Unusual Animal Friendships . . . Bubbles & Bella

Source: Myrtle Beach Safari

This is one of the most adorable animal friendships that we’ve seen in a long time. Bubbles the African elephant and Bella the Labrador Retriever are both residents at the Myrtle Beach Safari in South Carolina, and have become the best of friends.

Bubbles was rescued in Africa after her parents were killed for their ivory during a 20-year slaughter of elephants. She was one of few elephants adopted—the rest were released or killed because facilities for them could not be found. When Bubbles first arrived, she weighed only 340 pounds and stood 42 inches tall. Now she is over 9 feet tall and weighs about 4 tons. Bella was abandoned at the preserve in 2007.

They can often be seen playing in the water together in the pool or the river at the preserve.

Bubbles throws the ball with her trunk and Bella dives from Bubbles’ head or back…

…and retrieves the ball and swims to the shore.

Following their stellar performance, Bubbles and Bella take a bow.

Photos by Barry Bland

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