

Orangutan SSP Spotlight



Name: Deb Schmidt

SSP Job Title: Nutrition Advisor

Brief info about yourself: Saint Louis Zoo

Your job title (not SSP, but the zoo you currently work at): William R. Orthwein, Jr. Family Animal Nutritionist, Saint Louis Zoo



Saint Louis Zoo
Animals Always®

Your history with orangutans: worked with orangutans for my dissertation work and then worked with Lori Perkins at Lincoln Park Zoo and she suggested I apply for the Orangutan SSP nutrition position.

Why orangutans? Once you work with them, you can't help but fall in love with them.

Best experience with orangutans: I can't pick just one.

Worst experience with orangutans: Always having to think 27 steps ahead of them. It's exhausting!

Biggest career accomplishment involving orangutans: Being the nutrition advisor for orangutans since 2003!

The most unique form of orangutan memorabilia you own: I have an awesome watercolor painting of "Robin" that I got at an SSP silent auction. It always makes me smile!