



This Certificate officially recognizes

AAA Hellenic Marble, Inc.

as a Zoo Parent of the

Amur Tiger

Effective

February 2012

Vikram H. Dewan
President and Chief Executive Officer

ADOPT
Animals Depend On People Too

3400 West Girard Avenue • Philadelphia, PA 19104-1196
www.philadelphiazoo.org



ADOPT
Animals Depend On People Too

Amur
TIGER
Panthera tigris altaica



Amur tigers are the biggest cats in the world. They have a round head with a heavy skull, strong facial muscles and an extremely powerful jaw. The "eye of the tiger" faces forward, giving the tiger depth perception useful during hunting. Even in the poorest light, a tiger's eyesight is six times greater than that of a human's. They also have a keen sense of hearing and equilibrium. Strong legs and silent paws help it hunt, run and jump.

Amur tiger's fur is a very thick yellow to reddish color with a black stripe pattern. This thick coat and a layer of fat up to 2" thick on their belly and flanks help them tolerate temperatures as low as minus 45 degrees Fahrenheit.

The tigers' famous stripes help them camouflage themselves from their prey while hunting. No two tigers have the same stripe pattern. And just as humans are identified through their own unique fingerprints, tigers are identified by their individual stripe patterns.

Longevity

Tigers usually live to the age of 15, but have been known to live as long as 20 years in zoos.

Reproduction

Amur tigers can mate throughout the year, although mating usually occurs between November and April. The gestation period for the tiger cub is approximately 100 days or more. Females will give birth to a litter of two to three cubs, although they can give birth to larger litters.

A female reaches sexual maturity around the age of three years and, for the next 12 years of her life, she will give birth to a litter every two to three years. She will raise her young on her own without help from the father or other tigers. The cubs will nurse for the first three to six months of their lives, although they may begin to eat meat after two months.

By their first birthday, they will join their mother in hunting for food, and by the time they reach two years of age, they are able to kill larger prey on their own. Around two and a half years after the cubs are born, they will leave their mother to begin life on their own.

Behavior

Amur tigers are primarily nocturnal and roam the vast Siberian tundra on their own, coming together only to mate and occasionally share a large prey. They are very territorial covering large stretches of territory. Although males will not overlap territories, several females may have smaller areas inside the territory of one male.

Both males and females mark their territory by spraying a strong odor along its borders. They will also scratch and claw trees to show others that they're nearby.

More than any other cats, Amur tigers rely on their sense of sight. Tigers will stalk their prey and get as close as possible before pouncing on it. Once the prey is killed, it is dragged off to a safe place where the tiger will consume the meat until it is full. The prey is then covered and hidden so that the tiger can return at a later time to eat again.

Tigers produce various sounds and communications. One is a loud roar that can be heard over vast distances.

Diet

Tigers hunt prey of all ages and physical condition including animals in their prime. The favored prey of wild tigers is deer and wild boar. At the Zoo, their diet includes a commercial meat mix, solid beef, beef shank bones and long bones. The diet is formulated to meet the nutritional needs of each animal. Beef long bones are offered once a week mainly to provide chewing activity. Beef shank bones have nearly 7 lbs of meat attached to the bone; the tigers enjoy tearing the meat from the bones. In addition to food, the shank bones provide exercise for the animal's jaw muscles.

Size

Amur tigers can grow to 12 feet long, from nose to the tip of their tail.

Weight

They can weigh up to 700 pounds.

Geographic Range

The Amur tiger is found in isolated forests across eastern Asia, in parts of Siberia and China.

Where to Find Me In The Zoo

Big Cat Falls

Conservation Status

On the 2007 IUCN Red List of Threatened Species, the Amur tiger is listed as Critically Endangered.

