

Lab Capuchins Retired to Jungle Friends (page one)



Nine lab capuchins were retired to Jungle Friends Primate Sanctuary on April 6th and 8th, 2005. Here Kari gives breakfast to the newest arrivals as they wait to be transferred.



The first set of capuchins are removed from their temporary indoor shelter.



Here, Lee Ward wheels one of the monkeys to the outdoor shelters while Lou Marchbanks steadies the cage.



The transfer method was carefully planned and a special chute and runway system was built. First, the cage is turned carefully so the door faces upward.



Lou, Lee and Kari position the cage directly under the chute, clipping it to the expanded funnel so there is no avenue for escape.



Once the interface is secured, the cage is unlocked and the door is slid open.



The monkey now has an avenue to enter the chute leading to the overhead runway. Some shoot quickly up while others are a bit hesitant.



While the staff wait for the monkey to move up the chute, forks are readied that will be used to guide the monkey to his readied cage.



Naturally, these monkeys are frightened. Patience is key in allowing the monkeys to move at their own pace to minimize stress.

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Lee has pre-set a fork to prevent the monkey from going past the entry runway leading to its new cage. Kari uses two forks to 'stair-step' the monkey toward the opening.



Here he retreats from the forks, finally settling down into the runway that leads to his new cage. Once the monkey ventures inside, the last fork is placed and locked.



With apprehensive vocalizations, he inspects his new surroundings.



Soon, the tension begins to subside and it becomes time for some exploration.



Here one of the monkeys has found a soft bed inside of a small rain, wind and sun shelter. Nights here still drop to as low as 50°. In the center of the cave is a heat lamp.



The cages were prepared with natural perches, ropes for climbing and swinging, living plants and a mulch floor. As much as possible, a natural-like setting has been provided for the monkeys' enrichment.



Still, these temporary outdoor cages are small, though considerably larger than what these monkeys have known. Other enrichments, like this child's activity center are also provided.



Name tags from the lab are clipped to the cage doors to help staff learn their names. Hearing their names will help relieve the stress of getting to know new humans.



Finally, nine monkeys have been transferred to their new temporary cages. Now Jungle Friends must fund and build several larger habitats where these monkeys may be socialized.