

MEDIA ADVISORY

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Media contact: Gigi Allianic, Meghan Sawyer
206.548.2550 | woodlandparkzoopr@zoo.org

Woodland Park Zoo's red panda cub needs a name *Poll kicks off to name one of the adorable twin sisters*

WHAT: Help name one of the zoo's healthy, growing red panda cubs as she turns 2 months old! The zoo is holding an online naming poll where the community can weigh in on three different monikers selected by zookeepers:

- **Zeya** (zay-uh) – means *success* in Burmese
- **Daxa** (duck-shuh) – means *clever* in Hindi
- **Zhú** (jhoo) means *bamboo* in Mandarin

The naming poll begins **August 20 and runs through August 27**. To vote, visit zoo.org/redpanda. Both the winning name and the privately-chosen name of the second red panda cub will be announced on August 29.

Participants can choose to be entered into a drawing to win a red panda ZooParent adoption package that includes a red panda plush toy, photo, fact sheet and personalized certificate of adoption. One winner will be randomly chosen from all who enter. To learn more about the ZooParent Animal Adoption Program, visit zoo.org/zooparent.

WHEN: **Naming poll: Monday, August 20 through Monday, August 27.**
Vote at zoo.org/redpanda.

INFO: The twin cubs were born in June to 2-year-old first-time mom Hazel and 13-year-old dad Yukiko. It was the first successful birth of red pandas at the zoo in nearly three decades – the last successful birth was in 1989.

Hazel lives in a private, indoor climate-controlled den where she can continue to nurse and bond with her babies in a calm and quiet environment; the den is off view to zoo guests. Yukiko does not yet have contact with his new family, but introductions may be planned in the near future.

The zoo anticipates putting Hazel and her cubs in the outdoor public exhibit in mid-October to late November.

Red pandas share the name of giant pandas, but more closely resemble raccoons. Recent studies suggest they are closely related to skunks, raccoons and weasels. Red pandas are an endangered species native to the bamboo forests of China, the Himalayas and Myanmar. Because of deforestation, increased agriculture and cattle grazing, and continued pressure from growing local populations, fewer than 10,000 red pandas remain in the wild.

Woodland Park Zoo supports the Red Panda Network, whose multi-prong approach aims to conserve this flagship species in Nepal. Help support the project by adopting a red panda through the zoo's ZooParent Adoption Program.

Summer zoo hours through September 30 are 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. daily. For more information or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500.



Founded in 1899, Woodland Park Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums and certified by the rigorous American Humane Conservation program. The Humane Certified™ seal of approval is another important validation of the zoo's long-standing tradition of meeting the highest standards in animal welfare. Woodland Park Zoo is helping to save animals and their habitats through more than 30 field projects in the Pacific Northwest and around the world. Each year, the zoo engages more than a million visitors of all ages, backgrounds, abilities, and walks of life in extraordinary experiences with animals, inspiring them to make conservation a priority in their lives and a difference in our planet's future ecological health and sustainability. Visit www.zoo.org and follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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