

off the fence.

City Zoo

10 x 30'

EPISODIC BREAKDOWN

1. Big Cats

City Zoo is an amazing place where lions and tigers live side-by-side and in this episode we meet the Big Cats. The zoo crew treats a tiger called Lolo with a toothache. Adrian and Jacquie rescue three teenage lion cubs from an illegal facility and transport them to their new home at City Zoo. But when you're dealing with the king of the jungle anything can go wrong, as Jacquie finds out when one of the cubs wakes up on route to the zoo.

2. Rhinos

The zoo keep both white and black rhino and we learn to tell the difference between the two. Adrian and the zoo crew travel to the Lichtenburg Breeding centre to monitor a herd of white rhino. The zoo crew need to sedate 10 rhinos in a short space of time. Tranquilizing rhinos is risky business and anything can go wrong. Will the zoo crew succeed? A young black rhino bull is relocated from Mokopane to a private game reserve called Thorny Bush, to save him from being attacked by the adult bull.

3. The Bird

In this episode Cape Vultures are given a new lease on life. The zoo crew monitors the success of their Cape Vulture breeding program, so that this rare species endures. And we meet a special vulture with a broken leg that has to recover before he can be released back into the wild. We look at the importance of the Red Bill Oxpecker and how the zoo crew is doing their bit to re-introduce these birds back into areas where they have been wiped out.

4. Primates

In this episode Adrian, the zoo vet, treats a Lesser White monkey with a weight issue. The zoo's three chimpanzees have their annual health check and Adrian becomes concerned that the eldest female is showing signs of ill health. We hear the story of the Gorillas known as the 'Taiping Four'. Zookeeper Carin takes us on an emotional journey as she recalls how the gorillas were returned to their native Cameroon. And finally, we meet the new additions to the gibbon family - the golden twins. But can mom cope with two little bundles of joy?

5. Little Mammals

In this episode we meet some of the zoo's little mammals. The serval, is due for his annual health check. The crew is called in for an emergency to save a porcupine from a very sticky situation. And the zoo's favourite little family, the meerkats, are given a chance to play with their food. Fighting between the female pack of wild dogs leads to one getting injured. Will Adrian and his team get to her in time to save her life? And when the sun has set we return to the zoo to see which critters come out in the dark.

6. Reptiles and Amphibians

In this episode we meet some of the zoo's most cold-blooded residents the reptiles and amphibians and discover why they still inspire fear in some of the world's toughest creatures. We witness an unusual surgery when a cobra has one of its eyes removed. We meet crocodiles, relics from the age of dinosaurs. An iguana friend is rushed to veterinary hospital. But can Adrian figure out why he has trouble walking? Then it's time to meet some of the zoo's resident amphibians, like this Mexican Axolotl and the common bullfrog. And finally, a tortoise is given a new lease on life as the zoo crew repairs its home.

7. Mokopane Biodiversity & Conservation Ctr

This time on City Zoo we explore the zoo's satellite breeding facility, the Mokopane Biodiversity and Conservation Centre. We meet Johannes, part of the zoo crew and see why he has such a special relationship with the animals he cares for. As night falls, we explore the conservancy on a game drive and Mike makes tragic discovery, a dead zebra a foal. The centre manages disease. The roan are treated for tick related disease and 5 buffalo are tested for Bovine Tuberculosis, after a rhino in a neighbouring camp is diagnosed. And finally the team get to the bottom of a problem with one of the plant families, the Naboom.

8. The Aquarium

This time on City Zoo Two juvenile ragged tooth sharks travel from the Two Oceans Aquarium in Cape to make their home at City Zoo, but will they settle in? Adrian performs surgery on a slippery patient, a tropical fish. Timing has to be perfect to get this beautiful bright friend back in the water. We take a tour of the tanks, and meet some of the 190 species both exotic and local. South American fish, called Pacu get a special treat from the enrichment team. We meet the resident penguins, and learn about a lucky group of seals that were rescued after being captured illegally.

9. Antelope

This time on city zoo we follow the zoo crew as they work with the antelope. The team dart and capture Lechwe, but things start going wrong when one of the animals reacts badly to the tranquilizer. A young sable bull is relocated to a private game reserve to prevent inbreeding in the herd, but moving huge animals is always risky. We meet some of the more unusual species like the Okapi. And the zoo crew is called in to examine a Nubian Ibex with a wound. Adrian nearly comes to blows with a Bongo when he tries to examine her newborn foal. And finally we share the success of the zoo's Arabian Oryx breeding program.

10. Enrichment

This time on City we follow the zoo crew as they enrich the lives of their resident by stimulating their senses. A giraffe is given a gourmet meal. A komodo dragon is hot on the trail of a deer scent inside its enclosure. The leopard looks for the “intruder” and has to mark its territory. The chimpanzees are given gifts to unwrap. Cape Vultures are given a variety of different nesting materials to choose from. Red Hogs enjoy a game of football with their food. The brown bear is given a taste of home when he is given an edible treat. And finally the big cats are given a chance to practice their hunting skills on a cardboard box.