

Zoo To You Article

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Topic: The Zoo's Holiday Wish

With a nod to Clement C. Moore's *The Night Before Christmas*, here are some highlights of the year and a holiday wish from the zoo:

It's a few days before Christmas and all through the zoo

The animals are thriving; we hope you are too.

Ninety years of commitment have created this place

For education, conservation, and putting a smile on each face.

Animals at the zoo represent their kin

That live in the wild, or what's left of it then.

The staff at the zoo give attention and heed

To every whim, wish and want; they answer each need.

A basilisk lizard can now be seen

In the aviary habitat so warm and so green.

Pollinator Pals are a garden addition

That bring some fun to our conservation mission.

The trees are recovering from the big April storm.

Everyone pitched in to keep all safe and warm.

The rhinos are together every now and then,

In hopes of having a baby; we'll let you know when.

With friends or family, or while walking alone
There's something for everyone, no matter their zone.
Playing in nature is great for the kids.
Adults need time too so they don't hit the skids.
The habitats are enriched, the grounds well tended,
Programs engaging, and all zoo guests befriended.

The conservation donations you've given through the year
Helped animals 'round the world, so let's give a cheer.
Vaquitas in the ocean, lemurs in the trees,
Jaguars on the ground, and flying butterflies and bees,
Animals such as these are some of the ones
That received extra help which came from the funds.

The Butterfly Garden looks better each year.
A pair of banteng joined zoo residents here.
The trio of Asian wild horses are a sight to behold.
The young Lady Ross Turaco's not yet a year old.
Plans for a new habitat for the flamingos so pink,
Plus the primates and a hospital will soon be in ink.

Guests young and old enjoy visiting the zoo,
Connecting with the wildlife and all that we do.
Each day brings adventure and as winter camp draws near
We wish happy holidays to all and to all a great year.