

Press Release

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NATIONAL AVIARY
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Little Peepers Programs Introduce Birds, Nature to Young Children

In an effort to spark an early love for nature in its youngest visitors, the National Aviary has launched *Little Peepers*, a kid-focused series of programs designed specially for children ages 2-5 years old. Incorporating stories, songs, hands-on craft activities and live bird presentations, *Little Peepers* programs were created to enhance the Aviary experience for very young children.

Each program begins with story time, followed by a live bird presentation with trainers from the National Aviary. Craft activities, live bird interactions and songs introduce fun and age-appropriate facts about birds, nature and conservation.



Left: During Little Peepers, children learn about nature through up-close interactions with birds such as Buca, an Eclectus Parrot

“The National Aviary’s mission is to inspire a love and respect for nature in its guests, and we are committed to offering experiences that are meaningful to everyone, even the very youngest,” says National Aviary CEO Linda Dickerson. “Our facility is very child friendly – in our free-flight rooms birds fly down to greet visitors

and to feed from their hands, and many of our enclosed exhibits place birds at eye-level with children. However, we saw that parents with small children often move through quite quickly. We realized that we needed to create opportunities to engage little ones through activities that are both educational and fun.”

All *Little Peepers* activities are FREE with general admission: \$9 adults; \$8 seniors; \$7.50 ages 2-12. Children under 2 admitted free.

Family memberships, which include unlimited free admission to the National Aviary for one year, start at \$55. More information at www.aviary.org or by calling 412.323.7235.



Craft activities make learning fun.

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