

ASIATIC LION CUBS BORN AT LONDON ZOO

A trio of newborn lion cubs may be tiny – but they represent a huge conservation success at London Zoo. Born to seven-year-old mum, Arya, and 14-year-old dad Bhanu, the litter of three, endangered Asiatic lion cubs arrived on 13 March this year, with zookeepers able to monitor mum's six-hour labour via hidden cameras.

Footage captured by the conservation Zoo's 'cubcam' shows mum Arya giving birth, before tending to her tiny infants – gently licking them clean, before laying down to let them suckle.



As well as keeping a close eye on the mother during labour, zookeepers have been able to observe the cubs' exciting milestones, including watching them take their first wobbly steps – all without interrupting their precious bonding time with mum.

The three cubs are a huge boost to the conservation breeding programme for Asiatic lions, which are now found only in the Gir Forest in Gujarat, India. Recent population estimates suggest that only 600 to 700 individuals remain in the wild, and due to their reliance on just one habitat, they are particularly vulnerable to a disease outbreak or natural disaster.

Demonstrating her instinctive mothering skills, Arya has left her cubs only to find food or go to the toilet, before returning to patiently nurse her young. The three cubs are yet to be named, with keepers unable to confirm the cubs' sexes until their first vet check and vaccinations, which will take place when they are around 10 to 11 weeks old.



AMERICAN EXPRESS PRESENTS BST HYDE PARK

American Express presents BST Hyde Park has become the place to be in the London summer, a date in the diary for hundreds of thousands of fans every year. This June and July will see more legendary artists take to the stage over three weekends including SZA (29 June), Kings of Leon (30 June), Morgan Wallen (4 July), Andrea Bocelli (5 July), Robbie Williams (6 July), Shania Twain (7 July), Stevie Nicks (12 July), Kylie (13 July) and Stray Kids (14 July), with more special guests.

Set in London's beautiful Royal Park, BST Hyde Park kicked off in 2013 with The Rolling Stones reliving their legendary 1969 gig, plus Bon Jovi, Lionel Richie and many more packing out the park for memorable summer

nights. The event has featured many now famous shows from Carole King, Celine Dion, Stevie Wonder, Barbra Streisand, Adele, The Rolling Stones, Taylor Swift, Robbie Williams, Black Sabbath, Take That, Kylie Minogue, The Who, Blur, Kendrick Lamar, The Strokes, Bruce Springsteen, Billy Joel, Lana Del Rey, and many more.

Every year, each headliner is joined by a full supporting line-up across multiple stages, from major superstars to handpicked developing acts performing for fans from across the UK and the world.

The midweek programme, Open House, allows free access to the site with outdoor cinema, street food markets, children's theatre, fitness classes, summer sports screenings, evening events, live music and much more.

Tickets from www.bst-hydepark.com

