ALL ABOUT APES

Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International
GIBBON (Lesser Ape)

- Live throughout Southeast Asia
- Males and females have similar body size
- Mainly live in the tree tops and brachiate from branch to branch
- Diet: fruit & leaves
- Smallest ape
- Small family groups consisting of male, female, & their offspring
- ~11 species
- Conservation status: Endangered and Critically endangered
- Reproduce every 2 -3 years
ORANGUTAN

- Live in Southeast Asia
- Males are much larger than females
- Solitary except for mothers and their young or during mating season
- Mainly live in the trees, rarely coming to the ground
- Diet: fruit & insects

- Have long arms for swinging in the treetops
- 2 species: Bornean & Sumatran
- Conservation status: Critically endangered
- Reproduce every 7-9 years

Diet: fruit & insects
GORILLA

- Lives in the forest of Western and Central Africa
- Males are larger than females
  - Mature males develop silver hair on their back
- Knuckle walk on the forest floor, but are able to climb trees
- Live in social groups with a dominant male
- Diet: fruits, leaves, shoots and bark

- Largest ape
- 2 species: Eastern & Western gorillas
  - 4 subspecies
- Conservation status: Critically endangered
- Reproduce every 4-6 years
CHIMPANZEE

• Live in forests of tropical areas in Western & Central Africa
• Males and females are generally same size
  ◦ Females can be identified during estrus by swollen reproductive organs
• Live in social groups with an alpha male
• Walk quadrupedally on the forest floor and swing among tree branches
• Diet → fruit, various plants, & some meat
• Often use tools to find food
• Look very similar to bonobos
• Conservation status: Endangered
• Reproduce every 5 years
BONOBO

- Live in forests of tropical areas in Western & Central Africa
- Males and females generally the same size
  - Females can be identified during estrus by swollen reproductive organs
- Live in social groups with an alpha female
  - Diet → fruit, various plants & some meat
  - Closest living relative to humans
  - Look very similar to chimpanzees
  - Conservation status: Endangered
  - Reproduce every 4–6 years
HUMAN

- Live almost everywhere on Earth
- Most advanced great ape species