



For Immediate Release: May 27, 2008  
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## Camels Join Critter Encounters

Nashville Zoo recently added three young camels to the Critter Encounters exhibit, where guests can experience up close a variety of animals, including alpacas, goats and donkeys.

Camels are divided into two species, *dromidarius* and *bactrianus*. Dromedaries, or Arabian camels, have one hump and have been used as domesticated pack animals for thousands of years. Bactrian camels have two humps. They are endangered and less than 1,000 live in the Gobi Desert of Mongolia and China as the last truly wild camels.

Two dromedaries and one Bactrian are now at Nashville Zoo's Critter Encounters, located between Bamboo Trail and the Unseen New World plaza. All three are close to three months old and will be bottle-feeding for the next couple of months. Zoo guests are invited to watch these daily feedings at approximately 10:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at Critter Encounters.

Nashville Zoo is accredited by the prestigious Association of Zoos and Aquariums, assuring the highest standards of animal care and husbandry. The Zoo is a non-profit organization located at 3777 Nolensville Road and is open every day except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. The mission of the Nashville Zoo is to inspire a culture of understanding and discovery of our natural world through conservation, innovation and leadership. For more information about Nashville Zoo, please call 833-1534, or visit our website at [www.nashvillezoo.org](http://www.nashvillezoo.org).

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