A decorative border of tropical plants, including green ferns, large green leaves, and colorful red and yellow flowers, surrounds the central text on a dark green background.

# (Not) Monkey Business

## Empathy and MCZ's Primates and Great Apes

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January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023

# Today's Presentation

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## Introduction

Purpose of this presentation

0

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## Troubleshooting

Describe the topic of the section here

0

2

## The Empathy Bridge

Refresher on the three different types of empathy and the empathy bridge

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## Next Steps

Additional trainings and opportunities!

# Introduction

## Purpose

- To talk about the ways we can use the empathy bridge to interpret the great apes and monkeys in our care.
- To talk about specific animals in our care and how we can interpret them for zoo guests.
- To help Zoo Pride talk to guests about how we care for our animals and what actions they can take by themselves to promote conservation of these animals.



# Empathy Types



## Cognitive

The ability to identify or understand another's emotions



## Affective

Vicarious feelings or emotions in response to observing the emotions or experiences of another



## Motivational

Ability to feel and show appropriate concern in response to another's needs and to be moved to help in some way.

# The Empathy Bridge

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Assuring  
Animal  
Welfare

Introducing  
Our  
Animals

Informing  
Our  
Audience

Inviting  
Perspective  
-Taking

Empowering  
Caring  
Action



The Empathy Bridge is currently used by our social media team when posting information about empathy and the animals in our care.

# Assuring Animal Welfare



- Talking about the different types of enrichment that the specific animal receives.
- Talking about the animal interactions with one another
- Talking about animal's participation in their own healthcare.

# Introducing the Animal

- Using pronouns and names of the animal
- Talking about the animal's personality
- Talking about the way this animal plays an important role in their ecosystem and what jobs they have within that role.



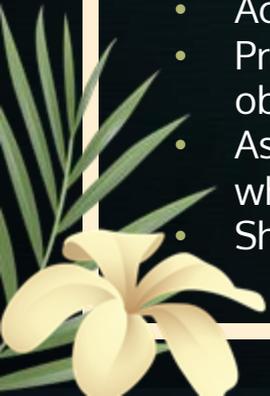
# Informing our Audience



- Share examples of the similarities and differences between humans and primates.
- Helping dispel common misconceptions and myths about primates.
- Share information about the individual animal compared to their counterparts in nature.
- Provide context to the behaviors that the guests are observing in the primates.

# Invite Perspective-Taking

- Asking guests how they think the animal is feeling in a particular situation, while displaying a particular behavior.
- Providing experiences for practicing “being a primate.”
- Acting out observed behaviors
- Providing experiences for guests to observe primate on their own.
- Assisting in interpretation for classes where primates are a topic.
- Share cultural context involving primate.



# Empowering Caring Action



- Calling out positive behaviors and empathetic comments you hear from guests.
- Talking about what we can do to help preserve the natural range for primates.

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# Troubleshooting

# Common Troubleshooting Topics

School Groups and  
Noise Levels

Incorrect  
Observations

Questions  
About Care

Questions about  
Behaviors

Evolution



# Questions?





# Thank You!

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