

ABC VIRTUAL CONFERENCE 24 June 2026

12:00pm - 4:00pm Eastern Daylight Time

(5:00pm – 9:00pm British Summer Time)

(6:00pm – 10:00pm Central European Daylight Time)

(11:00pm – 3:00am Indochina Time)

(12:00am – 4:00am China Standard & Central Indonesian Time)

TIME	PRESENTATION	SPEAKER(s)
12:00-12:05	Host introduction	
12:05-12:35	EARLY SEPARATION, LIFELONG IMPACT	Molly Feldman Animal Asia, China Bear Rescue Center
12:35-12:40	Questions	
12:40-12:55	THE CASE OF FLORA: SUPPORTING THE REHABILITATION JOURNEY OF A YOUNG RESCUED BROWN BEAR	Charlotte Paul Four Paws, BEAR SANCTUARY Müritz
12:55-1:00	Questions	
1:00-1:15	IT TAKES A VILLAGE AND A SINCHI: BUILDING RESILIENCY AFTER MATERNAL SEPARATION	Cheryl Chintella Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
1:15-1:20	Questions	
1:20-1:35	INCREASING RESILIENCY AND IMPROVING COPING SKILLS IN A GERIATRIC BROWN BEAR AT DENVER ZOO CONSERVATION ALLIANCE	Ellen Schorn Denver Zoo Conservation Alliance
1:35-1:40	Questions	
1:40-2:00	FROM WEANING TO MOVING OUT: HELPING A SLOTH BEAR CUB WITH POOR COPING SKILLS, <i>REVISITED</i>	Mindy Babitz Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute
2:00-2:05	Questions	
2:05-2:15	Break	
2:15-2:35	LESSONS AFTER RELEASE: POST-RELEASE OUTCOMES IN ORPHAN BLACK BEAR CUBS	Alex Olvera Wildlife Center of Virginia
2:35-2:40	Questions	
2:40-2:55	GIANT PANDA WEANING MANAGEMENT	Rebecca Snyder & Heather Baker Oklahoma City Zoo and Botanical Garden Zoo Atlanta
2:55-3:00	Questions	
3:00-3:15	NAVIGATING GIANT MILESTONES WITH BEHAVIOR IN MIND	Mariel Lally Smithsonian National Zoo and Conservation Biology Institute
3:15-3:20	Questions	
3:20-3:35	MANAGING THE STRESS OF MEDICAL SEPARATIONS FOR A SLOTH BEAR MOTHER AND CUB	Miero Marra Woodland Park Zoo
3:35-3:40	Questions	
3:40-4:00	End of day 1 discussion & wrap up	

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TIME	PRESENTATION	SPEAKER(s)
12:00-12:05	Host introduction	
12:05-12:35	RESCUE TO RESILIENCE: SUPPORTING BEHAVIOURAL DEVELOPMENT IN ORPHANED BEAR CUBS	Sarah Van Herpt Animals Asia, Vietnam Bear Rescue Center
12:35-12:40	Questions	
12:40-12:55	SUPPORTING A JUVENILE POLAR BEAR WITH MATERNAL SEPARATION, THEN REINTRODUCTION TO HER HAND-REARED TWIN SISTER	Lauren Vander Berg Detroit Zoological Society
12:55-1:00	Questions	
1:00-1:15	INTEGRATING RELATED SLOTH BEARS FOR PREPARATION OF FUTURE SOCIAL SITUATIONS	Matthew Cline Woodland Park Zoo
1:15-1:20	Questions	
1:20-1:35	STRATEGIES FOR BUILDING MATERNAL TRUST, PREPARING FOR SEPARATION, AND DEVELOPING AN INDEPENDENT AND WELL-ADJUSTED CUB	Cheryl Chintella Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
1:35-1:40	Questions	
1:40-1:50	Break	
1:50-2:05	USING NUTRITION TO SHAPE WEANING IN ORPHAN BEAR CUBS	Alex Olvera Wildlife Center of Virginia
2:05-2:10	Questions	
2:10-2:35	MANAGING MATERNAL SEPARATION WITH BEHAVIOR-BASED NUTRITION TOOLS	Mindy Babitz, Angela Gibson & Jay Pratte The Bear Care Group
2:35-2:40	Questions	
2:40-2:45	Break	
2:45-3:55	Panel Discussion	Panel
	NAVIGATING EMOTIONAL, SOCIAL, AND LOGISTICAL TRANSITIONS FOR BEARS IN MANAGED CARE	All speakers
3:55-4:00	End of conference wrap up	