size of the track, if there are claw marks or not and other things. Then we look at how the tracks make a pattern which tell us how the animal was moving—animals move in lots of different ways. Then we look at the habitat—are we by a river? In a field? In a desert? In a forest? These details give clues as to who left the mark!

**WPZ:** *Besides footprints, what else can you look for?*

**CHRIS:** Animals leave lots of clues behind. We use our senses to notice what seems different. Things I look for are scat (poop!), footprints, bite/teeth marks, piles of food/plants/nuts, dug holes, bird pellets, bones, scratch marks, bent over plants, animal beds, hairs, shiny/slimy trails, different colors on trees or rocks, insect wings, textures on the ground, carcasses, feathers,

nests, eggshells, insect exoskeletons and more!

**WPZ:** *Do you ever see the animals?*

**CHRIS:** It takes lots of skill and practice to be quiet and patient enough to follow tracks to an animal. However, sometimes we are even lucky enough to just come across an animal by accident.

**WPZ:** *What have you learned from tracking?*

**CHRIS:** The coolest thing I have learned is that animals leave stories for us to read in nature long after they are gone. Often the best stories to learn to read are the ones closest to home—the squirrels and the birds in our own backyards.

Each clue tells a different part of the story—or even multiple stories in one spot. The more you can find, the more of the story you can put together from the book of nature.



Beaver Chews: How fresh is it?



Owl Pellet: Looks like voles for dinner!



Millipede Exoskeleton: Who ate it?

Have you ever stumbled across what look like animal tracks? With so many creatures sharing the great outdoors, chances are good that they are!

Tracking photos by Chris Kluener, WPZ. Chris enrolled in a year-long program at the Wilderness Awareness School and has been tracking ever since.

# Match That Track

Use the clues below to match each animal to its track. There are six animals listed, but we only found five tracks. Draw an X for the animal whose tracks are missing.

- \_\_\_\_\_ **RACCOON:** along the riverbank in firm mud  
**Clues:** 5 long toes, palm pad is c-shaped
- \_\_\_\_\_ **ROCK PIGEON:** on silt-covered rocks near the edge of a field  
**Clues:** 3 toes point forward, 1 points back, (close together means moving slowly)
- \_\_\_\_\_ **ROVE BEETLE:** roaming a sand dune  
**Clues:** small detailed marks, drags abdomen with 6 legs
- \_\_\_\_\_ **BLACK BEAR:** in thin mud, rainy forest path  
**Clues:** 5 rounded toes (but we can only see 4), large front and back feet
- \_\_\_\_\_ **HOUSE CAT:** in firm sand  
**Clues:** 4 round toes, very small
- \_\_\_\_\_ **MOUNTAIN LION:** along the riverbank in firm mud  
**Clues:** 4 oval toes create a lopsided print larger than most dog prints

Can you see the dots made by the raindrops?



Answers: 1-bear, 2-raccoon, 3-house cat, 4-beetle, 5-pigeon



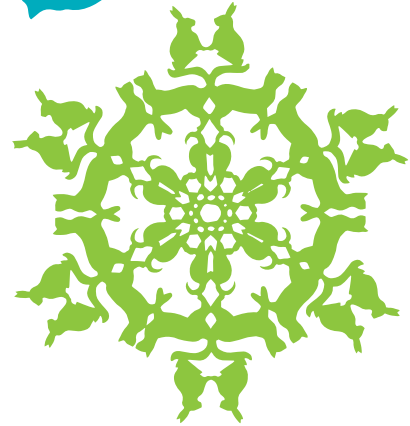
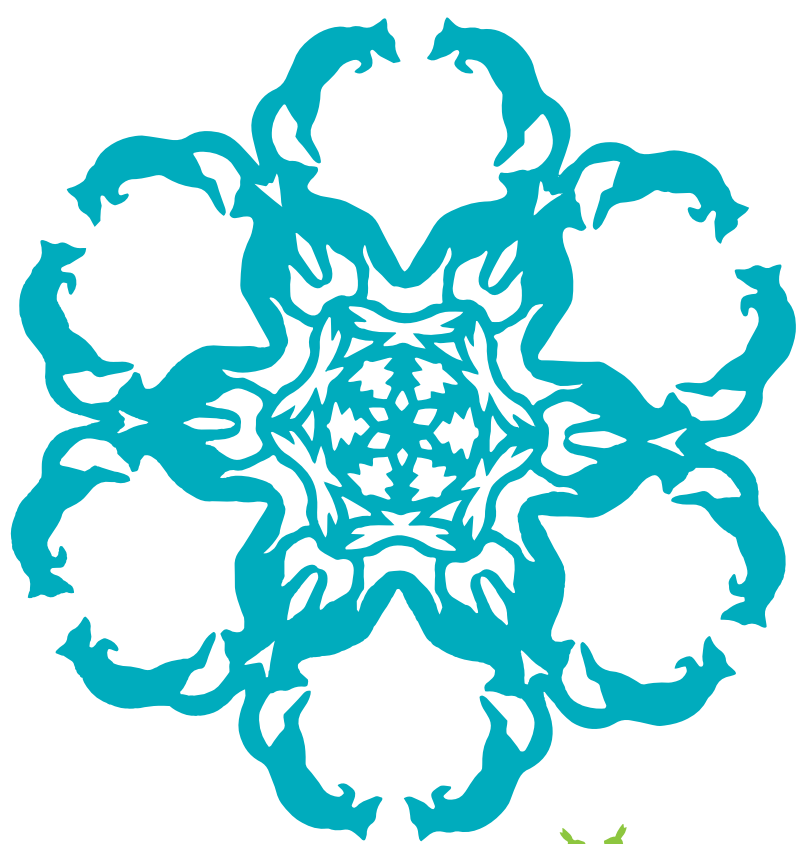
## Nature's Design

Take a close look at the beautiful snowflakes on this page and you'll notice some familiar creatures have snuck into the designs. Thanks to the talented Leah Miyamoto, her works of art have been popping up around the zoo.

Leah started making animal themed snowflakes three years ago when she began working and volunteering at the zoo. The intricate patterns are inspired by her knack for drawing and folding origami along with her love of animals.

Leah says, "My favorite animals are red pandas because they are too cute for words. I also love rabbits. I have two at home and I adore them." Leah is currently studying to become a licensed veterinary technician so she can continue to work with animals.

These designs take patience and practice, with careful planning and cutting, but Leah says, "It's always fun to just start cutting and see what it looks like when unfolded."

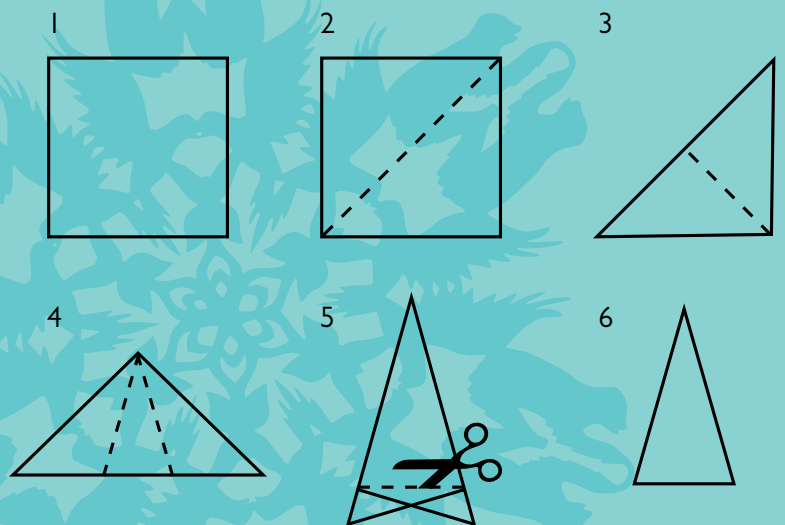


## MAKE ANIMAL SNOWFLAKES

You can make your own beautiful snowflakes.

With help from an adult, follow the folding instructions, then use our templates to trace and cut out a bunny or fox design.

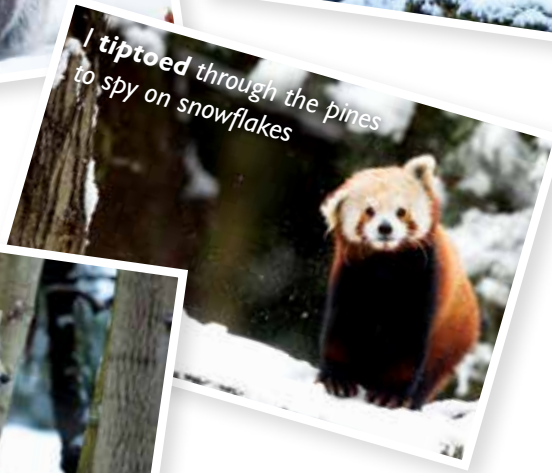
Unfold to reveal a winter-worthy decoration!



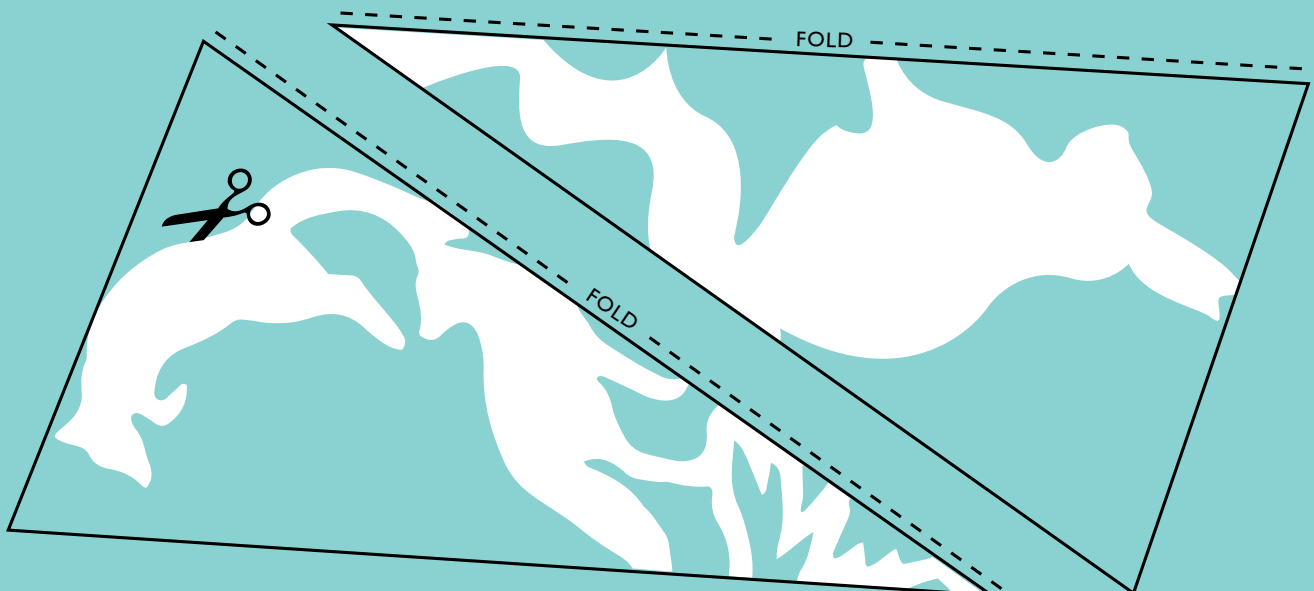
# WINTER WONDERLAND

SPRING 2017

Animals are curious about the snow, just like you.



**HEY, PARENTS:** Prompt a creative storytelling session with the creatures above. Ask questions to continue the winter narrative such as: *What did the animal do next? How does it keep warm? Where does it find food in the winter? Now combine the stories: what happens when the red panda meets the wallaby?*



We can't wait to see what your animal snowflakes look like!



# BUNNY BOUNCE



**Hop, skip and jump to the  
16<sup>TH</sup> annual Bunny Bounce**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 15  
9:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

Fun for the whole family including egg  
hunts for kids, treats for the animals and  
eggs-citing activities throughout the day.  
Visit [www.zoo.org/bunnybounce](http://www.zoo.org/bunnybounce)  
for information and tickets.

*Bunny Bounce is free with regular zoo admission or membership.*