



PROGRAM GOALS

- ✎ Draw conclusions based on observations of monkeys and informational signs

GRADES

4th to 6th

MATERIALS

- ✎ Clipboards
- ✎ Pencils

STANDARDS

- ✎ SCI.4.3.3

RECOMMENDED ASSESSMENT

- ✎ Grade worksheets based on accuracy and completeness
- ✎ Discuss observations of the monkeys

Let's Observe These Monkeys!

Practice your students' observation skills as they learn about the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo African monkeys! The De Brazza's monkeys are named after an explorer, Pierre Savorgnan de Brazza who established the capital city of Congo, Brazzaville. When scientists first discovered the colobus monkeys, they thought one of the monkey's finger has been cut off. They chose the name "colobus" because it means "mutilated one." See below for a variety of questions to engage your student even further:

- ✎ How are these monkeys alike and different?
- ✎ Why do you think they have thumbs?
- ✎ What do you think happens if they don't have thumbs?
- ✎ Why do you think they have these colorations on their bodies?

Have the students fill out the worksheet as they observe the monkeys in the zoo. There are many informational signs of each monkeys, so encourage your students to read them as they answer the worksheet's questions. Discuss with the class about what students observed of each monkey, and how they're alike and different. Be on the lookout for other monkeys at the zoo! Share your lessons with the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo. Tag #fwkidszoo or email education@kidszoo.org to express how you used these supplemental activities!

Answer Key:

De Brazza's Monkey

1. They are covered with brown fur with a whitish upper-lip and white chin fur, which results in looking like a beard. They have a ginger-colored brow.
2. The colorful patches help them see other as they move through leafy treetops. The thick white beards are used for visual signals and display.
3. While the forage, they tuck fruits, leaves, and berries in their large cheek pouches. Their cheek pouch can hold almost as much food as their stomach.
4. Forests, near rivers and streams.

Colobus Monkey

1. They are covered in black with white long fur, where it borders their face and trails down their back and two-foot-plus long tail.
2. The coloration provides contrast to the environment and allows for mate recognition.
3. They eat up to 1/3 of their body weight in leaves every day. When they're full, they take long afternoon naps, so their bodies can digest all of that food.
4. The small bump-like digit that passes for a thumb provides a little help. When they need to jump from branch to branch, they use their four full-sized fingers to form a hook that helps them grasp a branch.
5. Tropical forests, woodland.



De Brazza's vs Colobus



Name: _____

As you travel through African Journey, answer these questions about the zoo's two monkeys.

DE BRAZZA'S MONKEY

1. Can you describe their facial features?
2. Why do they have colorful patches on their faces?
3. What do they like to do when they forage for food?
4. What is their habitat like in the wild?

COLOBUS MONKEY

1. Can you describe the monkey's physical characteristics?
2. Why do they have these physical characteristics?
3. How much do they like to eat?
4. How are they able to climb in the trees without their thumbs?
5. What is their habitat like in the wild?