

Amazing Animals

SPECIAL EDITION:
ANIMAL FRIENDS!



In the wild, orangutans are the largest animals that spend most of their lives in trees.

TIGERS CUDDLE WITH APES



Bogor, West Java, in Indonesia

Tigers don't normally snuggle with orangutans. The big cats are meat-eaters, after all. But when Demis and Manis the tiger cubs were rejected by their mother, zookeepers at Taman Safari Zoo thought they might like the company of two other orphan siblings: Nia and Irma the orangutans. "The first time I put them together, they just played," says zookeeper Sri Suwarni. The four shared toys, wrestled, and took naps together. Then one morning, Nia and Irma began hugging Demis the tiger, and he lick-kissed them back! "That's when I knew they were true friends," Suwarni says. As the tigers grew, their natural instincts started showing, so Suwarni moved them into a separate exhibit. Now two other apes Suwarni is raising also have made a new friend—a leopard cub.

RABBIT LOVES GUINEA PIG

Ballwin, Missouri

Baby the rabbit was lonely. Her owner, Lauren Rhodes, had tried introducing her to another bunny, but the two didn't get along. "They just fought," Rhodes says. Then she adopted Timmy Pigga the guinea pig. Baby was fascinated with the critter, spending hours gazing into his pen. They even touched noses through the wire. Rhodes wanted to let both animals out, but her mother was worried about the nervous Baby. So Lauren built a cardboard box with an opening too high for Timmy P. to get into, in case Baby got scared. But Baby chewed holes in the box so Timmy P. could visit. Now the guinea pig sleeps in the box right beside his best bunny, er, buddy.

I THINK IT'S TIME TO TAKE TIMMY TO THE HAIR SALON.



Newborn puppies are blind and deaf until they're about two weeks old.



Timmy Pigga and Baby

Freddie and Daisy



Nia, Irma, Demis, and Manis

TALK ABOUT A DOG-AND-PONY SHOW.

DOG RIDES PONY

Gloucestershire, England, in the United Kingdom

"Giddyap!" That's the message Freddie the Jack Russell terrier seems to be giving Daisy the Shetland pony. The pair's favorite game is when the dog leaps onto the pony's back and goes for a ride. Their friendship started when Freddie spotted Daisy about to give a child a ride. Frantic to be included, the dog tore across the yard and leaped straight up. "He settled down right where the saddle would go," says the dog's owner, Patricia Swinley. "Daisy didn't seem to mind." From then on, the flop-eared equestrian rode Daisy two or three times a day. Today the older Freddie doesn't do so much leaping, but he still rides if someone lifts him up. Otherwise, Daisy pulls Freddie in a cart. Says Swinley: "Freddie will do anything to be part of the party."

