

(Exhibits, continued from p. 46)

Visitors then travel through a cave to arrive at "Taylor Family Puffin Bay," home to these fast-swimming birds of the Northern Hemisphere. With the opening of *Penguin & Puffin Coast*, visitors will see puffins at the Saint Louis Zoo for the first time.



Gentoo and King Penguins at Penguin & Puffin Coast © Rom Goellner, Saint Louis Zoo

Complete with rocky cliffs and frigid water, "Puffin Bay" houses both horned and tufted puffins, about 30 in all. Like their penguin counterparts in the Southern Hemisphere, these black and white birds are skilled in diving and swimming. They are known as "sea parrots" or "clowns of the sea."

The innovative, open-air design of the exhibit allows visitors a close-up experience with the birds. Direct lighting concealed in the rockwork provides full spectrum light important for bird growth and breeding cycles. The birds in *Penguin & Puffin Coast* are on loan from SeaWorld Orlando, SeaWorld San Antonio, SeaWorld San Diego, North Carolina Zoo, Cincinnati Zoo, Six Flags Ohio, Columbus Zoo, Moody Gardens, Brookfield Zoo and Niagra Falls Aquarium.

RHINO EXHIBIT DEBUTS AT INDIANAPOLIS ZOO

26 May marked the grand opening of the Indianapolis Zoo's newest exhibit, which introduces Southern white rhinos to the Indianapolis public. Sponsored by Union Federal Bank, the exhibit features unprecedented vistas for visitors, including an elevated overlook pavilion thrust into the center of the exhibit itself and can be reached by crossing a rope suspension bridge. Resembling an African safari tent nestled among shady trees, this covered pavilion exemplifies the Zoo's approach on this exhibit: giving the opportunity for the Zoo visitor to get as close as possible to these two-ton animals. The exhibit also features another elevated platform that overlooks the rhinos' mud wallow—a favorite spot for these mud-loving mammals.

One male and two female Southern white rhinos came from South Africa to the United States in 2000. While the exhibit in Indianapolis was being constructed by renovating the old elephant exhibit space, the Zoo's rhinos spent time growing

and being trained at the Fort Worth Zoo. They arrived in Indianapolis in April.

Contrary to popular belief, "white" rhino does not refer to their color, but rather the name "white" derives from the Dutch Afrikaans word, "weit," meaning "wide," a reference to the animals wide, square muzzle adapted for grazing. Surviving virtually unchanged for millions of years, their prehistoric appearance is the focus of the Zoo's marketing campaign for the rhinos that features, among other descriptive phrases, "You've seen the bones. Now see the beast." The new exhibit represents three years of planning and work. **E**

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