

NEWS RELEASE



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BEAT FEAT TO THE ZOO

NORFOLK, Va. – Take a unique look at animals during Festival of Feet at the Zoo 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturday, November 16.

Docents will provide hands-on activities and up-close discovery stations teaching about all aspects of animal feet – from the sharp claws of a tiger, to the finger-like toes of an orangutan and the sticky feet of a frog – and how these characteristics help each animal survive.

Guests will discover that feet hold clues to an animal's lifestyle and habits. For example, gray kangaroos have four toes on each foot, but one toe is much larger than the others. This super toe bears the weight of the kangaroo, has a bumpy bottom for traction, and allows the kangaroo to hop across the sandy Australian outback at speeds of up to 40 mph. In addition, the toe can be a powerful weapon if the kangaroo is threatened.

All activities are included with regular Zoo admission. For more information, visit www.virginiazoo.org or call the Zoo's Education Department at 757-447-2374 ext. 229.

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ZOO FEET, 2 OF 2



Gray kangaroos have one toe that is much larger than the others on its foot, which bears the weight of the kangaroo, provides traction and serves as powerful weapon if the animal is threatened. Learn other animal feet facts during Festival of Feet at the Virginia Zoo 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. Saturday, November 16 (Virginia Zoo photo by Winfield Danielson).

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As an accredited Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) facility, the Virginia Zoo exhibits more than 400 animals on 53 beautifully landscaped acres. For more than a century, the Virginia Zoo has demonstrated a commitment to education and conservation, and offered a fun-filled day for visitors of any age. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and located at 3500 Granby Street in Norfolk. Daily admission prices are \$11 for adults, \$10 for seniors (age 62 and over) and \$9 for children ages 2-11. Children under 2 admitted free! Visit www.virginiazoo.org or call (757) 441-2374 for more information.