

species' adult population," said Kristi Newland, Curator of Mammals. Indah, a female orangutan born in January, and a black-footed penguin hatched in April, will be the first residents of the nursery.

The building features two separate exhibit areas. The front of the building houses older, more mobile infants. Younger, dependent animals are kept in the more spacious rear area where zookeepers benefit from food preparation space, supply storage and a computer workstation. Both exhibit areas can be seen from the outside of the building behind large glass windows.

Construction on the animal nursery began in Fall 2003 on the site of a retired ride. The idea for the animal nursery was kindled from a financial gift from Zoo President Emeritus Roger Knox and family.

NEW ORLEANS SHOWCASES WHITE RHINO ENCOUNTER

Audubon Zoo is proud to announce the addition of a rhinoceros encounter area.



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Visitors are presented with a unique opportunity to engage a rhino calf in an up-close-and-personal way.

Constructed of welded pipe and sheathed with artificial bamboo, the area showcases Satchmo, Audubon's first captive-born rhino. He's featured at special times throughout the day, and his habitat currently can be accessed only by him. Born in September 2003, Satchmo has been trained to voluntarily enter the encounter area to

the delight of Zoo visitors. He is the star of "Baby Boom," Audubon Zoo's year-long celebration of their newest additions.

RAINFOREST APPEARS IN KENTUCKY

The Newport Aquarium has added to its collection of animals and habitats with its new permanent exhibit,

Hidden Treasures of the Rainforest Islands.

Hidden Treasures debuted on 29 May, and is the new home for endangered Asian small-clawed otters, Burmese

pythons, lorries and lorikeets. Natural light shines in through the glass panels and skylights, illuminating the animals' habitats while interactive activities give kids and adults a chance to connect with the exhibit animals.

Part of the Aquarium's \$4.5 million expansion, this "immersion exhibit" allows visitors to see one of the most rich and complex habitats on earth. Eight Asian small-clawed otters entertain guests in their one-of-a-kind stomping ground, complete with plant life, rockwork and waterfall. Six of the endangered otters arrived at the Aquarium from the Bronx Zoo as part of the Otter Species Survival Program (SSP), while an additional breeding pair arrived in late May from AdventureWorld Shirahama in Japan.

The exhibit also features two Burmese pythons who reside in an enclosed home that includes replicas of ancient carvings. Guests also have the opportunity to see, hear and even feed dozens of free-flying lorries and lorikeets. This permanent exhibit is the first phase of the Aquarium's planned expansion. Temporary/rotating exhibit and additional event space is slated to open in 2005.



NEWPORT AQUARIUM

INDIANAPOLIS ZOO PRESENTS NATION'S LARGEST SEAHORSE COLLECTION

The Indianapolis Zoo is pleased to announce the opening of its newest exhibit, *Indianapolis Power & Light Company presents Seahorses*. The exhibit, which includes more seahorses than any other exhibit of its kind in the nation, opened to the public on 20 March. Nearly 300 of these fascinating sea creatures, plus sea dragons and pipefish, will make their home in ten different exhibit

areas that contain nearly 10,000 gallons of water. The exhibit itself features stylized graphics in tones of blue and green and shimmering light effects

that will make visitors feel that they are really in the ocean! From the otherworldly looking baby sea dragons to the

diminutive dwarf seahorses only an inch long, this exhibit has the biggest herd around. Visitors will learn about how seahorses swim, how they eat, and why they have a tail like a monkey, a head like a horse, and a mouth like an aardvark. Visitors will also find out exactly why it's the father seahorses – not the moms – that give birth to the babies.

Exhibit highlights include five towering cylindrical tanks so that visitors can get a



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360-degree view of the seahorses, and a special 18-foot tank area constructed just at "kid height" that will allow children a real close-up view of the seahorses – up to 100 of them at a time. Also visible will be the "seahorse nursery," the tank area where the Zoo hopes their seahorses will breed and hatch many new additions to the seahorse exhibit. ■