

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Snakes, spiders to feature at Brevard Zoo event**

MELBOURNE, Fla., August 6, 2019 — Scaler, slimier and more spineless than ever, Brevard Zoo's annual Cold-Blooded Weekend celebration is returning from Saturday, August 31 to Monday, September 2.

Roughly a dozen native Florida snakes (including a handful of venomous species) will be displayed in the Zoo's Nyami Nyami River Lodge as reptile experts from Central Florida Zoo & Botanical Gardens communicate the importance of snakes and debunk commonly held snake myths.

Dr. Fiona Cross, also known as "Doctor Spider" for her work with jumping spiders, is also set to present. Once "terrified" of arachnids, Cross overcame her phobia as she learned more about spiders—and hopes her story will encourage others to do the same.

Other festivities include interactive keeper chats, educational games, crafts and a "Bug Buffet" featuring samples of insect-infused food.

Cold-Blooded Weekend activities run from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day. Access to the event is included with Zoo admission. More information is available at [www.brevardzoo.org/special-events/cold-blooded-weekend](http://www.brevardzoo.org/special-events/cold-blooded-weekend).

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*Brevard Zoo is home to more than 900 animals representing 195 species from all over the world. As a not-for-profit organization, it is a leader in the fields of animal wellness, education and conservation. More information is available at [www.brevardzoo.org](http://www.brevardzoo.org).*

*Treetop Trek features five aerial obstacle courses that whisk guests above parts of the Zoo and through lush Florida landscapes. More information is available at [www.treetoptrek.com](http://www.treetoptrek.com).*