

PRESS RELEASE: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Montgomery Zoo to Host Animal Enrichment Day, February 11

MONTGOMERY ZOO (Montgomery, AL): Join the Montgomery Zoo Saturday, February 11, 2017 from 10am – 2pm, for Animal Enrichment Day. Tour the Zoo during the “Storybook” themed event and observe how animals respond to an assortment of new creative and behavior-stimulating enrichment items.

More than 20 species will take part in the semi-annual event, including the pygmy hippos, lions, rhinoceros, and spider monkeys. Presented in the form of special toys, unique scents, puzzles, boxed goodies or food treats, the enrichment items provide Zoo animals with both mental and physical exercise.

“Our animals’ well-being, health, and happiness is supported through opportunities to smell novel scents, taste different flavors, and explore new puzzles,” said Zoo Director, Doug Goode. “Enrichment keeps them active and engaged while reproducing their natural behaviors.”

The whimsical Storybook theme will play out at each enrichment session and includes classic favorites from Hans Christian Anderson, Grimm’s Fairytales, and age old nursery rhymes. The black bears will experience the “Three Men in a Tub” by exploring a large trough filled with soapy water. The siamangs will take guests to “Alice in Wonderland” with a fun tea party.

The Zoo consults with national animal enrichment databases developed by government agencies and other zoos for assistance in selecting enrichment items. Zoo staff members evaluate enrichment items and approve them based on certain requirements.

The goal of Animal Enrichment Day is to safely stimulate and reproduce behaviors that are natural for each animal in the wild. Placing different stimuli in the animals’ environment allows animals to use their five basic senses while they exercise. It is a lot of trial and error, but it is always fun.

The Montgomery Zoo provides enrichment to its animals on a daily basis, but this often takes place out of view from the public. Animal Enrichment Day allows the Zoo to share a daily activity with our guests and present it on a grander scale.

Animal Enrichment Day is free for Zoo Members. Memberships can be purchased in advance at www.montgomeryzoo.com/memberships or by calling 334-240-4900. Most members recoup the value of their memberships in as little as three visits.

Mayor

Todd Strange

Zoo Director

Doug Goode

Deputy Zoo Director

Marcia Woodard

2301 Coliseum Parkway
Montgomery, AL 36110

(334) 240-4900
Fax (334) 240-4916

www.montgomeryzoo.com



Animal Enrichment Day Schedule

10:00	Sloth Bear	“Jungle Book” - Paper maché honeycomb with honey and insects
10:10	Squirrel monkey	“Old Lady in the Shoe” - Paper maché boots with treats
10:20	Spider monkey	“The Princess and the Pea” - Paper box mattresses with treats
10:30	Flamingo	“Alice in Wonderland” - Plastic flamingos and a croquet set
10:40	Pygmy Hippo	“Hansel and Gretel” - Box house with treats
10:50	Ring-Tailed Lemur	“Rapunzel” - Ropes with treats
11:00	Reptile House	Treats and scent items
11:10	Maned Wolf	“Little Red Riding Hood” - Picnic baskets with treats
11:20	Jaguar	“Puss in Boots” - Paper maché booths with treats
11:30	Otter	“Cinderella’s Ball” - Ball pit
11:40	Lynx	“Baa Baa Black Sheep” - Paper maché sheep with treats
11:50	Cougar	“Hickory Dickory Dock” - Paper maché clock with treats
12:00	North America Hoofstock	Browse items
12:10	Black Bear	“Three Men in A Tub” - Trough filled with sudsy water
12:20	Lion	“Lion King” - Paper maché deer with treats
12:30	Hyena	“Pop Goes the Weasel” - Jack in the box with treats
12:40	Africa Hoofstock	Browse items
12:50	Siamang	“Alice in Wonderland” - Tea party
1:00	Chimpanzee	“Three Little Pigs” - Box houses- Brick, Sticks, and Straw
1:10	Elephant	“Humpty Dumpty” – Large boxes with treats
1:20	Rhino	“Jungle Book” - Jungle theme box with treats
1:30	Tiger	“Jungle Book” - Paper maché animals with treats
1:40	Asia Hoofstock	Browse items
1:50	Africa Aviary	“Chicken Little” - Moons and stars with treats
2:00	Giraffe	“Peter Piper” - Puzzle feeder

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The Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum is open daily from 9am-5:30pm with the last ticket being sold at 4pm. Animal exhibits begin closing at 4:30pm. Discount combo admission to the Zoo and Mann Museum is Adults \$20, Children (3-12 years) \$15, and Toddlers (2 years and under) Free. Regular admission to the Zoo only is Adults \$15, Children (3-12 years) \$11, and Toddlers (2 years and under) Free. Military and senior discounts and memberships are available. Visit www.montgomeryzoo.com.

The Montgomery Zoo and Mann Wildlife Learning Museum is a 42-acre zoological facility located minutes from the heart of historic, downtown Montgomery.

The Montgomery Zoo is a Department of the City of Montgomery, Alabama

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