



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** Oct. 9, 2016

## **IT'S HERE: THE SPOOKIEST TIME OF YEAR AT POINT DEFIANCE ZOO & AQUARIUM**

*Zoo Boo Oct. 15-16 promises a cornucopia of animal-related activities for kids and adults*

There's a nip to the morning air and color is in the trees. Zoo Boo at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium is just a few days away on Oct. 15 and 16.

Animals will receive special treats, including carved pumpkins. The enrichments show off the very best of zookeepers' amazing jack-o-lantern carving skills. And it's a hoot to see what the animals do with them. Grab! Chomp! Smash!



Plus, it's the one time a year when visitors can come in costume. So, with kids and adults all dressed up for the trick-or-treating season, there will be more than the usual number of walruses and tigers and bears. Oh my!

Everyone who comes to Zoo Boo in costume will get a \$2 discount off the general admission rate.

Animal enrichments include:

- **11 am** – Sharks will enjoy ghostly frozen treats
- **11:30 am** – Penguins will nibble on enrichment treats
- **12 pm** – Animal close encounter at the Wild Wonders Outdoor Theater stage
- **12:30 pm** – Tigers will devour pumpkin treats prepared just for them
- **1 pm** – Elephants will get spooky treats to smash and play with
- **2 pm** – An octopus will play with a pumpkin puzzle (*Sat only*)
- **2 pm** – Red wolves will get sweetly stuffed jack-o-lanterns
- **2:30 pm** – Polar bears will enjoy an icy pumpkin treat
- **3 pm** – Hudson the muskox calf will get a special enrichment

Meanwhile, there will be indoor and outdoor activities, games, treats, camel rides and lots more fun for the whole family, including:

- **Guess the Pumpkin Weight:** Stop by and make a guess, you could win a fantastic prize!
- **Mystery Boxes:** Some animals use their sense of touch to "see" their environment. Now it's your turn to try!
- **All About Owls:** Dissect an owl pellet and decipher whose hoot is whoose.
- **Bump in the Night:** Ever wondered "what was that animal sound?" Here's your chance to find out!
- **Strike, You Win!:** Test your skills at pumpkin bowling
- **Spooky Spider Maze:** Tilt and turn your marble as you create this spooky spider craft
- **Weird and Wacky Smells:** Use your savvy sniffer to demystify these weird and wacky smells.



Zoo Boo activities are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Full zoo hours on those days are 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Zoo Boo is presented by BECU.

To learn more about Zoo Boo and other activities at Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, visit [www.pdza.org](http://www.pdza.org).

###

*Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium, the Northwest's only combined zoo and aquarium, promotes responsible stewardship of the world's resources through education, conservation, research and recreational opportunities. The zoo, a division of Metro Parks Tacoma, is accredited by the Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) and the Alliance of Marine Mammal Parks and Aquariums (AMMPA).*

Contact:

Kris Sherman: 253-404-3800; 253-226-6718 or [kris.sherman@pdza.org](mailto:kris.sherman@pdza.org)