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It's a Cute-Off at the Zoo: Penguin Chicks Vs. Flamingo Chicks

July 6, 2018-- *Jacksonville, FL* – Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens (JZG) hatched some delightful new additions last month – two penguin chicks and two flamingo chicks.

The baby birds have already waddled into the hearts of zoo staff, who can't get enough of the charming little chicks. With four endearing chicks to love there's one big question: "Who's cutest?" To answer it, the Zoo is inviting guests to cast their ballot to conclusively determine which is the cutest twosome of chicks in town – the flamingos or the penguins.

The darling pair of Magellanic penguins hatched two days apart, on June 16 and 18 respectively. Their teeny little flippers, beaks, and everything else have enchanted everyone who has met them, and it's not hard to see why – weighing in at less than a pound each, the duo just may be the most endearing pair of birds around. Both chicks are thriving under the careful care of each of their proud parents, and they will go on exhibit on the Tuxedo Coast at about three months of age.

The Greater flamingo chicks may have gotten a later start, but they're quickly giving the penguins a run for their money for title of cutest birds in the zoo. The first baby hatched on June 21, followed by the second on June 27. The younger of the two flamingos can be seen on exhibit with its parents, while the older is being hand-reared. This means lots of up-close and personal time with keepers as it grows up and into those big feet. It will continue to be looked after by these attentive keepers until it is old enough to join the rest of the flock on its own.

All four chicks are already so beloved, there's no way the Zoo could pick favorites, so they're turning to the public to decide which pair of chicks is officially the cutest. To cast your vote, find the poll on the Zoo's [Facebook page](#). The contest will run until July 13, and the Zoo will throw a special victory party for whichever pair of chicks is deemed the cutest.

[Dropbox link to photos](#)

About Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens

For over 100 years, the Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens has aimed to inspire the discovery and appreciation of wildlife through innovative experiences in a caring environment. Starting in 1914 with an animal collection of one red deer fawn, the Zoo now has more than 2,000 rare and exotic animals and 1,000 species of plants, boasting the largest botanical garden in Northeast Florida. **The Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens is a nonprofit organization and a portion of every ticket sold goes to the over 45 conservation initiatives Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens supports around the world, and here in NE Florida.** JZG is proud to be an accredited member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums. For more information, visit jacksonvillezoo.org.

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