

development, conducting field research, and developing agricultural training, medical clinics, and schools.

The Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund will not only provide financial support to local staff, but also equip them with the resources to complete a primate census, scheduled to start in June. The Fossey staff is also helping to prepare a development and management plan, a long-term budget, scientific projects, and a Web site with the Tanyana partners. Funding for the next phase of the conservation plan has just been committed from the Louisville Zoo in Louisville, Kentucky.



BIGHORN SHEEP BORN AT ZOOMONTANA

Two female bighorn sheep were born at ZooMontana on 9 and 15 of May. Both "Anastasia" and "Nikkita" are doing well, and are on display at the Zoo's *Bighorn Sheep* exhibit, which opened September 2000. The sheep, one ram and two ewes arrived from Boise, Idaho last year.

Certain populations of bighorn sheep, including the southwest desert bighorn, are threatened due to habitat destruction and disease.

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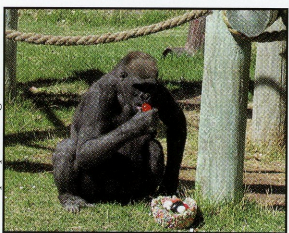
CRITICALLY ENDANGERED PRIMATE BORN AT ZOO ATLANTA

A baby drill (*Mandrillus leucophaeus*) was born in Zoo Atlanta's Ford African Rain Forest on 4 May. The small monkey, native to the rainforests of Nigeria and

Cameroon, is Africa's most endangered primate. Zoo Atlanta is currently home to the only breeding pair of drills in the country. There are 18 captive drill monkeys that reside in four different institutions throughout the U.S.

This newest addition brings Zoo Atlanta's collection to nine, and is the eighth offspring of Inge and Adonis, a 13-year-old pair of drills who have resided at the Zoo since 1990. Drills are highly endangered due to habitat destruction and poaching for the bushmeat trade. The collection at Zoo Atlanta is part of the AZA Species Survival Program.

© Zoo Atlanta



EASTER ENRICHMENT IN ALBUQUERQUE

The Albuquerque Biological Park hosted an Easter egg hunt for its 1.4 group of western lowland gorillas on 15 April. The enrichment activity was a success, and all five gorillas were

able to find specially constructed edible baskets made of melted marshmallow and fruit flavored cereal. The baskets were filled with hard-boiled eggs and gelatin eggs, as well as their regular diet of fruits and vegetables.

© Albuquerque Biological Park

SEDGWICK COUNTY ZOO UNVEILS NEW ENRICHMENT DEVICE

On 3 May, the Sedgwick County Zoo and The Allied Group unveiled a new touchscreen apparatus in the Koch Orangutan and Chimpanzee Habitat. The new touchscreen is designed to study the effects of choice and enrichment on orangutans and grizzly bears. Several studies show that animals that are given some active control over their environment have significantly lower levels of stress than animals with no enrichment opportunities. The "Microtouch through glass," developed by The Allied Group, enables researchers to teach the animals a basic language through the use of lexigrams. Each symbol represents a noun, such as a piece of food, a picture, or a sound. Each lexigram gives the animal the opportunity to view a short video, listen to various sounds, and choose different food items. Eventually, the animals will be able to play a matching game with Zoo visitors, in which guests will see and hear what the orangutans choose.

Never before has this device been tested on grizzly bears. The Zoo intends to implement these fixtures in the grizzly habitat however, in the hopes to collect valuable cognitive data. The touchscreens will give the bears the option to listen and view different stimuli, as well as choose food rewards by touching the screen with their nose.



SUMATRAN ELEPHANT PROJECT UPDATE

A team of scientists in Indonesia is awaiting a shipment of veterinary supplies and medical books for local caretakers, and a herd of 65+ captive elephants at the Sebang-Duri Center. Researchers

© Sebang-Duri Center

arrived in February to initiate The Sumatran Elephant Project, which involves the construction of an elephant hospital, lab, library, and conservation center. Under the direction of project sponsor - World Wildlife Fund - Indonesia - scientists are in the process of securing protected habitat for the remaining wild elephants.



INDIAN RHINO BORN AT OKLAHOMA CITY ZOO

On 10 May, an Indian rhinoceros was born at the Oklahoma City Zoo to Mary and Chandra. The gestation period

© Oklahoma City Zoo

lasted 487 days. Both mother and calf are doing well.

This marks the second Indian rhino birth since the Zoo began exhibiting the species in 1981. "Tashi," the first Indian rhino calf was born in 1996 and now resides at the Buffalo Zoo. Currently, there are only 50 animals involved in the Greater One-Horned Asian Rhinoceros Species Survival Plan.

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