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Yumemigasaki Animal Park

(夢見ヶ崎動物公園のご案内)



There is news of newborn babies at the Yumemigasaki Animal Park. The animal Park's Ring-tailed Lemurs(wao kitsune zaru), animals that are on the list of endangered species, have given birth to two baby Ring-tailed Lemurs.

Ring-tailed Lemurs are one of the species of lemurs that can only be found at Madagascar off the coast of Africa. Their bodies are about 40cm but their tails can be over 50cm. The Ring-tailed Lemur gets its name from the fact that its tail looks like it has black and white rings on it.

The baby Ring-tailed Lemurs were born on March 8th and April 6th by different mothers. It is difficult to breed Ring-tailed Lemurs. The male Ring-tailed Lemur was introduced to the females in 1992 but he was rejected by females who always chased him away from their lair. They were moved to separate cages for a while and gradually they were able to get along and then were able to have babies. It has been 9 years since they last bred. There are over 400 animals from 62 different species at the Yumemigasaki Animal Park including the rare Lesser Panda, Elephant Tortoises, Siberian Elks and so on. Also you might be able to catch a glimpse of wild birds in the area such as the Titmouse and the River Beach Siskin.

During Spring it is good to come to Yumemigasaki Animal Park to do Hana-mi as there are over 550 cherry blossom trees there. The Yumemigasaki Animal Park is open all year round and is free to enter. It is located in the Minami-Kase area of Saiwai Ward. The easiest way to get there is to take a bus from the west exit of the Kawasaki JR Station and get off the bus at the stop marked Yumemigasaki Animal Park Bus Stop.

For more details call the Animal Park at 044-588-4030. Please come along and say hi to the Ring-tailed Lemurs and their new babies there.



Book Searching in Chinese & Korean

(韓国, 朝鮮、中国語での図書検索)

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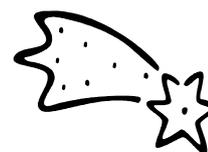


At the Kawasaki Municipal Libraries of Asao, Kawasaki, Miyamae and Nakahara there are collection of books in Chinese and Korean that you can borrow or refer to. Until recently you had to ask for the book that you wanted by speaking to the library staff. But to improve the quality of library services to the large number of Korean and Chinese people living in Kawasaki, the search system was changed at the end of March, which allows you to search for books in Korean or Chinese the same way you search for them in Japanese or English. At the Kawasaki libraries there is a stock of 3,200 books in Korean and Chinese. This represents 30% of all the foreign books stocked in the libraries. Until now the computer system at the libraries was not able to work with Korean or Chinese writing systems. This meant that people had to search for books by looking through the shelves or going through library cards. But Kawasaki City, with the cooperation of a computer company, was able to introduce a new improved computer system that accepts book searching in Chinese and Korean. It even works with the simplified kanji writing system.

If you are searching for books in Chinese or Korean at the 4 above-mentioned libraries in Kawasaki, please use this new Chinese and Korean searching system.

For more details please contact the Nakahara Library at 044-722-4932.

195 The Science Museum for Youth



(青少年科学館のご案内)

At the Science Museum for Youth there is a planetarium with a projection system that displays stars from the night sky, stars that are not always visible to the naked eye. This projection system is called Megastar II, which was developed and built by a Tama Ward resident, Mr. Takayuki Oohira. Normally a planetarium's projector displays around 6000 stars but the Megastar II projector shows 4,100,000 stars, even the stars of 12.5 magnitude which we can not see with our naked eyes. For example, The Milky Way is usually seen with our naked eyes as a cloud, but with the Megastar II system a cluster of stars can be seen clearly.

At the Science Museum for Youth you can learn about space with an easy to understand explanation from the curator who uses a regular projector and the Megastar II projector. To get an even stronger and interesting impression of the night sky within the planetarium you can borrow binoculars. You can ask any questions about space or stars you want to after the projection show.

Within the Science Museum for Youth there is also a "Heavenly Body Observation Room" and an "Exhibition Room". The Planetarium projection show lasts about 45 minutes. It is held 4 times a day starting from 10:30am on Saturdays, Sundays and national holidays, and also during the spring, summer and winter holidays. It costs 200 yen for adults, 100 yen for senior high school students and it is free for junior high school students and below, and for those aged 65 and over.

For more details please phone the Science Museum for Youth at 044-922-4731.

If you have free time please come along and take a walk amongst the stars.



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