

## UK's First Zoo Using Poo Power

**A zoo in Hampshire, England, is heating some of its buildings with... poo!**

Marwell Zoo is turning the waste from its animals into heating.

They think they might be the only zoo in the world to be doing this!

They used to use a power system that burnt oil to make heat for the tropical house. Oil is a **fossil fuel**.

Dr. Duncan East works at Marwell Zoo. He said that swapping the oil for "waste from our

tropical house.

Dr East said, "Using heat in this way from our own animals is unique in the UK and, as far as we know, across the world."

### Did You Know...?

- **This type of heating is known as biomass heating. It's better for the environment as it gives off fewer greenhouse gases.**
- **As well as saving money, Marwell Zoo thinks the new system will help them save 220 tonnes of carbon dioxide each year!**



Photo: Scimitar-horned oryx at Marwell Zoo.

own animals will hugely reduce our **carbon footprint**."

"What better way than to make use of a material which is in **abundant** and continuous supply."

And poo at a zoo really is continuous!

Every morning, zookeepers clean the animals' **enclosures** and clear up the dung.

In the past, the zoo sent 600 tonnes of waste a year off to be composted. Now, the dung from animals, such as the scimitar-horned oryx and African wild ass, gets collected by a mini garbage truck.

The stinky load gets driven to the energy centre at the zoo. There, it gets mixed with bedding then shredded, dried and squashed into large can-shaped blocks.

Those blocks - known as briquettes - are then popped into a big boiler that heats the

Thanks to the dung of other animals, the Linne's two-toed sloth, crocodile monitor lizards and the other animals in the tropical house at Marwell are kept warm.

They're heated by poo power!

### Glossary

<b>fossil fuel</b>	A fuel, such as coal or oil, that gives off greenhouse gases when burned.
<b>carbon footprint</b>	The amount of carbon dioxide created by a person or organisation.
<b>abundant</b>	Available in large amounts; lots of it around.
<b>enclosures</b>	Fenced in areas that the animals live in.

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