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## **NEW YEAR, NEW EXHIBIT: ZOO'S LORIKEET AVIARY REOPENS AFTER RENOVATIONS**

January 11, 2015 – Jacksonville, FL – After months of renovations, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens' (JZG) lorikeet aviary is open for guests to enjoy the rainbow-feathered birds.

Visitors can meander through the new walkways surrounded by lush vegetation, while enjoying the talkative nature of the small, but brilliantly-colored parrots as they fly around the open-air aviary.

Lorikeet pairs are monogamous, mating for life, and can be seen in flocks ranging from two individuals to upwards of two hundred. The flock at JZG numbers over 20 birds consisting of a few different species including Yellow-streaked lories, Coconut lorikeets and Rainbow lorikeets.

In the wild, the birds feed on fruit, pollen and nectar throughout their native Australia, and at JZG, guests are able to feed them a special nectar for \$1 per cup.

The Zoo invites guests to celebrate the new year by checking out the new lorikeet home located in the Australia loop. The aviary is only open on days when the outside temperature is above 50 degrees.

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### **About Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens**

For over 100 years, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has aimed to inspire the discovery and appreciation of wildlife through innovative experiences in a caring environment. Starting in 1914 with an animal collection of one red deer fawn, the Zoo now has more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals and 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida. The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit organization and an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit [jacksonvillezoo.org](http://jacksonvillezoo.org).