

From Tim Tetzlaff, Director of Conservation and Communications

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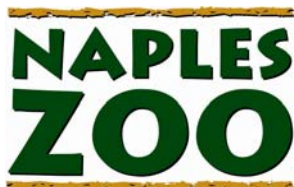
12 Days of Wild Holiday Fun

No Scissors Required When Wild Animals Open Presents

It's definitely not a partridge in a pear tree or five golden rings. For 12 days in December, from the 13th all the way to Christmas Eve, Naples Zoo at Caribbean Gardens will be delivering special gifts to the animals. Zoo guests will watch lions claw into beautifully decorated presents filled with meat treats, hyenas lick candy canes made from blood and ice, lemurs nibble fruity treats off a Christmas tree, and many other animals enjoy holiday-related delicacies with a wild twist.

Wednesday, December 13 at 12:15 p.m.	White-handed gibbons (lesser apes)
Thursday, December 14 at 11 a.m.	Laughing Hyenas
Friday, December 15 at 11 a.m.	Cougars at Panther Glade
Saturday, December 16 at 1:30 p.m.	Red River Hogs
Sunday, December 17 at 12:15 p.m.	Lemurs
Monday, December 18 at 2:15 p.m.	Kangaroos
Tuesday, December 19 at 12:45 p.m.	African Wild Dogs
Wednesday, December 20 at 12:15 p.m.	Siamangs (lesser apes)
Thursday, December 21 at 3:30 p.m.	Indochinese Tigers
Friday, December 22 at 12:30 p.m.	African Lions
Saturday, December 23 at 1:00 p.m.	American Alligators
Sunday, December 24 at 12:15 p.m.	Lemurs

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www.napleszoo.com
(239) 262-5409 ext 122

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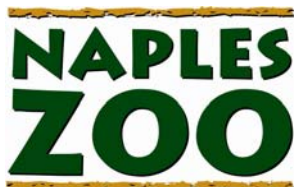
Adding to the community spirit, some Southwest Floridians are contributing to the holiday fun. Recreating a veritable subtropical Santa's workshop, residents at several locations of Brookdale Senior Living communities will be adding to the animal's holiday cheer by making animal-friendly trains, toys, and snowmen. The senior toymakers themselves will also make a special visit to the Zoo to see their presents get wildly unwrapped.

Events like this are part of the daily animal enrichment program. Proper animal husbandry includes not only cleaning, nutritional diets, veterinary care, and daily record keeping, but also behavioral enrichment. Enrichment begins with exhibit design, number and variety of animals living together, and also includes toys for the animal to play with (or destroy), supplemental foraging activities, and even the use of scents to increase curiosity about objects. By rotating activities, animals consistently engage in something fun and thought provoking.

Naples Zoo is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization located at 1590 Goodlette-Frank Road across from the Coastland Center mall in the heart of Naples. In addition to innovative presentations like Serpents: Fangs & Fiction and Planet Predator, the Zoo offers a historic botanical garden and many rare animals. Guests board the Primate Expedition Cruise to glide by islands inhabited by monkeys, lemurs, and apes living in natural habitats. Admission includes all shows and the boat ride (\$15.95 adults age 13+/ \$9.95 children 3 to 12, under 3 free. Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years of age). Visitors can also pick up a healthy lunch and snacks at the SUBWAY® Cafe and shop for wild gifts at tame prices in The ZOO Gift Shop. The Zoo welcomes guests daily from 9:30 to 5:30 with the last ticket sold at 4:30. As always, Naples Zoo is closed on Christmas Day. To learn more, click www.napleszoo.com or call (239) 262-5409.

Print Quality Image of animals and holiday treats available for immediate download at www.napleszoo.com/press

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