MORE MEERKAT PUPS BORN AT THE CHATTANOOGA ZOO

Chattanooga, TN - The Chattanooga Zoo is thrilled to announce the birth of two new meerkat pups through natural breeding. This is the second litter of pups for mother, Flower, at the Chattanooga Zoo. Mom, pups, and the whole meerkat mob of seven are all doing great!

In October 2019, Flower was placed at the Chattanooga Zoo through the Association of Zoos and Aquariums’ (AZA) Species Survival Plan (SSP), with a breeding recommendation within our mob. This is the second successful pregnancy and litter for Flower. She gave birth to her first litter of pups in February 2020.

Meerkat breeding takes place throughout the year. This, in turn, allows for multiple litters a year. Studies have shown that meerkats oftentimes conceive almost immediately after giving birth allowing for back-to-back litters. Our successful breeding program is an immensely important step towards Chattanooga Zoo’s efforts to help protect these animals in the wild.

“The successful breeding within our mob this year speaks volumes for how our animal care team cares for our animals daily. Flower’s litters are a testament to how comfortable and secure our animals feel in their environments. Flower trusts her fellow mob members and our staff with her offspring,” says Chattanooga Zoo CEO & President, Dardenelle Long.

The meerkats were born inside the meerkat habitat in the Deserts of the World building and will stay with their mother and the rest of the mob. As the Chattanooga Zoo has reopened to the public, we welcome all guests to come to visit our meerkat pups and the rest of the mob.

The Chattanooga Zoo invites the press to come at your leisure to get footage of the meerkat pups. However, we do ask that you contact us to schedule an appointment time. For appointment scheduling, please email Hannah Hammon at hhammon@chattzoo.org.