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THE SUCCESSFUL BREEDING OF WRINKLED HORNBILLS AT THE FORT WAYNE CHILDREN'S ZOO DESPITE UNIQUE CHALLENGES

FWCZ WRINKLED HORNBILLS

- * Bayu
 - + 16 years old





FWCZ WRINKLED HORNBILLS

- × Ayu
 - + 13 years old





NESTING PROCESS

- Lay 2-3 eggs in the cavity of a tree
- Incubation time: 30 days
- Chick/s fledge around 60-80 days



NESTING PROCESS

- Food, feces, and wood shavings use to seal herself into the nesting cavity.
- * Male feeds her the duration of the incubation.
- Once chick is strong enough, both will emerge from nesting cavity.



FWCZ HORNBILL NESTING

* Timeline:

- + July 16th Ayu stopped coming out of nest box
- + Aug 24 faint chick vocalizations heard
- + Oct 25 brought nest box in
- + Nov 16 helped break female and chick out
- + Nov 30 first physical
- + Dec 12 It's a girl!

CHALLENGE 1

Challenge 1: These are tropical birds living in Indiana. What happens when it gets too cold for them to be

outside?



Tarps and heat lamps?

Break them out?

Move nest box inside which weighs 200 lbs?



- Nest box was brought indoors with Ayu and chick still inside
- It took 53 minutes altogether..... And lots of planning!

























CHALLENGE 2

Why are they not emerging?



- × Ayu's behavior had become abnormal.
- **×** AZA colleagues and SSP coordinator were contacted.

* Hornbills were inside for 122 days before we decided

to intervene.













- × Keepers broke the seal on the nest box.
- Ayu came out first, chick followed within 10-15 minutes.







* Ayu's body condition looked good. She had been in the nest box for 123 days (4 months exactly).

Chick quickly learned how to reach perches.





HAPPY HORNBILL FAMILY





SURPRISE CHALLENGE!

- Bayu started being aggressive with Ayu.
- Eventually we separated him out the day Ayu and chick emerged from the nest box.





CURRENT UPDATE

- * Nuri is 7 months old!
- She is engaging in enrichment and started eating on her own at the beginning of January.
- Bayu is still separated from Ayu and Nuri.
- × Nuri is becoming curious about keepers.
- In March, Nuri was separated from Ayu.

AYU AND NURI



NURI



