



請注意：中文文字内容只提供簡體版

欧洲各地的热浪让人透不过气来。不过罗马动物园想出新招确保园里的动物舒舒服服度过三伏暑天。

BBC记者 Beth McLeod 有以下报道：

**Code red** heat warnings have been issued by Italy's health ministry, as a heatwave **nicknamed** 'Lucifer' **scorches** the Mediterranean region. But at the zoo in Rome, keepers are ensuring the lions and tigers stay cool by freezing their food in large blocks of ice. The animals have to lick through icy layers before getting to the **joints of meat** contained inside, like a giant **lollipop**.

Klaus Friedrich, the zoo's **veterinarian**, says making these meat-flavoured **treats** is part of their strategy to cool the animals down: "The animals get bored, like children, so they find new ways – how to prepare the ice. So sometimes you put the ice in a bucket of water, and you put a string inside, and you hang this on a tree or you hide it somewhere. There are different ways to give this food and these ice creams... So they like it a lot."

The smaller animals, like **lemurs**, are fed pieces of watermelon and special ice cream, while the monkeys are given bamboo canes filled with yoghurt and frozen fruit. Italy is suffering from its worst drought in ten years, caused by a high-pressure system that's

bringing hot air from Africa to Europe. Spain is also **sweltering**, while the heatwave has **fuelled** forest fires in the Greek island of Chios and the north-east of Bosnia.

### Questions

1. How are zoo keepers making sure that tigers and lions are staying cool?
2. Why don't they give the animals the same ice treat everyday?
3. True or false: all animals in the zoo get the same ice treats?
4. True or false: Italy is suffering its worst drought in a decade?

### Vocabulary and definitions

<b>code red</b>	红色预警
<b>nicknamed</b>	绰号为
<b>scorches</b>	(热得几乎) 烧焦
<b>joints of meat</b>	大块的连骨肉
<b>lollipop</b>	棒棒糖
<b>veterinarian</b>	兽医
<b>treats</b>	可口的零食
<b>lemurs</b>	狐猴
<b>sweltering</b>	酷热的, 闷热的
<b>fuelled</b>	为...提供燃料

## Answers to the questions

1. How are zoo keepers making sure that tigers and lions are staying cool?

**Answer:** *By freezing their food in large blocks of ice.*

2. Why don't they give the animals the same ice treat everyday?

**Answer:** *Because they get bored, just like children.*

3. True or false: all animals in the zoo get the same ice treats?

**Answer:** *False. Different animals get different treats.*

4. True or false: Italy is suffering its worst drought in a decade?

**Answer:** *True. Italy is suffering from its worst drought in ten years.*