

PRESS RELEASE

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<https://zoo.resourcespace.com/?c=3409&k=765fc7e1bf>

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Splish splash! #SeattleWatermelon baby tapir gets swim lessons!

SEATTLE—Woodland Park Zoo's "watermelon" baby Malayan tapir is making a splash with swim lessons!

The female tapir is getting her first encounters in the pool under the attentive eye of mom Ulan (OO-lawn, like Mulan). The water level of the pool will be raised gradually and it won't be long before the baby is swimming like a pro.

The baby tapir was born in June to Ulan and dad Bintang. The tapirs live in the zoo's Trail of Vines habitat.

A baby tapir looks like a watermelon on legs due to its reddish-brown coat dappled with white and cream-colored spots and stripes! This color pattern works wonders as camouflage in bamboo or reed jungles. The striped pattern begins to fade after a few months and the calf begins to look like a miniature adult at about 5 to 8 months old.

The new tapir will soon have a name. Stay tuned and follow the journey of Ulan and her baby at <https://www.zoo.org/tapir>.

Woodland Park Zoo has reopened—visit now! Go to www.zoo.org to purchase timed-entry admission tickets and to learn about changes to help keep zoo visitors, animals and staff healthy. For additional ways to support your zoo, consider a membership or contribute to the Relief Fund at www.zoo.org/relief. The zoo appreciates the community support!

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