

## PRESS RELEASE

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### MEDIA DOWNLOAD LINK FOR PHOTOS + VIDEO:

<https://zoo.resourcespace.com/?c=3147&k=f0e7d4542d>

password: gorilla

<https://blog.zoo.org/2020/05/uzummas-first-mothers-day.html>

### **Happy Mother's Day! Gorilla is excellent mom to her baby** ***Baby gorilla brings awe, joy, and smiles to zoo family and community***



SEATTLE—Woodland Park Zoo would like to wish a very Happy Mother's Day to all the moms out there, including its animal moms. Healthy baby animals abound at the zoo, including a baby gorilla, agouti pups and penguin chicks, with a baby tapir due very soon.

Gorilla Uzumma (uh-zuh-ma), a first-time mom, is a great role model for demonstrating exemplary mothering skills. During a time of social distancing, she and her 2-month-old baby boy are thriving and continue to inspire hope and touch the hearts and minds of the community.

Every day the unnamed baby gorilla is growing and becoming stronger. With increased coordination skills, he tightly grips his mama's fur and pushes up with his legs, which enables him to maneuver himself to nurse. This milestone makes him less reliant on Uzumma who previously had to position him correctly to nurse—something she had been doing wonderfully.

When Uzumma and the family spend time outdoors, the gorilla keepers note the baby is more alert and observant, taking in his surroundings such as the sky, trees, branches, leaves and birds. And, another milestone reached: he now has several teeth growing in!

Sign the wish book and follow Uzumma and baby's journey:

<https://www.zoo.org/growingupgorilla>

Please visit [www.zoo.org/relief](https://www.zoo.org/relief) to help support the animals at Woodland Park Zoo. While the zoo is temporarily closed to the public, the exceptional animal care and veterinary teams, and other staff continue to work to provide dedicated care to more than 900 animals. As a non-profit organization, the zoo is relying on the community now more than ever to help these wonderful animals continue to thrive. Contributions, both big and small, will help creatures of all sizes.

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