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HAMILL FAMILY WILD ENCOUNTERS PHOTO CAPTIONS

Photo Credit: Jim Schulz/Chicago Zoological Society

Wild-Encounters-1: Guests of all ages have an opportunity to get up-close and even feed wallabies at Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters.

Wild-Encounters-2: A parakeet in Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters bird aviary lands on the finger of a guest. The 6,500-square-foot aviary, which is one of the largest in North America, houses more than 700 hundred free-flying parakeets.

Wild-Encounters-3 and -4: Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters features one of the largest indoor aviaries in the country, housing more than 700 hundred free-flying parakeets.

Wild-Encounters-5, -6, and -7: Nearly 30, Nigerian dwarf goats can be seen in Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters. Guests are able to touch, groom, and even feed the goats (a small fee applies for dispensed grain).

Wild-Encounters-8: Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters is designed to create special and extraordinary encounters for zoo guests of all ages by providing opportunities to interact and get up close to some very charismatic animals. The exhibit also features a variety of multisensory interpretive experiences such as narrative illustrations, art and sculptures, audiovisual media, and hands-on interactives, many facilitated by the zoo's animal care and volunteer staff.

Wild-Encounters-9: The entrance's trellis at Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters is topped with vibrant panels that, when the sun is shining, projects colorful geometric shapes on the ground.

Wild-Encounters-10: The central focal point of Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounters is the Christopher Family Plaza, which features three captivating whimsical kinesthetic sculptures. The one-of-a-kind moving pieces of art, which range from 10 to 14 feet high, are made of metal and brilliant shapes of glass that spin and rotate with the slightest breeze.

Wild-Encounters-11: The walk-in wallaby yard at Brookfield Zoo's Hamill Family Wild Encounter is home to more than 20 Bennett's wallabies. An Australian-themed wood pergola in the center of the habitat offers shade for guests and animals. The green, lush grassy knoll gives the wallabies private space, or they can choose to get close up to zoogoers, who have opportunities to feed the animals (a small fee applies for grain).

Wild-Encounters-12 and -13: The Bramsen Animal Ambassador Pavilion, located just east of Hamill Family Wild Encounters, features both public and off-exhibit spaces. The room may be used for up-close experiences with Brookfield Zoo's animal ambassadors during regular zoo hours and for special events, and it also is available for after-hour private functions for up to 160 seated guests.