

GORILLA FACT SHEET



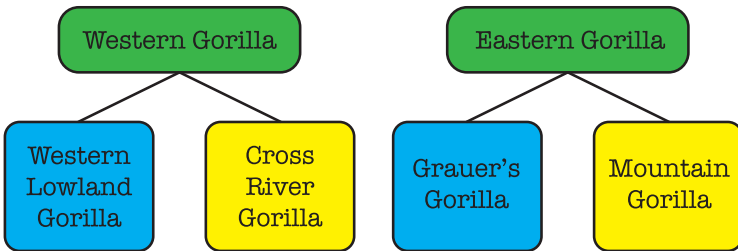
- Gorillas are mammals, meaning they have live birth, drink milk from their mothers, and have hair.

- Gorillas are also primates, which means they have opposable thumbs, large brains, and forward facing eyes.

- Lastly, gorillas are apes, which means they are very large primates with no tails, and they are closely related to humans.

- Gorillas and humans are both in the same family, Family Hominidae.

THERE ARE TWO SPECIES AND FOUR SUBSPECIES OF GORILLA

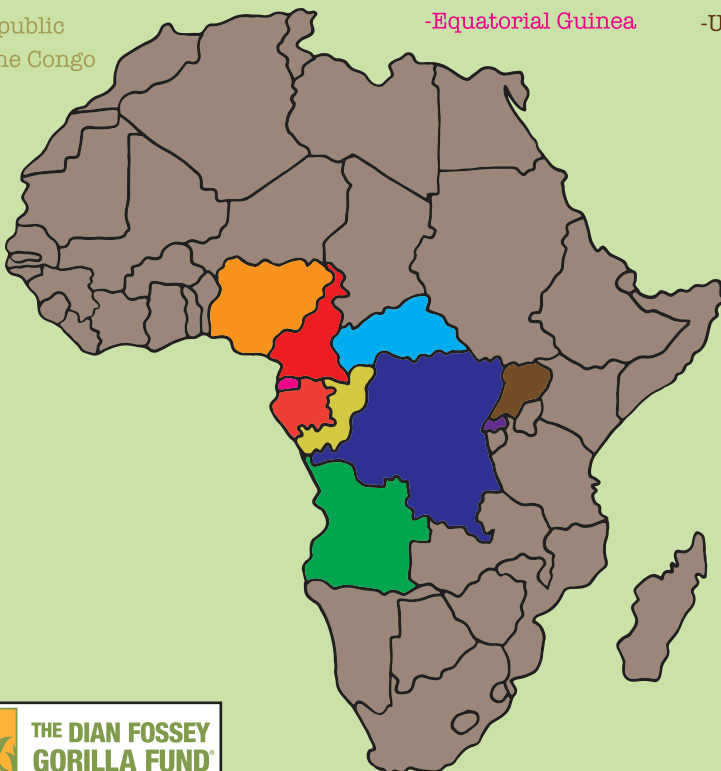


In 1967, Dian Fossey started Karisoke Research Center to study the previously mysterious mountain gorilla, and because of her efforts now we know a lot more about the species today

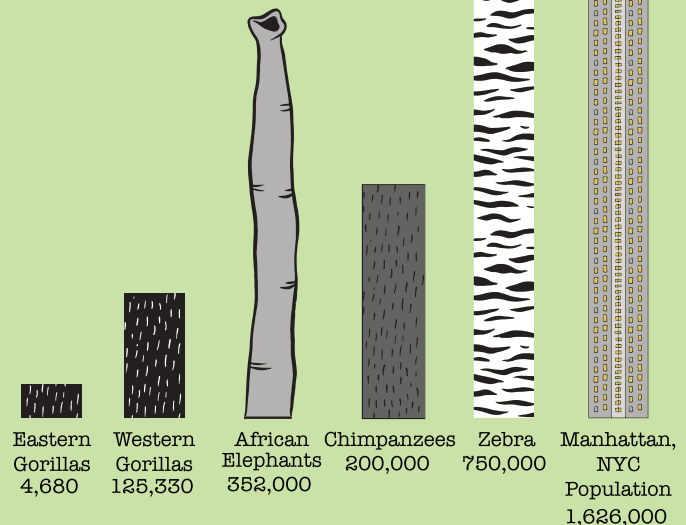
All species and subspecies of gorillas are critically endangered, which means they have a very high risk of extinction

GORILLAS LIVE IN AFRICA, IN NINE COUNTRIES INCLUDING:

-Cameroon -Central African Republic -Democratic Republic of the Congo -Nigeria
 -Angola -Gabon -Rwanda
 -Republic of the Congo -Equatorial Guinea -Uganda

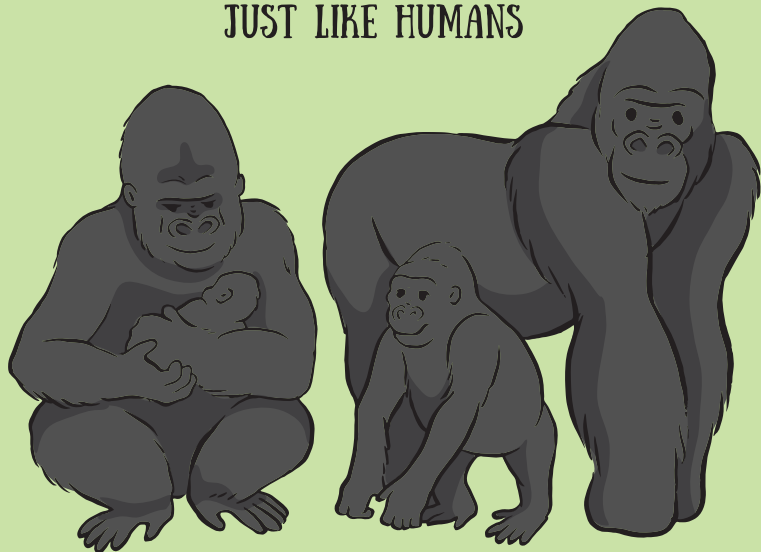


THERE ARE ONLY AROUND
130,000
GORILLAS IN THE WILD



Adopt a gorilla through the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund! gorillafund.org/adopt

GORILLAS HAVE DIFFERENT LIFE STAGES, JUST LIKE HUMANS



- When they are first born, baby gorillas are called infants
- Between the ages of 4-8, gorillas are considered juveniles—they become more and more independent from mom and spend more time with friends, playing, and exploring their environment.
- Before they become mature, adolescent male gorillas are called blackbacks
- Adult male gorillas are called silverbacks, because as they mature the hair on their backs turns a light silver color
- Gorillas are terrestrial animals, which means they spend most of their time on the ground

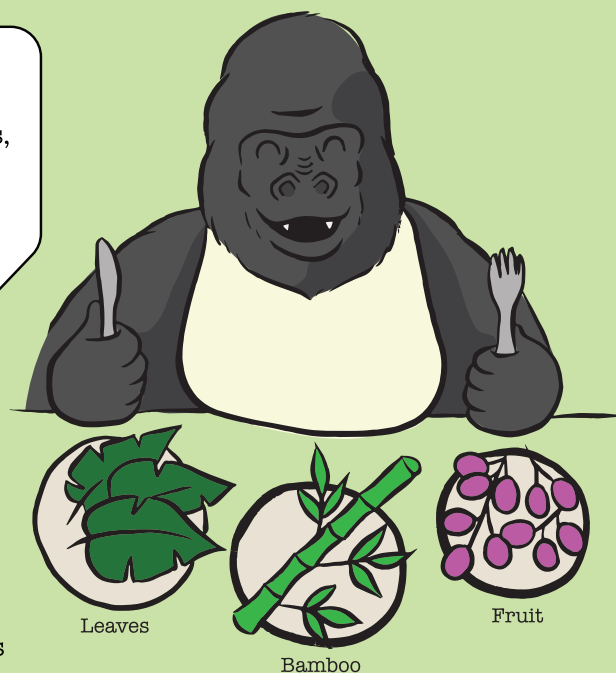
- They do climb trees, but this is not where they spend the majority of their time
- Gorillas move by knuckle-walking, meaning they walk on their hands and feet with their knuckles bent under their fingers

- Gorillas in the wild can live to be up to 30-40 years old
- Gorillas eat a lot of things, including leaves, bamboo, fruit, bark, stems, and more!
- Gorillas are very peaceful and quiet animals, but when they want to communicate, they do so through grunts and grumbles, or by small changes in body language

GORILLAS ARE THREATENED BY MANY ISSUES



- Losing their forest home to coltan mining and deforestation
- Accidental snaring and poaching
- Disease transmission between gorillas and humans



Leaves

Bamboo

Fruit

WE CAN HELP GORILLAS BY DOING A NUMBER OF THINGS:

- Help protect gorillas in the wild by supporting the Dian Fossey Gorilla Fund International
- Recycle electronics to stop coltan mining
- Spreading awareness about gorillas and what they are facing

