



**Alabama's Must See Attraction!**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Birmingham Zoo to Host Girls Engaging in Math and Science Expo**

**BIRMINGHAM, AL** – The Birmingham Zoo is partnering with the Alabama Department of Education to host the 2016 GEMS-U Expo on Friday, March 4. This expo will allow Alabama's K-12 female students the opportunity to hear from female role models in STEM fields. Female Zoo staff from Animal, Marketing and Education Departments will participate in a panel discussion focusing on the role of STEM related topics in their work. These students will have a chance to present a group STEM project to their peers and the community. Various educational activities throughout the day will be hosted by Birmingham Zoo Staff and other area STEM expert institutions including the Birmingham Botanical Gardens, the Farm School at Camp McDowell and the Cahaba Environmental center.

"I am very excited to partner with the Alabama Department of Education in hosting the 2016 GEMS-U Expo at the Birmingham Zoo. As a STEM expert institution, one of our major goals is to offer young people access to a rich and engaging learning environment so that they can develop important skills and engagement in science, technology, engineering and math. The Birmingham Zoo is working to offer STEM rich learning opportunities that are high-quality, accessible, youth-centered and connected so learners can deepen their skills and interests and tackle increasingly complex challenges over time," says Roger Torbert, VP of Education for the Birmingham Zoo.

**Zoo Mission: Inspiring Passion for the Natural World**

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*Approximately 950 animals of 230 species call the Birmingham Zoo home, including sea lions, zebras, rhinos and endangered species from six continents. The Birmingham Zoo is open daily from 9am to 5pm. Regular admission is \$16\* for adults and \$14\* for senior citizens and military and \$11\* for children ages 2-12 (\*Price not including tax). All Birmingham Zoo Members and children under two-years-old receive free admission.*

*For more information about the Birmingham Zoo, please visit the Zoo on Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest and Twitter, or at [birminghamzoo.com](http://birminghamzoo.com).*

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