

Lincoln Children's

# Zootracks



SUMMER 2021



**WELCOME TO  
THE HERD**

**MEET PEBBLES**

**FASTEST CATS  
IN TOWN**



## Lincoln Children's Zoo

1222 South 27th Street  
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[LincolnZoo.org](http://LincolnZoo.org)

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## MISSION:

TO ENRICH LIVES THROUGH FIRSTHAND INTERACTION WITH LIVING THINGS.



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## LET'S BE SOCIAL!



- FOLLOW us @LincolnChildrensZoo on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube
- SHARE your memories and photos on Instagram and Facebook by tagging the Zoo and using #LNKzoo

## THANK YOU TO OUR CORPORATE SPONSORS



# WELCOME TO THE TOWER

**U**nder the cover of darkness the Zoo welcomed two new female reticulated giraffes to the Zoo in May of this year. Zawadi and Ruby traveled over 1,500 miles from the San Diego Zoo Safari Park in San Diego, California. Four year-old Zawadi and two year-old Ruby, came to the Zoo through recommendations by the Association of Zoos and Aquarium's (AZA) Species Survival Plan (SSP). The SSP makes transfer and breeding recommendations based on the current demographics and genetic status of the population, with the goal of maintaining a healthy, genetically diverse, and stable population for the long-term future. Zawadi and Ruby, along with Allie, Kendy and Phoebe, are recommended for breeding with Joey, the Zoo's only male giraffe. With five recommended breeding pairs, the Zoo is quickly becoming one of the largest giraffe breeding facilities in the country. Although giraffe have a gestation period of 15 months, our Zoo is looking forward to baby giraffe in the future!

After arriving at the Zoo, Zawadi and Ruby needed time to fully acclimate to their new home before they could be introduced to the other giraffe and to the public. After a successful quarantine period, Zawadi and Ruby were ready to meet their new tower. The two girls first met the others by viewing them while

separated by a wall before sharing the same space and meeting face to face. The herd welcomed them in immediately, and then they were ready to meet the public.

On May 27, 2021, Zoo guests were able to meet Zawadi and Ruby for the first time and see the whole tower together. Because Zawadi and Ruby had been at the San Diego Safari Park, they were not used to seeing guests up-close or being hand-fed. Zawadi was curious about this new experience and quickly took to eating lettuce from guests, while Ruby is more cautious and tends to hang back and watch from a distance. On your next Zoo visit, be sure and stop by to meet the newest members of our giraffe tower.



Ruby



Zawadi and Ruby

# WHO IS WHO?



**Ruby**

The smallest giraffe in the herd



**Zawadi**

Darkest face spots and bright white stripes on her back



**Phoebe**

Heart-shaped spot on right cheek, uneven ossicones (right is taller than left)



**Joey**

Tallest giraffe, "J" just below his right ear



**Kendy**

White speckles in her spots on her neck, ossicones tipped in black hair



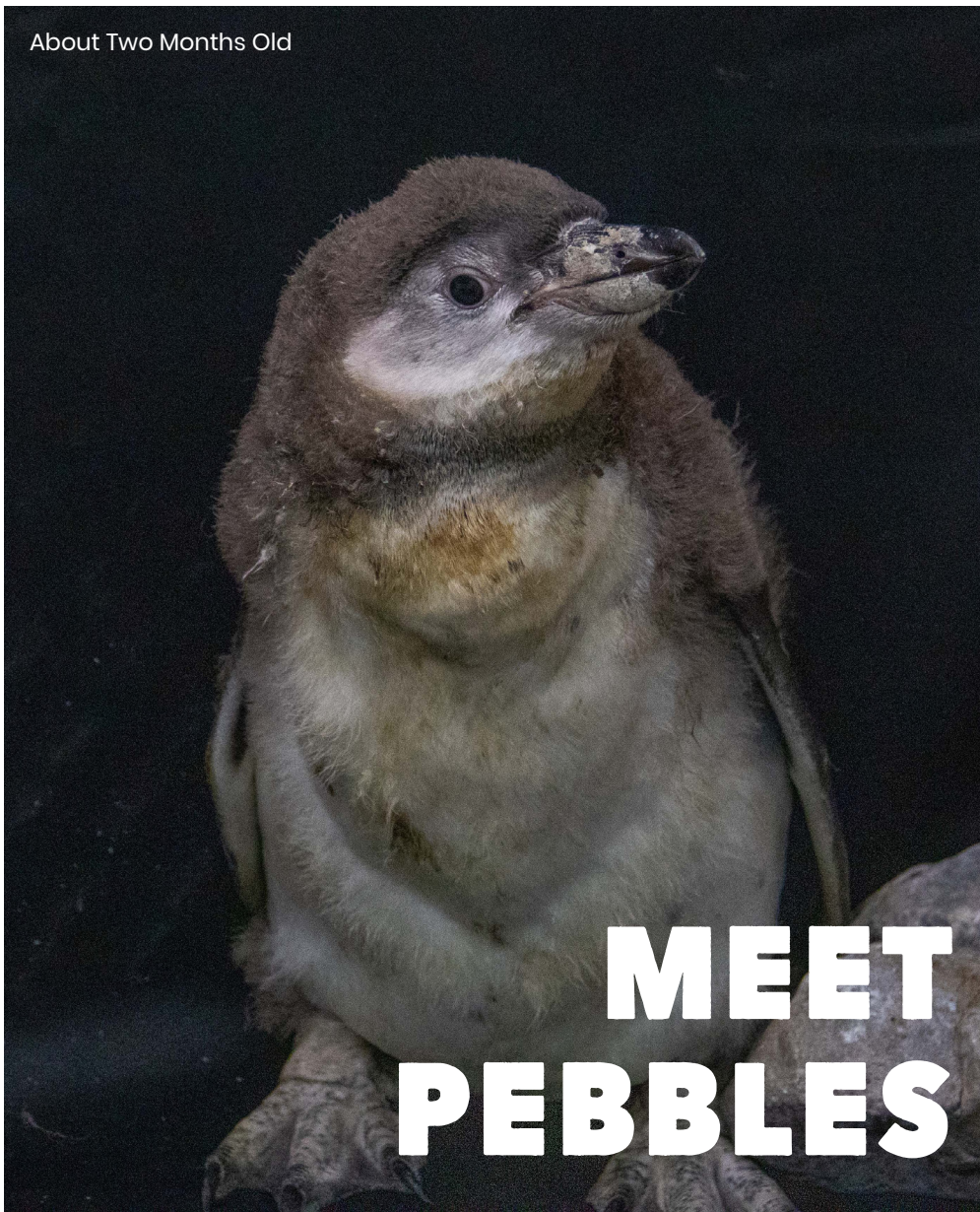
**Allie**

Darkest spots, curliest tail hair and big, dark, poofy ossicones



The entire tower together.

About Two Months Old



With five feedings per day in a 12 hour period, Pebbles quickly grew and met every milestone to be a healthy penguin chick. As Pebbles has developed, she has transitioned from a liquid fish formula to solid foods. Additionally, she has officially moved from our Animal Care Center to the behind-the-scenes area of the penguin habitat, and has started introductions with the rest of the penguin colony. As she continues to grow, Pebbles will transition from the fluffy down feathers of chicks to the specialized protective feathers of adult penguins. Once she has all of her adult feathers it will be time for our zookeepers to teach her to swim and fully introduce her to the penguin colony.

Over the last two months zookeepers have put in long hours and displayed much dedication to raise this little chick and to honor her mother's memory. Avian keeper JoHanna Laphiner says it was worth every moment. "Raising Pebbles has been one of the most challenging and most rewarding things I have ever done," she says of the time. "It is nothing short of magical to be able to watch this penguin grow up and meet milestones." While the Zookeepers were hard at work behind-the-scenes, the community was getting to know Pebbles in a different way. Weekly updates on social media introduced Pebbles to the community and gave viewers a glimpse of what it takes to care for a baby penguin. These weekly updates also gave Pebbles her name. During the first three updates, the Zoo asked the community for name suggestions. After over 500 submissions, the names were narrowed down to five contenders. From that short list the community voted and selected the winning name, Pebbles.

Pebbles is not quite ready to explore the penguin habitat with the adults just yet, but make sure to keep an eye on social media for updates as she continues to grow.

“  
**It is nothing short of magical to be able to watch this penguin grow up and meet milestones.**  
”

**O**n May 11, 2021, the Zoo welcomed its first-ever Humboldt penguin chick into the world! Born to parents Bella and Arnie, Pebbles has shown from the beginning that she is a fighter. Unfortunately, before Pebbles hatched, her mother Bella experienced health complications, and although our highly-trained veterinary and zookeeper staff tried everything within their power, they were unable to save her. It was at that point, the decision was made that a team of zookeepers would take over her care, and work to protect and raise Pebbles. Since Pebbles hatched, the Lincoln Children's Zoo team has carefully monitored her weight, growth, and diet to ensure she remained healthy and met all of her growth milestones.



Egg check-up



Two Days Old



Two Weeks Old



One Month Old



One Month Old

# HOST YOUR EVENT AT THE ZOO!

The wildest place in town to host a wedding, picnic, corporate event, or any special gathering.

Lincoln Children's Zoo has a variety of indoor and outdoor locations to create the perfect setting for private parties and events of all sizes. Make your event one your guests will never forget by adding special behind-the-scenes tours, animal demonstrations or train rides. Grill out or dine in by utilizing the Zoo's catering options.



LEARN MORE & BOOK YOUR EVENT AT [LINCOLNZOO.ORG](http://LINCOLNZOO.ORG)

# ANIMAL ADOPTIONS

*Help Your Zoo*

Show your love for the Lincoln Children's Zoo through our Symbolic Adoption program. Each animal adoption supports care and well-being of the animals and comes with a plush of your adopted animal and a certificate of adoption.

Visit [LincolnZoo.org](http://LincolnZoo.org) for more info.





# ZOO NEWS!

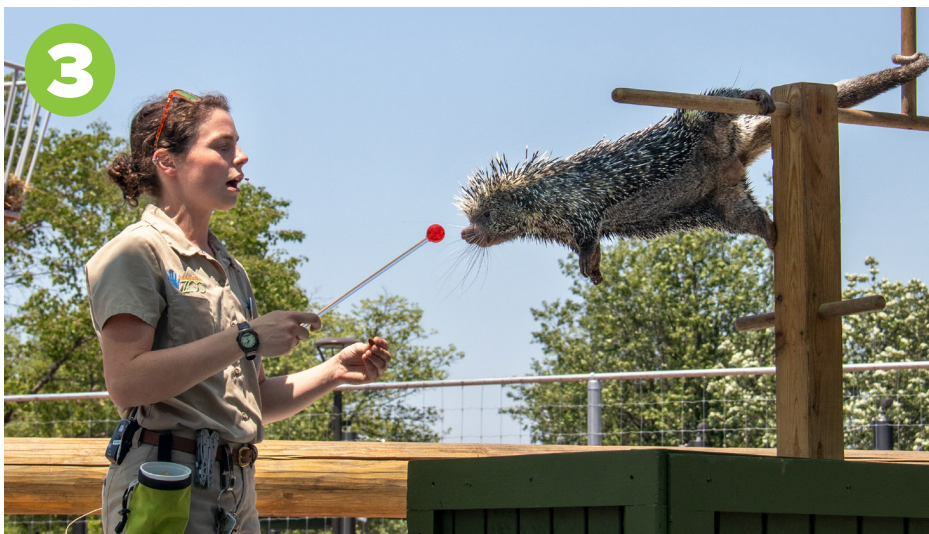


## 1. PLAY STREAM

The Play Stream is the perfect way to cool off during hot summer days! Take some time to splash around during your next visit. Open daily, weather permitting.

## 2. ZOO TRADING CARDS

Zoo Trading Cards make an excellent souvenir! Trading cards are given out after every animal show. Make sure to catch a show at the Cheetah Chase Theater, Wild Safari Theater or Penguin Pool during your visit! Talk to a zookeeper during your visit to collect trading cards for the animals in their care. Collect them all!



## 3. WILD SAFARI THEATER

Learn from zookeepers about a variety of animals including porcupines, African serval, kookaburra, an alligator and more! Shows occur daily at the Wild Safari Theater, weather permitting. Check out the show time board next to the Zoo map for each day's shows.



## 4. WILD WEDNESDAYS

Make the fun last longer! The Zoo is open late 'til 8 on Wednesdays in June, July, and August. Watch a special Wild Wednesdays animal encounter at the Wild Safari Theater, feed the giraffe, ride the train, and more! Wild Wednesdays are proudly sponsored by Wilderness Station Pediatric Dentistry.

## 5. MEET PHYLLIS

Help the Zoo welcome a black and white colobus monkey baby! Phyllis has been exploring her habitat and learning how to be a monkey. Make sure to visit Phyllis and the rest of the troop during your next Zoo visit!



COLLECTIBLE POSTER



# FASCINATING FACTS

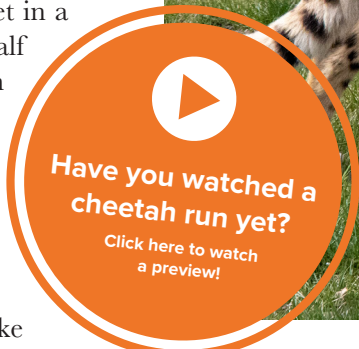
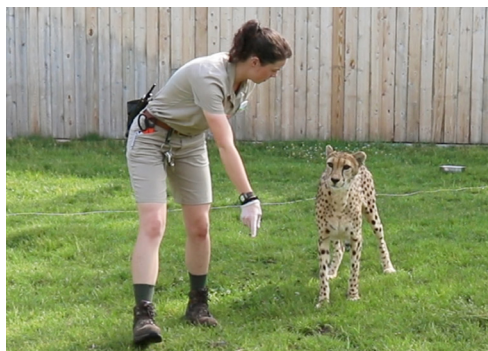
- FOSSA ARE THE TOP PREDATOR OF MADAGASCAR.
- FOSSA HAVE SPECIAL SCENT GLANDS THAT RELEASE A STRONG SMELL WHEN FRIGHTENED OR IRRITATED.
- HAVE RETRACTABLE CLAWS AND FLEXIBLE ANKLES THAT HELP THEM CLIMB DOWN TREES HEAD FIRST.



# FASTEST CATS IN TOWN

**D**id you know that right here at Lincoln Children's Zoo you can witness an experience you'd have to travel over 700 miles to see anywhere else? That's right, here in Lincoln, Nebraska you can watch a cheetah run! Our brand new Cheetah Chase Theater, allows guests to learn about the fastest land animal from zookeepers, and then watch as cheetahs show off their speed and agility. Cheetahs have many adaptations that help them reach speeds of up to 70 mph while they chase their prey. The only large cat with this adaptation, cheetahs have semi-retractable claws that give them traction while they run. Cheetahs also have a flat tail that acts similar to a rudder on a boat, helping to steer them and assist with sharp turns while they chase agile prey such as gazelles and impalas. Cheetahs have a flexible spine which helps them cover up to 20 feet in a single stride and spend over half the time they are running with all four feet off the ground. While cheetahs can reach great speeds, they can only maintain those speeds for around 30 seconds because of the significant amount of energy it takes. To make the most of their hunting time, cheetahs will stalk their prey before chasing it down to increase their chances of a successful hunt. Cheetahs also benefit from excellent eye sight as they can see over three miles to help them detect prey.

Here at the Zoo, our team has worked tirelessly with all four cheetahs for over a year to prepare for the cheetah chase experience debut. Bella had experience showing off her speed to guests at the Columbus Zoo, but Sita, Saba and Nane who were not hand-raised by humans



were new to this experience. Ambassador Animal Keeper Sarah Johanson called the whole process humbling, "To build a relationship with these individuals, to build that trust through positive reinforcement and see them succeed, is one of the most exhilarating and humbling things I get to do as a keeper." Though the training process was long, the outcome was successful and the team of zookeepers and cheetahs get to show off their hard work daily to a theater of excited Zoo guests. As one of only five zoos nationwide

that offer the chance to witness a cheetah run, this experience has quickly become a guest favorite and every morning the Cheetah Chase Theater is full of guests ready to learn about cheetahs, their conservation, and witness the fastest land animals do what they do best.

During your next Zoo visit, make sure you catch the Cheetah Run experience. Shows occur at the Cheetah Chase Theater daily at 10:30 a.m., weather and ground conditions permitting.

# HAVE A *WILD* BIRTHDAY AT THE ZOO!

Create the perfect party for the animal lover in your life! Gather your friends and family at the Zoo for gifts, food and fun! Make lasting memories with options for unlimited train rides and critter encounters.



## PARTIES INCLUDE

- Zoo admission for the entire day
- One hour in party room
- Zoo welcome sign for birthday child
- Zoo wagon to transport gifts

Upgrade to an Ultimate Party for even more birthday fun including train rides and critter encounters!

**VIEW PARTY PACKAGES AT [LINCOLNZOO.ORG](http://LINCOLNZOO.ORG)**

## ZOO GIFT CARDS

Not sure what to give the Zoo lover in your life? A gift card lets them choose! Whether Zoo tickets, train rides, giraffe feed, the gift shop, or the cafes, your special someone will find just the right thing.

Purchase gift cards at the Zoo or at [LincolnZoo.org](http://LincolnZoo.org)



## YOUR HAND YOUR ZOO

PERSONALIZED WITH YOUR NAME • 3 DIFFERENT COLORS • 100% TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Be a part of the most iconic sign at the Zoo! Chose from two different sizes and have your own personalized hand at the Zoo.

This is the perfect opportunity to commemorate special people or organizations while helping the Lincoln Children's Zoo.

**TO PURCHASE YOUR HAND VISIT THE ZOO RECEPTION OFFICE OR [LINCOLNZOO.ORG](http://LINCOLNZOO.ORG)**

ALL PROCEEDS HELP MAINTAIN THE ZOO AND CARE FOR OUR ANIMALS





Animals have all sorts of amazing adaptations that make them unique. From the fastest sprinters to the most voracious eaters, we celebrate our version of the olympics and crown the winners.

# GET READY, GET SET, ZOO OLYMPICS!

## LEAPING



### GOLD: GIBBONS

White-cheeked gibbons are natural leapers! They can leap over 30 feet and use their strong arms to swing over 50 feet. Gibbons can completely turn and twist using only their wrists, helping them to swing through the trees.



### SILVER: COLOBUS MONKEY

Black and white colobus monkeys use branches as trampolines, jumping up and down on them to get lift off for leaps up to 50 feet through the trees.



### BRONZE: TIGER

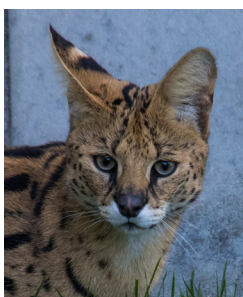
Tigers show off their agility and hunting skills by jumping approximately 15 feet into the air and 30 feet horizontally.

## HIDING



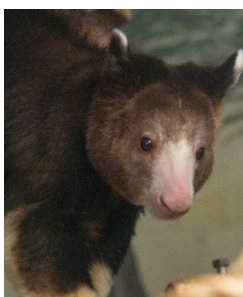
### GOLD: SNOW LEOPARD

Sometimes referred to as ‘ghosts of the mountains,’ snow leopards have the perfect camouflage for their mountainous habitats. Their grey and white fur is covered in spots and rosettes, and each leopard has their own set of unique spots.



### SILVER: SERVAL

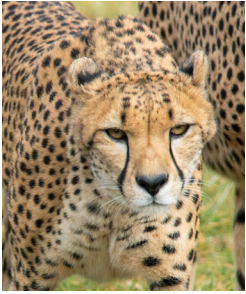
Servals have both spots and stripes—sort of. While they don’t have true stripes, some of their larger spots blend together to give the appearance of stripes. This makes it tough to find a serval in high grass when it’s standing still.



### BRONZE: TREE KANGAROO

The reddish tint of the Matschie’s tree kangaroo’s fur helps them blend into the tops of the trees where they live in Papua New Guinea and protects them from predators.

# RUNNING



## GOLD: CHEETAH

Reaching speeds up to 70 miles per hour, cheetahs are the world's fastest land animal. Covering up to 20 feet in a single stride, cheetahs can reach full speed in only 3 seconds. However they can only maintain that speed for about 30 seconds.



## SILVER: CAMEL

It may be surprising, but camels can reach speeds of 40 miles per hour. They can only reach these speeds for short periods of time and don't run very often, but they can if they need to!



## BRONZE: GIRAFFE

The tallest land animals can also reach speeds up to 35 miles per hour! While they may not be the most graceful of runners, giraffes can reach these speeds if escaping a predator or other threat.

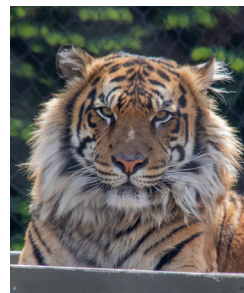


# EATING



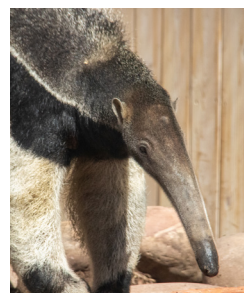
## GOLD: GIRAFFE

It's no surprise the tallest land animal would need to eat a lot! Giraffes can eat up to 120 pounds of food a day, munching on browse (leaves and branches), hay, specialized grain, fruits and vegetables. Giraffes spend about 20 hours a day eating.



## SILVER: TIGER

Tigers primarily hunt at night using sight and sound to identify prey. In the wild, they will hunt about once a week and can consume as much as 75 pounds of food in one night. At the Zoo, food is hidden or hung from the ceiling/walls to encourage natural hunting behaviors.



## BRONZE: GIANT ANTEATER

Giant Anteaters use their 2 foot long tongue to eat approximately 30,000 ants and termites a day. Their tongue is covered in sticky saliva to help them lick up their food. They feed at an ant or termite colony for just a minute or so before moving on.

# SLOW DOWN

You know about the *fastest* animals at the Zoo, but what about the *slowest*? Galápagos tortoises walk at about 0.16 miles per hour. In comparison, humans walk at an average speed of 2.8 miles per hour. Similarly, sloths are very slow travelers. On average they travel 41 yards per day—less than half the length of a football field!



# ZOO!

## CALENDAR

### AUGUST

AUG  
21

**BREWS AT THE ZOO | 21+ EVENT | 6 P.M. – 11 P.M.**

It's time for adults 21 and over to enjoy some delicious craft beers and live music at the Zoo! Featuring a concert by Flannel Channel and beer from Zipline Brewery, Empyrean Brewing, White Elm Brewing and more!

PROUD SPONSOR



### SEPTEMBER

SEP  
12

**GRANDPARENTS DAY | 10 A.M. – 5 P.M.**

Celebrate Grandparents Day with one free admission for grandpa and grandma all day! Grandparents must be accompanied by a grandchild to receive free admission.

PROUD SPONSOR

Complete  
**Hearing**

SEP  
18

**BREWS AT THE ZOO | 21+ EVENT | 6 P.M. – 11 P.M.**

It's time for adults 21 and over to enjoy some delicious craft beers and live music at the Zoo! Featuring a concert by Josh Hoyer and beer from Zipline Brewery, Empyrean Brewing, White Elm Brewing and more!

PROUD SPONSOR



 WILD  
WEDNESDAY

**OPEN LATE 'TIL 8  
EVERY WEDNESDAY  
JUNE, JULY & AUGUST**

PROUD SPONSOR  
**wilderness  
station**  
PEDIATRIC DENTISTRY



# WHO ARE YOU?

Animals have lots of different traits. Take this short quiz to see which animal you have the most in common with!



- 1 What's your favorite type of food?**
  - A. Fruits and veggies
  - B. Leafy greens
  - C. Anything meaty
- 2 Where would you like to spend time?**
  - A. High up in the trees
  - B. Wide open spaces
  - C. The jungle
- 3 Where do you like to sleep?**
  - A. Curled up somewhere
  - B. Standing up
  - C. Anywhere I feel comfortable
- 4 How do you like to spend your day?**
  - A. Taking naps
  - B. Eating - all day!
  - C. Enjoying the sunshine
- 5 What's your style?**
  - A. Anything red
  - B. I prefer spots
  - C. Stripes are the way to go
- 6 What's your social life like?**
  - A. I'm okay alone
  - B. I like to spend time with my family
  - C. Leave me alone

HAVE YOU TAKEN A PHOTO AT THE ZOO STATUE? IT'S ONE OF THE MOST PHOTOGRAPHED SPOTS AT THE ZOO! MAKE SURE TO TAG US IN YOUR PHOTOS – @LINCOLNCHILDRENSZOO

**MOSTLY A**



## RED PANDA

Like these small “fire foxes,” you enjoy climbing trees, taking naps, being mostly alone and snacking on fruits and veggies.

**MOSTLY B**



## GIRAFFE

Do you like to stand tall, hang out with your friends, and enjoy eating the day away? Then the world's tallest mammal is a lot like you.

**MOSTLY C**



## TIGER

If sitting outside alone, eating a burger sounds like your ideal day, then your perfect animal friend is the tiger.

Why wouldn't the shrimp share his treasure?

*Because he was a little shellfish!*

Where do cows go on Friday nights?

*To the moo-vies!*

How do you make an octopus laugh?

*With ten-tickles!*

Why couldn't the pony sing Happy Birthday?

*He was a little horse!*

## PHEOBE'S FAVORITE JOKES!



DO YOU HAVE A FAVORITE ANIMAL JOKE? EMAIL THEM TO [CONTACT@LINCOLNZOO.ORG](mailto:CONTACT@LINCOLNZOO.ORG) FOR A CHANCE TO BE FEATURED IN ZOOTRACKS!

# ANIMAL MATCHING

Match each animal with the fun fact about them.

I eat about 20 hours a day!

I move so slow algae grows on my back.

I am an excellent swimmer.

I can run up to 70 miles per hour.

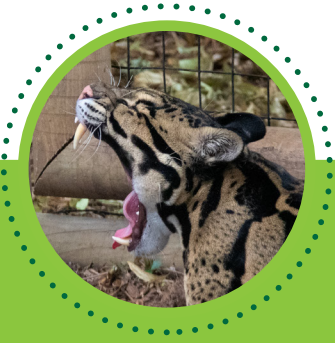
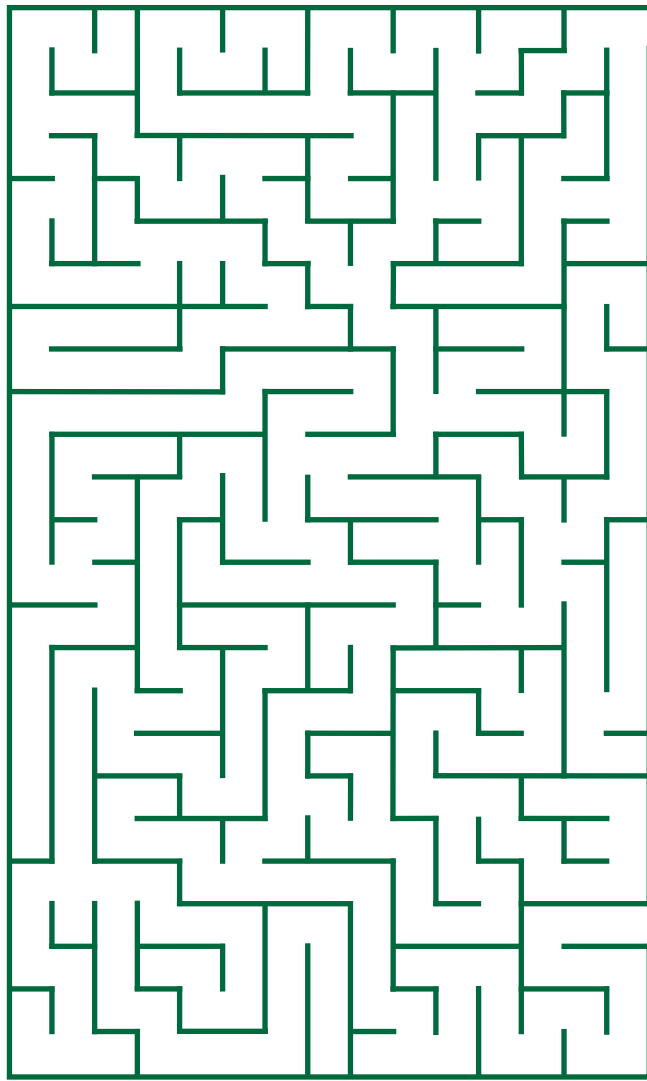
I have 13 stripes on my tail.



Answers left to right: giraffe, sloth, tiger, cheetah, ring-tailed lemur



Navigate the maze to meet Maui the clouded leopard!

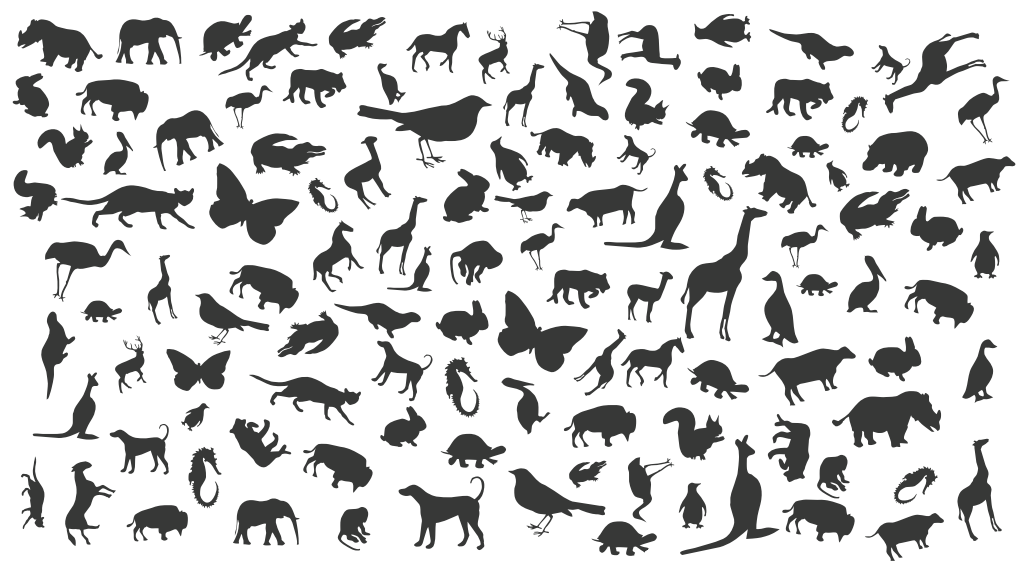
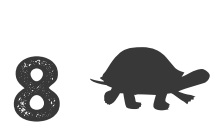
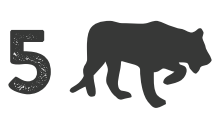
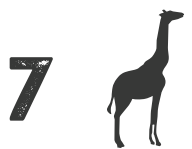


### DID YOU KNOW?

Clouded leopards have the biggest canine teeth, relative to their body size, of any cat! Their two-inch canine teeth are the same size as a tiger's even though a tiger is 10x bigger!

# SPOT THE ANIMALS!

Can you find the correct number of each animal?





Lincoln Children's  
**ZOO**

1222 South 27<sup>th</sup> Street  
Lincoln, NE 68502  
LincolnZoo.org



# **BECOME A ZOO MEMBER JOIN THE HERD**

**MEMBERSHIPS AVAILABLE AT [LINCOLNZOO.ORG](http://LINCOLNZOO.ORG)**

## **SUPPORT YOUR ZOO!**

It costs \$13,000 to care for the Zoo's animals each day. Funds from your Zoo Membership go directly to support the animals in our care. During these challenging times, your support of Lincoln Children's Zoo is more important than ever! Not only does your Zoo Membership grant your family incredible benefits, the funds go directly to support the highest quality of care for our beloved animals, foster education, and support conservation efforts.

## **DON'T MISS OUT ON:**

- FREE unlimited admission to the Zoo year-round
- Discounted or free tickets to Zoo events such as Boo at the Zoo & Zoo Lights Powered by LES
- Discounted registration for Zoo Camps
- Discounted or free admission to nearly 200 AZA accredited zoos and aquariums nationwide
- And more! Head to [LincolnZoo.org](http://LincolnZoo.org) for a full list of member benefits

*\*Zoo activities and events are subject to change due to COVID-19 concerns.*