

# News

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**SAINT LOUIS ZOO'S FIVE AMUR TIGER CUBS WILL GO OUTDOORS TOMORROW!**  
*Unusually large litter of tigers will explore the outdoors together*

Five critically endangered Amur tigers, born at the Saint Louis Zoo on April 28, made their public debut on Tuesday, August 5 at 10 a.m. The five cubs - two males and three females – have been with their mother “Kalista” in an indoor maternity den at Big Cat Country.



Now they will explore grass, trees and rocks in their outdoor habitat with their mother every day from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, weather permitting.

Although this is Kalista’s first litter, she has proven to be an excellent mother. Normal litter size for a tigress is two or three cubs. Kalista has been busy nursing and caring for her five cubs. The cubs have grown from an average of two pounds to about 25 pounds.

Kalista is seven years old and came to the Saint Louis Zoo from the Philadelphia Zoo in 2003. Khuntami, the 16-year-old father, was born in the wilds of eastern Russia and arrived in St. Louis from the Omaha Zoo in 2006. He is considered one of the most genetically valuable tigers in North America.

The Zoo’s Amur tigers, formerly called Siberian tigers, are part of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums’ Tiger Species Survival Plan (SSP). The Tiger SSP is responsible for maintaining a genetically healthy population of tigers in North American zoos – the Amur, Sumatran and Malayan subspecies of tigers. There are approximately 300 tigers in the Tiger SSP and fewer than 500 living in small populations of far eastern Russia and northeast China. Loss of habitat due to logging activities, human encroachment, and poaching are the main threats to their survival in the wild.

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