

Name \_\_\_\_\_



## All About Monkeys

Monkeys are fascinating animals that live in many parts of the world. They are a type of mammal, which means they are warm-blooded and have hair or fur on their bodies. Monkeys are part of a larger group of animals called primates. This group also includes apes and humans!

Monkeys can be found in forests, jungles, and even mountains. They are most commonly seen in places like Africa, Asia, Central America, and South America. There are over 260 species of monkeys, and they come in many shapes, sizes, and colors. Some monkeys, like the tiny pygmy marmoset, are as small as a banana, while others, like the howler monkey, can grow as big as a small dog.

One thing that makes monkeys special is their ability to climb trees with ease. They have strong arms and legs, and some monkeys even have tails that can grip branches like an extra hand. These are called prehensile tails. Monkeys use their tails to help them swing from tree to tree. This is important for finding food and escaping predators.

Speaking of food, monkeys have a varied diet. They eat fruits, leaves, seeds, insects, and even small animals. Some monkeys, like the capuchin, are very clever and use tools, such as rocks, to open nuts or shells. This shows how intelligent they are!

Monkeys also live in groups called troops. A troop can have a few members or as many as 100. Living in groups helps monkeys protect themselves from danger and share food. Monkeys communicate with each other using sounds, facial expressions, and even body movements. Some monkeys make loud calls to warn their troop about predators.

Monkeys are important to the environment. They help spread seeds by eating fruit and dropping the seeds in different places. This helps new plants grow and keeps the forests healthy.

Although monkeys are amazing creatures, some are in danger because their habitats are being destroyed. People cut down forests, leaving monkeys without homes. By protecting forests and learning more about these animals, we can help keep them safe.

