

# TODAY ON THE NEWS STAND

## NEWS

### **Tree Huggers back in?**

*The mysterious facts on the Red Panda*

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## SOMETHING'S MISSING IN THE DEEP BLUE SEA

Pinckney New Tech, Bio-Lit class travels to the zoo only to find a shocking surprise.

"It was turing out to be a beautiful day," Mrs, Walker said, formal literature teacher at Pinckney New Tech High School. "The sun was out and there wasn't a cloud in the sky..." On May 11th the Bio-Lit class took a trip to Potter Park Zoo. Learning about endangered species their mission was to find a specie, take notes, and design a website about the animal when they got back. "So much excitement was filled in us," said a student Collette P. The class of 72 split up into tour groups to venture out and explore the zoo. Not knowing what was bound in their future, when they got deeper into the zoo's premises did they find the shocking surprise. Buried beneath the rocks was what looked like a hidden passage. "I tripped over something, and when I got up to look around I couldn't figure out what I was looking at," said Luke B, student at New Tech High. Luke had actually tripped over an object that would change that day

completely. When they opened the hidden door, the students saw what looked like an aquarium. Full of dolphins. Not knowing what the students were looking at, the tour guide quickly ran over to see that was the ruckus. Looking down he saw all the endangered Bottlenose Dolphins swimming around. Bottlenose dolphins have been on the endangered species list since 1978. Potter Park zoo had been hiding them in this tank below the group for 12 years. Researches and federal agents are on the scene now. We suggest that you do not visit Potter Park zoo for the remaining time. The FBI does not know when the zoo will reopen. Any questions about this issue please call (810) 225- 5500.



### **Zoo babies!**

*Today at the Detroit Zoo, three baby tigers were born. Although one died at birth from what zoo keepers call the "cat disease", the mother of the two cubs rejected them. The zoo keepers are trying all that they can to recuperate these abandoned babies! If you would like to adopt a tiger, please visit <http://www.bornfree.org>*



# ON THE NEWS STAND

## Tree Huggers back in?



The red panda has been on the endangered species since 2008. Its common ancestor is the giant panda. It was discovered in 1977 by Pliocene Ringold

Formation of Washington State. Buried in the ground scientists found an ancient tooth that went back 4.5-7 million years. Doing many experiments they linked the tooth to a sister family of the giant panda. This discovery suggested that in evolutionary times, the red pandas “false thumb” was an adaption from the giant panda.

### *Habitat*

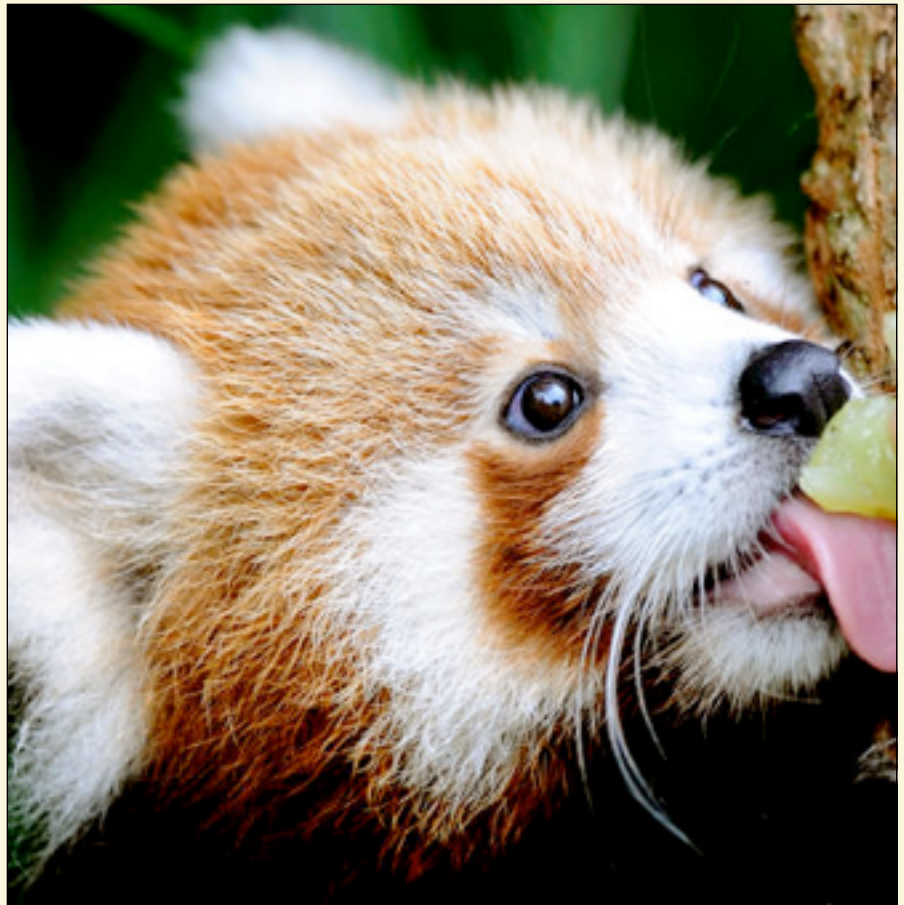
- Eastern animal lives in tropical forests in western China.
- Mountain ranges in India and Asia.
- Locations with the highest density of red pandas include an area in the Himalayas.

### *Habits*

- Adults are considered isolated except during mating season.
- Both nocturnal and crepuscular
- Cleans itself like a cat, by licking itself

### *Diet*

- Mostly bamboo
- Small mammals, birds, eggs, berries, flowers.
- Dose not digest cellulose, so red pandas must consume lots of bamboo.



### **Red Panda**

*The Red Panda has many adaptations:*

- *Thumbs - to grasp bamboo for food*
- *Long tails - For a soft pillow when they sleep, also prevent heat loss*
- *Tails - help the animal balance stand on its hind legs*
- *Thin body mass - to walk on thin branches*
- *Round sharp claws - excellent climbers*
- *To descend from a tree head first - faster for the animal to escape from predator*

