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password: bears

Choose a name for a sloth bear cub!
Online naming poll begins today

WHAT:

Help Woodland Park Zoo name its 3-month-old sloth bear boy! Visit www.zoo.org/slothbearnaming and vote on a name below. The naming poll starts today, Monday, April 18 and ends Thursday, April 21, at noon (PDT).

Sloth bears live in forests and grasslands in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, so the animal keepers have selected names in Hindi:

Jangel (JAHN-gal) – Forest

Madhu (muh-DOO) – Sweet, Honey

Pahar (pah-HAAR) – Mountain

Rajesh (RAJ-esh) – God of Kings (formal)

Raju (RAW-joo) – God of Kings (informal, more endearing)

The cub and his sister were born on New Year's Day 2022 to first-time mom Kushali (kuu-SHAW-lee) and dad Bhutan (boo-TAHN). The girl cub will be named by special friends of the zoo.

WHEN:

Vote on a name at www.zoo.org/slothbearnaming starting April 18 through April 21, at noon (PDT)

INFO:

Mom Kushali and her cubs are slowly being introduced to the outdoor exhibit in Banyan Wilds; the viewing windows are temporarily obstructed as Kushali adjusts to navigating the habitat with her frisky cubs. Soon, zoo-goers will be able to see the cubs climbing, playing and piggy backing on mom. Among all bear species, sloth bears are the only moms that carry their cubs on their back; the cubs will ride her until they're 6 to 9 months old.

Bear Necessities

Sloth bears are a vulnerable species. Their survival is challenged by conflicts with humans and animals for space and food caused by deforestation, the bear parts trade for use in traditional Asian medicines and fragmented populations.

In honor of the new cubs, become a ZooParent! The [ZooParent](http://www.zoo.org/zoo-parent) program supports the zoo's animal care, education, and wildlife conservation in the Pacific Northwest and around the world.

Woodland Park Zoo supports Wildlife SOS, a conservation organization in India that runs wildlife rescue centers and helps communities coexist with sloth bears and other native species. Visit www.zoo.org/donate to support Wildlife SOS.

Buy wisely. Choose [Forest Stewardship Council](http://www.fsc.org) (FSC) certified paper and wood products to protect forest habitat and wildlife.

Woodland Park Zoo offers a safe, outdoor experience for all. Visit zoo.org for information. Zoo hours: 9:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m. daily through April 30; 9:30



a.m.–6:00 p.m. daily starting May 1.

For more information or to become a zoo member, visit www.zoo.org or call 206.548.2500. Follow the zoo on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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