

Gorillas



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Gorilla

Characteristics



Can you describe a gorilla?

Male Gorillas

Male gorillas are called **silverbacks** because of the silver hair on their backs

Male gorillas:

- are over 6 feet tall
- weigh between 300 to 500 pounds
- arms stretch out to 8 feet across
- are as strong as 4 to 8 strong men

Female gorillas

Female gorillas care for their babies for 3 years. The female gorillas also carry their babies on their backs.

Female gorillas:

- are about 4 ½ to 5 feet tall
- weigh about 200 pounds



How are gorillas like and unlike humans?

like humans	not like humans
2 legs and arms	arms are longer and more muscular than their legs
10 fingers and toes	big toes look like thumbs
small ears on the side of their head	their bodies are covered in hair except for their face, chest, and bottoms of hands and feet

Gorilla Habitats

There are 3 types of gorillas. There is the Western Lowland Gorilla, the Eastern Lowland Gorilla, and the Mountain gorilla. The different types of gorillas live in 3 different parts of Africa



Western Lowland Gorillas

The Western Lowland
Gorillas live in the western
lowlands of Africa



Eastern Lowland Gorillas

The Eastern Lowland
Gorillas live in the eastern
lowlands of Africa



Mountain gorillas

Mountain gorillas live in the mountains of Africa.

Mountain gorillas are **endangered**. There are only about 400 to 600 left.



Gorilla Families

Each family has one **silverback** to scare away other animals.

Female gorillas **mature** and start their own family at 10 to 12 years old. Male gorillas **mature** and start their own family at 11 to 13 years old.



Baby Gorillas

Newborns gorillas are only 4 and ½ pounds. They depend on their mothers for about 3 years.



Gorilla Language

Gorillas can communicate by using **gestures**, body poses, facial expressions, vocal sounds, and **chestslaps**, where they slap their chests to make noise.

When gorillas are around humans, they cannot speak English, but they can understand it and can use sign language.

Gorilla Question and Answer

Q: What do gorillas eat?

A: They eat plants, fruit, and small bugs.

Q: What are gorilla's **enemies**?

A: Humans are gorillas only enemy.

Q: How long do gorillas sleep

A: Gorillas sleep for about 13 hours at night and take naps during the day.

Interesting facts

- Gorillas are the largest living **primates**, the same family that humans are in.
- Gorillas can live up to 50 years.
- Gorillas are shy and peaceful
- Gorillas are very smart
- Gorillas feel emotions like love, joy, fear, and sadness.
- Gorillas laugh when tickled

Glossary

- **Chestslaps-** when gorillas beat their chest with cupped hands to show anger or excitement
- **Endangered-** in danger of disappearing forever
- **Enemies-** someone who harms, threatens or attacks something
- **Gestures-** the use of movements to communicate
- **Mature-** to grow older
- **primates-** the family of animal that include monkeys, apes, and humans
- **Silverbacks-** grown male gorillas that have silver hair on their backs

Common Core Standards

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.1

Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.4

Determine the meaning of words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 2 topic or subject area.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.5

Know and use various text features (e.g., captions, bold print, subheadings, glossaries, indexes, electronic menus, icons) to locate key facts or information in a text efficiently.

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