

## For the love of primates

### *Woodland Park Zoo celebrates Chinese New Year*

**WHAT:** The New Year celebrations aren't over just yet. Chinese New Year, a celebration of happiness, hard work and a prosperous year to come, is Monday, February 8. In addition to celebrating the first day of the first lunar month, the holiday also marks the beginning of a new zodiac year, with 2016 being the year of the monkey.



Woodland Park Zoo will celebrate Chinese New Year and the year of the monkey by featuring holiday and primate-themed activities in Zoomazium and the Tropical Rain Forest exhibit between **Monday, February 8, and Sunday, February 14.**

**WHEN:** Monday, February 8, to Sunday, February 14 during regular zoo hours. Daily primate tour of the Tropical Rain Forest exhibit begins at 1:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Zoomazium and the Tropical Rain Forest exhibit; both on zoo grounds. Guests attending the Tropical Rain Forest primate tour will meet at Zoomazium at 1:30 p.m.

**INFO:** Woodland Park Zoo is honoring Chinese New Year (also known as the Lunar New Year) and the year of the monkey with a week-long celebration. Zoo guests can stop by Zoomazium anytime during regular zoo hours the week of Monday, February 8 to Sunday, February 14, and enjoy fun activities such as fingerprint art, paper lantern or monkey mask making and coloring; plus special dragon ribbon dancing. Guests will also have the opportunity to give an ang pow to wildlife. Ang pows, also known as Chinese red envelopes, are filled with a dollar (or larger) bill as a token of good fortune and prosperity. Ang pows are happily given during social and family celebrations, such as the New Year.

The 1:30 Primate Tour will feature several of the zoo's primates in the Tropical Rain Forest exhibit, including a stop at the gorilla, red ruffed lemur, ring-tailed lemur and colobus monkey exhibits.

Woodland Park Zoo is home to several primate species including macaques, orangutans, siamangs and tamarins. Many primate species are endangered and face significant threats to their survival. Deforestation due to agriculture, infrastructure development and industry is decreasing and fragmenting primate habitat. Zoos are making significant contributions to primate conservation through field research, public education, captive management of primate species and support for field conservation.

Woodland Park Zoo is doing its part to protect primates through its support of several primate conservation projects around the world including: [Colobus Conservation Ltd](http://www.colobusconservation.org),

a not-for-profit organization that works to support, promote and advocate forest conservation as the primary means of ensuring the long-term survival of the Angolan black and white colobus monkey (*Colobus angolensis palliatus*) and other primates on the South coast of Kenya; [Gunung Palung Orangutan Conservation Program](#) works with the communities surrounding Borneo's Gunung Palung National Park to foster sustainable stewardship of the area's natural resources and build a future where orangutans and other wildlife can thrive alongside local villages; [The Mbeli Bai Gorilla Study](#) monitors large mammals visiting a naturally occurring 13-hectare large, swampy forest clearing in the southwest of Nouabale-Ndoki National Park, Republic of Congo; and the [AZA Ape TAG](#), works with the individual ape Species Survival Plan (SSP) programs (bonobos, chimpanzees, gibbons/siamangs, gorillas and orangutans) to ensure that ape populations in accredited zoos are properly managed to secure their long-term future and physical and psychological health. Learn what you can do to protect primates by visiting: [www.zoo.org/conservation/action](http://www.zoo.org/conservation/action).

Accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums, award-winning Woodland Park Zoo is famed for pioneering naturalistic exhibits and setting international standards for zoos in animal care, conservation and education programs. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats through more than 35 field projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. By inspiring people to care and act, Woodland Park Zoo is making a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. For more information, visit [www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org).

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