



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Teddy Bear day let's kids get in free with a hug

ABILENE, TEXAS –Saturday, July 11, will be Teddy Bear Day at the Abilene Zoo, when children ages 13 and younger get in free if they bring along their favorite plush bear or other animal.

Children also can purchase a new stuffed toy to love at the Zoo Store, and then use that animal toward free admission.

The day isn't all about snuggling, however. Between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. bear-related activities will take place -- including scheduled bear enrichment and keeper talks about the zoo's two American black bears, Boris and Teddy.

The new Wildlife Carousel will be open, along with other fun stops like the Watering Hole, Kilimanjaro Mining Sluice, and the new Karibu Outpost exhibit and party room.

The Abilene Zoo is home to more than 900 animals of 250 different species. The zoo is open 7 days a week (closed Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Last admittance is 4 p.m. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$3.50 for children ages 3-12, \$5 for seniors aged 60+. Members are admitted free. Memberships start at \$30. www.abilenezoo.org. 325-676-6085. This summer, the zoo will be open every Thursday until 9 p.m. with last admittance at 8 p.m.

Mission Statement: *The Abilene Zoo is a place of learning and adventure, where families make memories, share the joy of discovery and become inspired to preserve wildlife.*