

Curraghs  
**Wildlife  
Park**

# Call of the Wild

*Issue Seven*

Just when it seemed like the Wildlife Park would be closed all summer, it was a nice surprise when we were told by the government that we could open on 30th May! There are lots of rules to follow, to ensure that our visitors can keep their distance and not pick up corona virus by touching things. So it has been quite a rush - putting up barriers, hand sanitisers, and one-way signs! For the moment only members of the Wildlife Park can come, but it won't be too long until everyone is welcome again.

## Animals and their keepers happy to see visitors!



Our pelicans love to be the centre of attention, and visitors love to come to watch them get fed. BUT ... gathering people together is a big no-no just for now. So the keepers don't stick to exact feed times any more. This couple are called Mark, Mairie, and their little baby girl is called Solene. They were thrilled when Keeper Bernie just happened to turn up with the

pelicans' fish whilst they were there. Little Solene seems to be fascinated, doesn't she!

## New Announcement!!

We expected that the jumping pillow would have to remain shut for now. But you will be excited to hear that from today (Tuesday 2nd June) it is OPEN!!



## Riddle Time

My wings are strong  
With them I fly  
But through the ocean  
Not the sky  
I'm a p \_\_\_\_\_

I'm a colourful bird  
And quite clever too  
Cracking nuts in my beak  
Is so easy to do  
I'm a p \_\_\_\_\_

I'm the spikiest rodent  
You'll ever see  
Crunching on root veggies  
For my tea  
I'm a p \_\_\_\_\_

I stalk, I swim  
And with a swish  
Quick as lightning  
I grab a fish  
I'm a f \_\_\_\_\_ c \_\_\_\_

## Whose dinner?

Clue: these birds have a sharp beak to crack tough nuts and seeds



Which animal?  
Unscramble the letters to find out!

a b o s n o t t c r i c o r  
d r e d a p n a  
u m e



# Animal of the Week

## Silvery Gibbon

Sometimes people make the mistake of saying that gibbons are monkeys. They are not - gibbons are **apes**. Apes do not have tails - a clue that they are even more closely related to humans than monkeys! As you might expect from our close cousins, they are very clever!

### Habitat

The tree canopy in the tropical rainforests of the island of Java

### Food in the Wild

They eat a variety of fruit that grows in the upper part of the forest

### Superpower

With their strong arms they can swing through the branches at speed

Long, powerful arms to stretch out and swing through the branches. This type of movement is called brachiating (say it like brak-ee-ate-ing)

Hook-like hands can hold onto branches

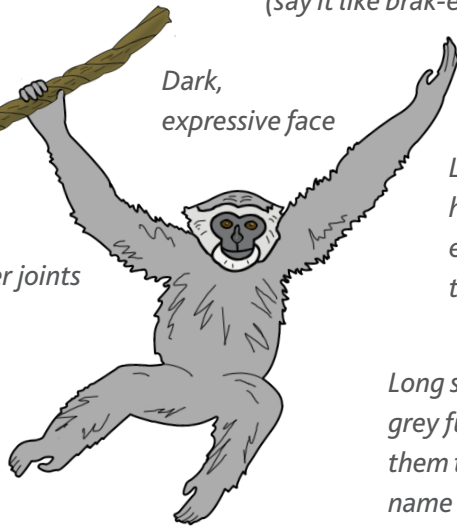
Dark, expressive face

Long, loud haunting "song" echoes through the forest

Flexible shoulder joints

Strong, flexible toes can grip branches

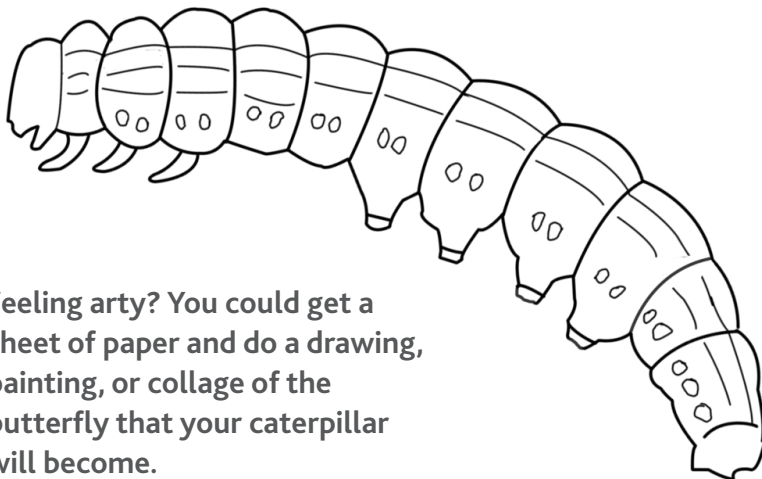
Long silvery grey fur gives them their name



**Nooo!** Silvery gibbons are an endangered species because their forests have been chopped down by humans. They could soon be extinct in the wild.

## Colour in the Caterpillar

What colour will your caterpillar be? You could make it a colour that will help it to camouflage in the garden - or make it bright and colourful to warn off hungry predators!



Feeling arty? You could get a sheet of paper and do a drawing, painting, or collage of the butterfly that your caterpillar will become.

Write the following in the right order

caterpillar egg  
butterfly chrysalis

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)
- 4)

Cut out and keep me

## Silvery gibbon



answers

Which animal: boa constrictor; red panda; emu Riddles: pen-guin; parrot; porcupine; fishing cat Whose dinner? Parrots. 1) egg 2) caterpillar 3) chrysalis 4) butterfly



"Curraghs Wildlife Park Education" has a YouTube Channel - check it out!

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