

## Fluffy red panda cubs make their public debut! Press is invited for adorable photo opportunity

**WHAT:** **It's time to meet the twins!** Woodland Park Zoo's red panda cubs are making their public debut tomorrow, and the press is invited to get the first snaps of the precious furballs.



The twin cubs, a boy and a girl, were born May 25 to mom 4-year-old Hazel and 15-year-old dad Yukiko. The female cub is named Tián (TEA-en), meaning "sweet," and her twin brother is named Zan (rhymes with van), meaning help and support. Both names are Mandarin, a nod to the species' native land in China.

Both cubs are happy, healthy and thriving! At birth, the tiny babies weighed just under 6 oz. each. Now, the growing cubs weigh 7½ pounds each. When the cubs are fully grown, they'll weigh up to 14 pounds.

The curious twins love to explore their surroundings, and are sure to be excited to venture around their new outdoor habitat. So many new branches to climb and so many new sights to see!

**WHEN:** **Friday, October 23, 9:30 — 10:30 a.m.**

**WHERE:** Red panda's public exhibit at Woodland Park Zoo. Meet PR staff at the Center for Wildlife Conservation (CWC) reception office, located at N. 55<sup>th</sup> St. & Phinney Ave. N. Park in the Penguin Lot. Entering the zoo at the West Entrance can't be permitted at this time for the press.

**VISUALS:** Press will be able to take photos and video of the cubs in front of the red panda exhibit. **Social distancing will be required at all times.**

**INFO:** **About red pandas**  
Red pandas are found across the Himalayas and in mountainous regions of northern Myanmar and southern China. They live in high-altitude forests that have bamboo understories; red pandas share part of their range with giant pandas.

Largely solitary, red pandas spend much of their time in trees, napping in nests that they build on evergreen branches; they also spend a lot of their time patrolling the perimeter of their territory. At the zoo if you don't see them on the ground, look up in the trees!

Although they share part of their name with giant pandas and may look a little like raccoons, they belong to a family of their own: Ailuridae. They have no living relatives, and their nearest fossil ancestors lived 3 to 4 million years ago.

### **How you can help red pandas**

Red pandas are endangered. Numbers are not known but there could be between 2,500 and 10,000 remaining in their native habitat. Population numbers continue to decline due to deforestation, increased agriculture and cattle grazing, and continuing pressure from growing local populations.

Additionally, red pandas are often poached for their beautiful russet fur.

Help support conservation efforts by visiting Woodland Park Zoo and supporting its Wildlife Survival Program, which includes the [Red Panda Network](#); their multi-prong approach aims to conserve this flagship species in Nepal.

You can also become a [digital ZooParent](#) by adopting a red panda! When you become a digital ZooParent, your donation will help Woodland Park Zoo, its operations, and its mission to save wildlife and inspire everyone to make conservation a priority in their lives more than ever.

#### **What is the viewing schedule for Tián and Zan?**

A schedule for being outdoors in the public exhibit may initially be irregular, as the cubs continue to settle in their new surroundings. As with all zoo animals, animal care staff will follow the animals' cues and allow them the choice to be outdoors or in their den. Because red pandas live in high-altitude temperate forests with bamboo understories in the Himalayas and high mountains, they can be outdoors throughout the winter.

Woodland Park Zoo is open 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily. Go to <https://www.zoo.org/visit> to purchase timed-entry tickets.

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit [www.zoo.org](http://www.zoo.org) and follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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