

SPOTS AND STRIPES

Tapir calves are affectionately nicknamed "watermelons" because of the stripes and spots on their coats when they are born. These markings are an adaptation to camouflage the calf and will fade within 5-6 months as the calf grows. Reid Park Zoo helps tapir researchers estimate the ages of wild tapir calves by providing photos of calves born at the Zoo as they grow and their patterns fade.

Give the tapir calf spots and stripes like the tapir below!





