

BIG CATS

DISCOVER. CONNECT. TAKE ACTION.

Discover the natural world with
these fun at-home activities!



AMUR TIGER

Bronevik: Male

DOB: June 2, 2009

Misha: Female

DOB: May 7, 2011

Found primarily in Russia, Amur tigers can withstand extreme temperature ranges. Their native habitat can see deep snow and temperatures as low as -40 degrees Fahrenheit. They have lots of adaptations that make them well equipped for cold weather. Some of these include thicker fur, a "scarf" of fur around their necks and fur on their paws that keep their feet warm.

Tigers are solitary animals and prefer to spend time alone. The only time they come together is for breeding purposes. At the Zoo, Bronevik and Misha share habitat space. When one tiger is on habitat, the other may be visible in the indoor holding area but will also have access to the behind the scenes outdoor space.



AFRICAN LION

Deuce: Male

DOB: December 18, 2010

Zarina: Female

DOB: May 2, 2009



Found primarily in eastern and southern sub-Saharan Africa. African lions tend to inhabit savannas, plains, grasslands, dense bush and open woodlands where prey is abundant. Females are the main hunters, sometimes hunting in a group. They use stalking and ambush techniques. Lions are both an apex predator (top of the food chain) and a keystone predator (critical to the health of their ecosystem).

Lions are the most social of all cats. They are the only cats that live in large family groups called "prides." Deuce and Zarina can be seen together on habitat or in indoor viewing. It is common to see them napping next to one another.

BIG CAT CONSERVATION

At Blank Park Zoo, we work with the Tiger Conservation Campaign which supports wild tiger conservation efforts and raises awareness about tigers. Each year, the Tiger Conservation Campaign supports field projects that benefit wild Amur, Malayan, and Sumatran tigers.

Each of these tiger subspecies is thought to number fewer than 500 in the wild. Threats to tigers include habitat loss, poaching and human conflict.

Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA), SAFE African Lion's goal is to increase the number of African lions in the wild through public engagement and partnering with those working on the ground in Africa. Lions are facing habitat loss, loss of prey, human-wildlife conflicts and poaching. By working to combat these threats, Zoos and those working on the ground hope to stabilize and increase lion populations.



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What can you do to help?

ECO-CELL

One of the major threats to big cats is habitat destruction and fragmentation. We have partnered with ECO-CELL and are collecting old electronics to be recycled to reduce the need to mine for coltan. Coltan is a critical component of cell phones and 80% of the world's supply is found right in the middle of vital rainforest habitat.

Drop off retired cell phones, smartphones, iPhones, iPods, iPads, tablets, smartwatches, tablets, GPS, MP3 players, e-readers, digital cameras and handheld gaming systems to the admissions desk!



WANT TO HELP SAVE ANIMAL HABITATS?

Recycle handheld electronics in partnership with ECO-Cell and Blank Park Zoo. Start a collection drive at your school, church, community center and beyond.

By joining this partnership you are making a difference and showing that you too are a conservationist that cares deeply about the future of our natural world. Collecting no longer used handheld electronics allows ECO-Cell to reuse important minerals which reduces the need for additional mining. Those items that can be are refurbished with the proceeds going to support the Gorilla Rehabilitation and Conservation Education Center (GRACE).

How to get started?

- Email volunteer@blankparkzoo.net to sign up.
- We will send you signage and all the information you need to be successful!
- Find a cardboard box and a visible (and approved) location to place it.
- Once your drive has been completed we will send you a shipping label to attach to your box.

**IT'S FREE, EASY AND
SUPPORTS ANIMALS
IN THE WILD**



TIGER SSP PUZZLE

Baby animals are fun and exciting additions to any zoo or aquarium. Did you know that most animal births at AZA zoos & aquariums are carefully planned by scientists and zookeepers?

Species Survival Plans (SSPs) are how zoos & aquariums make sure the animals in their care have good **genetic diversity**. SSP coordinators look at family trees and personalities of individual animals and pair them with others who are good matches - meaning they will get along with each other and they are not relatives (they do not share the same parents, grandparents, or cousins).

Use the clues to match the tigers like an SSP. If the tigers are a good match, put a **checkmark**. If the tigers are not a good match, put an **X**. Each tiger only has **one match** and they **cannot be paired with tigers related** to them. They also need to **get along** with one another. We completed the first clue for you as an example.

Clue #1: Bronevik and Misha are paired together
Clue #2: James and Goldie are brother and sister
Clue #3: Frank doesn't get along with Isabella or Natalia
Clue #4: Natalia is Sputnik's daughter

	Misha	Isabella	Goldie	Natalia
Bronevik	✓	✗	✗	✗
James				
Frank				
Sputnik				

Answers: Bronevik and Misha, Isabella and Frank, Goldie and Sputnik, Natalia and James



TIGER
CONSERVATION
CAMPAIGN

tigercampaign.org