

Names, Sex, Birth Dates, Status, Stories

Waters Edge: Africa --

updated Nov. 2021

African Warthog: IUCN - Least Concern

Alexander M 08 May 18, Penelope F 08May 18

Warthog anecdotes:

- they are siblings and are being harness trained, and may be seen on "walk abouts" around the zoo. This may not always viable when they are full grown - 200 to 300 lbs.
- group of warthogs = sounder, when tail is in the air it is called "high-tailing"
- Penelope is more cautious and startles more easily than Alexander. Alexander is more bold
- they like to walk/roll in muddy and smelly stuff. This is a natural behavior to mask their scent and to regulate their temperature
- They naturally take over aardvark burrows instead of digging their own - they back into the burrows
- they are diurnal but will be active at other times if there is a need to be... if for example predators/people in the area
- Both enjoy back scratches and tummy scratches

Nile Hippopotomous: IUCN - Vulnerable

Zambezi F 14 Dec 1992, Kasai F 28 Sept 1999, Biko M -- from a facility in Florida, baby Umo born July 20, 2021

Hippo anecdotes:

- baby is the first born at CMZ in 30 years, can nurse underwater for 1-3 minutes at a

time. Very adventurous. Best time to view = early morning and late afternoon, when feeding. Zambezi is being a great mom.

- Zambezi and Kasai were "on vacation" at Dickerson Park Zoo in Springfield, MO. Zambezi and Kasia are named after rivers in Africa. Biko was named after Stephen Biko, an anti-apartheid activist from South Africa. We have breeding recommendations for both of our females with Biko
- keepers at DPZ loved to feed them oranges - they said oranges helped to make their breath sweet. Zambezi especially enjoys citrus and will strike a "puppy pose" for oranges.
- CMZ keepers have given them whole pumpkins and whole watermelon, also cabbages. They give them "pumpkin pies" on Thanksgiving
- Hippos can open their mouths 120 to 150 degrees and therefore can crush whole melons easily
- Zambezi's favorite treat is melons - when she feels "done" with training she snorts. She reacts positively to having her tongue rubbed and scratched. Keepers learned this when they were brushing her teeth
- Kasai is Zambezi's little sister, the CMZ has had her since she was 2 yrs old. Her favorite treat is PBJ sandwiches. Kasai can be identified by her large pink spots on her feet and her ears are more hairy
- Oldest hippo in captivity lives in Homassassa Springs, FL and is 54 yrs old. There are estimated to be 125k-150k Nile Hippos left in the wild. Their numbers are going down due to habitat loss and hunting. They are hunted for meat and ivory.
- names for groups of hippos: herd, pod, dale, bloat, raft, school, seige

Crested Guinea Fowl Anecdotes:

- 8 in our flock - 4 males, 4 females. One pair has a breeding recommendation: Marilyn Monroe and Troy Polamalu
- All were named by CMZ staff for people/characters with "crazy hair": Marilyn Monroe, Troy Polamalu, Tina Turner, Phyliss Diller, Tracy Turnblad, Mr. T, Elvis and Kramer

- They have individual personalities. most shy: Tina Turner and Phyliss Diller (lowest on the pecking order). most friendly: Tracy Turnblad, Mr. T and Elvis. Slowest to learn: Kramer
- Crested guinea fowl are quieter than helmeted guinea fowl

Ring Tailed Lemur: IUCN - Endangered

Hercules M 07 May 17, **Allagash** F 03 Apr 13, **Rogue** F 03 Apr 13, **Maky** (Mah-kee) M 21 April 26, twins born July 2021

Lemur anecdotes:

- Hercules is the first to interact with keepers
- Baby Maky loves to "speed-leap". He is very confident and learning to accept voluntary injections. Rogue is her mom.
- Allagash had twins in July 2021. Both Allagash and Rogue are first time moms and are maintaining friendly relationship with each other (not typical)
- Lemurs don't like water
- subtle differences for telling them apart: Allagash has a peak on her forehead between dark and light colors - kind of like an "A"

Penguin Anecdotes: IUCN - Endangered

- Currently 16 individuals from several different facilities. We currently have breeding recommendations for several pairs
- They are allowed to free range with guests on sidewalks with keeper/docent supervision. Penguins have individual personalities and can be biters - so far this is working out positively.
- Napoleon is currently our first ambassador penguin and is "bonded" with keepers
- Captain and Pearl can be more bitey with guests and have their nametags in red

- Females have their names on their left wing, males on their right
- All penguins have paired up except Napoleon and Rudo. Not all pairs are SSP sanctioned. Napoleon is bonded with keepers and they both "hang out" with siblings/parents
- Our keepers are very involved with Sannocob - a penguin conservation organization in S Africa. This has been supported through Q4C and by grants. Patti, our keeper, has been to their facility and has helped with penguin release. For some reason, probably related to climate change, penguins are beginning to molt too soon after their young hatch. They therefore cannot forage properly to feed the chicks and the chicks are starving. Sannocob has been taking in the starving chicks, feeding them until they are old enough to live on their own and then releasing them

Pink-backed Pelicans: IUCN - Least Concern

Plato M 11 Dec 15, **Pandora** F 28 Jan 16

- have SSP breeding recommendation.
- Plato has been offering sticks to Pandora as nesting material
- Pandora has a bold personality and may try to come out to the sidewalk "uninvited". She has then chased guests and is usually put back into their designated area quickly
- Plato is quieter and more laid back compared with Pandora

Guinea Pig Anecdotes:

- We only house female guinea pigs as our method of birth control