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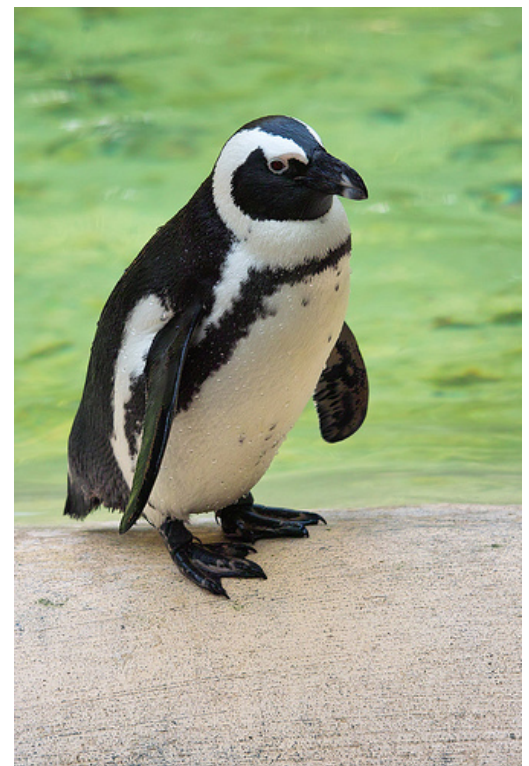
Penguins Waddle into Jackson this Spring Break *Penguin Plunge Exhibit all set to open at the Jackson Zoo*

What's two feet tall, is a bird but can't fly and only lives in the Southern Hemisphere, specifically on Africa's southwest coast? Answer. The Black-footed Penguin!

The Jackson Zoo is proud to announce that six Black-footed Penguins will be calling the Jackson Zoo home from March 14, 2009 until August 15, 2009 as part of the exciting special exhibit, Penguin Plunge. Penguin Plunge will introduce guests to these interesting creatures, sometimes referred to as "Jackass Penguins," because their mating call sounds like a braying donkey.

Penguin Plunge is a self-contained exhibit that will house the birds and features a rock-cropped backdrop with nesting stations and a pool for the birds to swim in. Guests of the Zoo will be able to view the penguins during normal visiting hours in the special exhibit installed in the Discovery Zoo for an additional fee.

"We are thrilled to introduce these animals to the visiting public," said Zoo Director Beth Poff. "The recent surge in popularity of penguins due to scores of movies and documentaries released made the decision to bring this special exhibit easy. We have no doubt lots of young people and the 'young at heart' won't want to miss the opportunity to see the penguins so close to home."



The exhibit will open to the general public during ZOO DAY festivities sponsored by WAPT, March 14, 2009. Zoo Day is an annual event that features something for the whole family, including live bands throughout the day, an open air market featuring local craftspeople, children's games, performances by Inky the Clown, Keeper Chats, and so much more!

For more information, call 601-352-2580 or visit www.jacksonzoo.org.

Join the Jackson Zoo as it celebrates 90 years (1919-2009) of Education, Recreation, Conservation and Community! Visit www.jacksonzoo.org to check out exciting special events planned, animal updates, one-of-a-kind education programs, membership and adoption packages, and so much more.

The Jackson Zoo is accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA). The AZA is America's leading accrediting organization that sets rigorous, professional standards for zoos and aquariums. The AZA is building North America's largest wildlife conservation movement by engaging and inspiring the 143 million annual visitors to its member institutions and their communities to care about and take action to help protect wildlife.