

ZOO & YOU



Summer 2018 | Member Magazine
Reid Park Zoological Society





ZooFriendZ is a **very special circle** of people who are invested in the future of Tucson's Reid Park Zoo by donating \$500 or more annually.

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ONLY \$42 MONTHLY!**

For more information, contact Diana Whitman at diana@reidparkzoo.org or (520) 881-4753.

COMING TO YOUR ZOO

BIGGER SPACES SMILING FACES

Exciting improvements are coming to Reid Park Zoo for the animals and guests, thanks to our community's support! When Tucson's voters passed Propositions 202 and 203 in November 2017, you gave your zoo the resources to make the master plan a reality. The 1/10 of a cent sales tax began being collected in February of 2018 and the funds became available July 1 to begin the improvements. The funds raised from the sales tax will be used over the next 10 years to add land to the zoo's footprint, create new animal habitats, new spaces for guests, and make much-needed repairs and improvements to existing facilities.

The Reid Park Zoo's 2018 Master Plan will make your Zoo one of the best in the nation – and even more of a national leader in animal care and conservation. You'll see an Asian-themed expansion, an improved African safari experience, and more room for playful adventures throughout the zoo. You'll start seeing improvements right away as we begin repairing, painting and refreshing our current facilities while plans are being finalized for phase one.

**To learn more about the master plan, visit
www.ReidParkZoo.org/Future**

Reid Park Zoological Society

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ReidParkZoo.org

Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas

Reid Park Zoological Society's Zoo & You
prints quarterly



TEMPLE OF TINY MONKEYS COMING SOON!



NANDI'S 4TH BIRTHDAY!

Without question, Nandi has captured the hearts of our community from the second her birth was announced. Her spunky attitude and silliness have amused guests over the last four years. She can often be seen wallowing in the mud, running after her mother while her ears flop in the wind, and splashing in the pool.

Four Facts From Nandi's Keeper

Weight: 2,800 pounds

Favorite Food: oranges

Favorite behavior to show off:
climbing on top of logs

Favorite behavior with the heard:
playing with Sundzu in the pool

YOU'RE INVITED!
It's time to get muddy at
Nandi's Birthday Celebration
August 18th, 2018
8:30-10:00 AM

CELEBRATING PREDATORS!



“Eyes on the front, ready to hunt.” Did you know animals that hunt are called predators? Predators eat other animals, called prey, for food. They are very important for keeping ecosystems healthy because they maintain the balance between plants and the animals that eat plants (herbivores). When predators are removed from an ecosystem, there are too many herbivores and not enough food to go around.



There are a lot of predators in the world, and at Reid Park Zoo you can learn about some of the biggest predators out there: lions, jaguars, and tigers.

On July 29th, we will be celebrating International Tiger Day. You can celebrate too by visiting Reid Park Zoo to learn more about Malayan tigers at the Zoo and what you can do to help protect them.

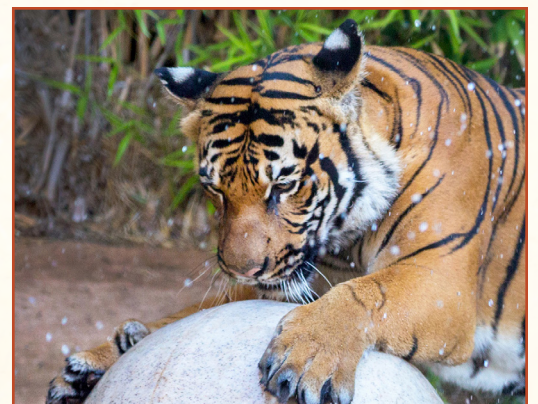
Here's some information to get you started:

- Tigers are found on the continent of Asia, in grassy or forested habitats.
- There are 6 species (types) of tigers - Amur, Bengal, Malayan, Sumatran, Indochinese, and South China. Scientists believe that there are fewer than 500 Malayan tigers in the wild.
- In the wild, tigers prefer to eat hoofed mammals such as deer. They may also eat smaller animals like fish and turtles.
- Tigers are endangered because of habitat loss and illegal hunting (poaching).
- Tigers have vertical stripes to help them blend in with grass and trees.
Like human fingerprints, no two tiger stripe patterns are the same.
- Tigers can run up to 40 miles per hour (but only for short distances).
- Unlike many other cats, tigers like water and are excellent swimmers.

Although tigers live in Asia, there are ways you can protect them right here in Tucson. When shopping, you can help your family buy products that will not cause harm to tiger habitat. Currently, many products we use every day are made with palm oil such as food, cosmetics, shampoos, and soaps. In order to grow the trees used to produce palm oil, tiger habitats are cut down and turned into farms. By choosing products that do not include palm oil or are made from palm oil that is grown in a way that protects wildlife habitats, you can help protect tigers and other wildlife.

DOWNLOAD THE SUSTAINABLE PALM OIL SHOPPING GUIDE!

Then while shopping, you can check the items you're buying by scanning them with your phone to see if it includes palm oil. It is an easy (and FUN!) way to protect tigers and other wildlife.
(Download the app on Google Play or Apple Store)



TOGETHER, WE'RE SAVING WILD ANIMALS

At Reid Park Zoo we are actively involved with conservation programs around the world. With help from you, we are able to address a wide range of issues that impact animals in the wild such as the threats to giant anteaters. Currently, the giant anteater is listed as being vulnerable to extinction on The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™.

The largest remaining populations of giant anteaters live in the grasslands and forests of Brazil's Cerrado habitat. This habitat is being disrupted due to rapid agricultural development and the building of roads. Giant anteaters are the animals that are most frequently killed on these roads.



The Anteaters and Highways project was founded in January 2017 to better understand why the anteater crossed the road, literally. This project examines impacts, consequences and management options of roads and highways. There has already been a total of 28,198 miles of road surveys conducted, 335 giant anteater vehicle collisions counted, 48 giant anteater necropsies (animal autopsy) performed and 2,828 samples have been sent to 23 different partners. The Anteaters and Highways project has continued to monitor animals with radio collars and in June the project expanded to two new study areas where 16 additional giant anteaters were collared.

"2018 is a key year for field work for the Anteaters and Highway project. These funds are going to help us surpass the work we intend to do with more collars and more cameras. It is certainly going to help a lot," said Arnaud Desbiez, Anteaters and Highways field researcher, about the Zoo's donation.



Photos provided by Anteaters and Highways project. Top left: Field researcher writing down data collected. Middle top: weighing of a giant anteater. Middle bottom: researchers searching for giant anteaters in the wild. Top right: a captured giant anteater to be collared. Bottom left: Field researchers performing a health procedure. Bottom right: release of a giant anteater.

EDUCATION PROGRAMS - WHERE LEARNING GETS WILD!

PROGRAMS FILL FAST, REGISTER TODAY!

LITTLE CRITTERS (AGES 2-5)

Price: \$12 per Zoo Member | \$20 per Non-Member
(includes one adult chaperone)

Spots & Stripes: Saturday, August 12th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

During this adventure, we will look at animals who have both, and learn how they use their stripes and spots to hide themselves. Zoo Educators will introduce you and your child to LIVE animal ambassadors that are spotted and striped. We'll also make some striped and spotted creatures to take home.

Sounds of the Wild: Sunday, September 2nd, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

How and why do animals make all those noises? Explore the Zoo with your ears open, and discover what all those whoops, twitters and roars are for.

Animal Families: Saturday, October 7th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

During this Little Critters adventure, we'll visit animals that stay in family groups and some who like to explore on their own. Through close encounters with several of the Zoo's animal ambassadors we will learn how about the importance of family in the animal world. Bring your own family to the zoo and see how you compare.



NATURE PLAY PRESENTED BY SUMMIT HUT

FREE with Zoo admission!

Make a Splash: Saturday, July 28th, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Monsoon season means water! Splash in our mini pools, learn why water is such an important resource for all life, and see how the Zoo catches and saves the rain water that is abundant during this time of the year.

Bright Sunshiny Day: Saturday, August 25th, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

The sun is essential for our planet, but here in Arizona we know sometimes it can make things a little hot. That's why we'll be staying cool with mud, water, and shade! Join us at this Nature Play to see what fun things you can do outside, even while the summer sun is shining bright.

Branch Out: Saturday, September 29th, 8:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Trees are more than just a trunk, branches, and leaves: they provide shade, clean air, animal habitats, and much more. See what you can create with pine cones, wood blocks, and other tree artifacts, and play in the shade provided by—you guessed it—trees!

To the Bat Cave: Saturday, October 20th, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Lots of different animals call caves home. Explore the "cave" we've built at the Zoo, see for yourself who's living inside, and discover why caves are so important (and cool!).



TEDDY BEAR CLINIC

Sunday, September 9th, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

FREE with Zoo admission!

In celebration of National Teddy Bear Day, pack up your teddy bear or other stuffed friend for a "check-up" while visiting the Zoo. You will measure and weigh, diagnose maladies, and even bandage your buddy with the help of Zoo staff and volunteers.



YOUNG EXPLORERS

Price: \$15 per Zoo Member | \$20 per Non-Member

Jr. Zoo Keeper

Saturday, September 8th 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Saturday, October 13th, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Through this interactive, hands-on program your child will experience a snapshot of a day in the life of a Zoo Keeper. Travel behind-the-scenes to the Zoo's kitchen to prepare a meal for one of the animals at the Zoo, watch a training demonstration with an animal ambassador, feed the giraffes, and even clean an animal night house.

Dr. Zoo

Sunday, September 16th 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Sunday, October 21st, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Your child will travel behind-the-scenes to the Zoo's state of the art, NEW Animal Health Center for a day in the life of a Zoo Vet. They'll experience first-hand the importance of math and science in diagnosing and treating animal ailments through hands-on activity stations that are based on real-life zoo scenarios.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WATERMELON WEDNESDAYS

Wednesdays, July 4th - August 1st
8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

FREE with Zoo admission!

This summer just got a little sweeter every Wednesday at Reid Park Zoo! The Zoo animals will be receiving watermelon enrichment. Without a doubt, Watermelon Wednesdays will provide a fun and unique experience for the animals - and YOU! A schedule will be posted on our website two weeks prior to the event.



NEW! ANIMAL PLAY DAYS

See Dates Below
8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

FREE with Zoo admission!

Join us for our new Animal Play Days at Reid Park Zoo! The Zoo animals receive enrichment every day to keep them mentally and physically strong - and Animal Play Days give guests a special opportunity to watch enrichment and engage with the animal care staff during Keeper Chats. Come join in the play all day long and learn why it's important for the animals, too.

Sunday, July 29th
Friday, August 10th
Sunday, August 18th
Saturday, September 1st
Saturday, September 22nd
Wednesday, October 31st



For more information on these and other upcoming events and education programs, please visit our website at www.ReidParkZoo.org

Check back often to see what's new at your Zoo!



NANDI'S 4TH BIRTHDAY!

Saturday, August 18th
8:30 AM to 10:00 AM

FREE with Zoo admission!

Tucson's most beloved African elephant, Nandi, turns four years old this year. Join us in celebrating this sassy girl by venturing out to the Zoo for a morning full of elephant-themed activities and of course Nandi exploring gifts from her keepers.



SUMMER SAFARI NIGHTS

Fridays, May 16th - August 3rd
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Tickets starting at \$6.50

Members receive 1/2 off admission!

Enjoy the cooler evening temperatures every Friday night at the Zoo. Bring a blanket, sit back and enjoy live music in the event gardens, wander through the Zoo as the animals receive enrichment, and have fun on the new JUMBO inflatable slide! The entertainment and themes change each week so check the website for more details.

ZOOCON

Presented by Casino Del Sol

Friday, October 12th
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

Tickets starting at \$95

Save when you purchase your Early Bird tickets today!

Save the date for Reid Park Zoo's signature fundraising event, featuring tastings from the best restaurants in Tucson! ZOOcon offers a wild night of unforgettable live music, auctions, and animal encounters. This is a 21 and older event.



SMASH BASH

Saturday, October 20th
9:00 AM to 12:00 PM

FREE with Zoo admission!

Join us for a smashing good time while the animals at Reid Park Zoo crush, dunk and eat pumpkin enrichment treats. A schedule will be posted on our website two weeks prior to the event.



BOO AT THE ZOO

October 26th-28th,
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM
(line opens at 5:30 for Zoo Members)

Tickets go on sale soon.

Mark your calendar for this one of a kind event! Reid Park Zoo will transform for three nights of spooktacular fun featuring a fall festival, monster-ous thrills, and more!

Interested in becoming a sponsor of Reid Park Zoo events?

Call 881-4753 or email gail@reidparkzoo.org



Reid Park Zoological Society
1030 South Randolph Way
Tucson, Arizona 85716

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SAVE \$20 TODAY AND PURCHASE YOUR ZOOCSON TICKETS!

EARLY BIRD SPECIAL ENDS SEPTEMBER 15TH!

Join us on October 12th for Reid Park Zoo's signature fundraising event, featuring tastings from the best restaurants in Tucson! ZOOCson offers a wild night of unforgettable live music, auctions, and animal encounters.

This is a 21 and older event.



**GO TO WWW.REIDPARKZOO.ORG
TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS TODAY!**