**Enrichment for GLT Day**

*Activity Summary*

*Create enrichment items for GLTs with the Happy GLT Day theme and bring attention and learning about GLTs, enrichment practices and conservation.*

Target Audience & Setting

* All ages
* At a GLT exhibit
* Small to large groups; as long as they can hear or get information being delivered
* 5-15 minutes

Goals

* Increase awareness of GLTs and the importance of the conservation of the species and their habitat
* Develop awareness of GLT international day and ways to help conservation of GLTs in the wild and in everyday life
* Teach visitors about enrichment practices and its importance

Theme & Messages

Golden lion tamarins have a decades-long history of conservation efforts, led by zoos.

* Zoos and conservation groups around the world stepped up to establish a comprehensive breeding program, which resulted in the reintroduction of nearly 150 zoo-born GLTs into their native forest in Brazil. One third of the current wild GLT population are descendants of reintroduced individuals.
* After a 30 year effort, GLTs were “uplisted” from critically endangered to endangered and are considered one of the flagship examples of zoos playing an integral part in the survival of a species.

Equipment Needed

* Enrichment items for GLTs
	+ For this project, consider paper towel tubes and other cardboard, recycled items. Paper and cardboard material will allow guests to paint on them.
* Non-toxic washable acrylic paint and paintbrushes.
* Examples of enrichment items for visitors to look at and try it out
* Information for visitors about enrichment, GLT Day and tamarin conservation

Instructions

* Create enrichment items for GLTs on exhibit for GLT Day – items will have *Happy GLT Day* and/or related conservation messages painted on them. Have a few banners inside and/or outside the exhibit to highlight the special date.
* Staff can talk with guests about the importance of providing enrichment for captive tamarins and about the importance of GLT Day and tamarin conservation
* Take pictures and post them on social media with #happygoldenliontamarinday or #savetheliontamarin
* Zoo staff, docents or volunteers can have a table with examples of enrichment items for the public to explore and touch

Dive Deeper

Additional Resources

* Ideas for Enrichment:
	+ Weave fruits/veggies on a string and add letters spelling *Happy GLT Day* – see example <https://www.pinterest.com/pin/304696731030380279/>
	+ Have paper bags/card board boxes with treats inside, make a hole in the bag/box for tamarins to use their long fingers/hands to search inside. Decorate the outside of the bag/box with words/sentences celebrating *GLT Day* and hang them throughout the exhibit.
* Ideas for Conservation Messages to add to the exhibit:
	+ *Save GLTs = Save Trees = Better Climate to All*
	+ “*We can keep golden lion tamarins safe from extinction and YOU can help! More info at* <https://www.savetheliontamarin.org/donate> ”
	+ *2025 Goal → 2,000 wild GLTs in 25,000 hectares of native forests*
	+ *Save the Date and Stand up for GLTs! Celebrate GLT Day and help secure their future in the wild.*
	+ *#InternationalGLTDay*
	+ *Plant Trees for GLTs AND OUR planet!*