



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 2, 2017

CONTACT

Sarah McDaniel

260-427-6843 sarah.mcdaniel@kidszoo.org

New Primate Babies at the Zoo

A female baby de Brazza's monkey was born at the zoo on April 27, 2017. Now a month old, she can be seen staying close to her mother around the exhibit. Because of the mother's protectiveness and tendency to keep her baby in a corner, she has been aptly given the name "Baby," in reference to the movie *Dirty Dancing*. de Brazza's monkeys are native to the wetlands of central Africa. These primates primarily occupy the thick canopy of their forest home, although they can also swim, if required. Baby can be photographed in her exhibit, located in the African Journey village.

Also new at the zoo is Hercules, a male baby Ring-Tailed Lemur, born on May 7, 2017 to parents Kyna and Ombi. Though he is still very young and prefers to stay close to his mother, he can often be seen riding around on her back or playing near her. Ring-tailed lemurs are an endangered species native to the African island of Madagascar. Ring-tailed lemurs are active both during the day and at night. Although they live mainly on the ground, they are very comfortable moving around in treetops. Hercules can be photographed in his exhibit, located on Central hill.

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About the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo: The Fort Wayne Children's Zoo is northeast Indiana's largest tourist attraction, hosting more than 600,000 guests annually. The zoo was voted Indiana's #1 "Gotta-Do Summer Attraction" and is consistently named one of the nation's **Top Ten Zoos for Kids** by national media outlets.

The zoo is a conservation leader, contributing more than \$167,000 annually to local, regional, and international efforts to protect wild animals and habitats, and participating in cooperative management programs for 15 endangered species.

As a self-supporting facility, the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo receives no tax dollars for operations. The zoo's operations are funded entirely by earned revenue and donations.

The zoo is open for the 2017 season until October 8. Zoo hours are 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., open until 7 p.m. Memorial Day through Labor Day.