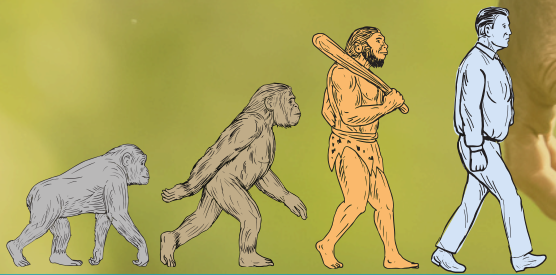
MEET THE

CHIMPANZEE

Found across central and western Africa, the chimpanzee is one of the 'great apes'!

Chimpanzees share about 98% of our (human) genes!

Chimpanzees are our closest cousins!



ALL ABOUT THE CHIMPANZEE

In the wild, chimpanzees spend most of their time nestled up high in the treetops. The forest is their home. When they decide to come down to the floor, they travel on all fours!

Did you know, they can, however, walk for up to a mile on their hind legs like us?

They also use leaves to scoop up water to drink,

Chimpanzees are very intelligent. They use tools such as sticks to find food. They poke twigs into areas such as insect nests to scoop out ants and termites to eat. This makes sure they get lots of protein in their diet! They even use leaves to shelter from the rain, just like we use an umbrella!

Fruit is a favourite on the chimpanzee's dinner menu, but they also eat leaves, flowers, seeds, bird eggs, insects and even some other animals such as pigs. Just like us, they are omnivores, which means they eat plants and animals.

Chimpanzees are very clever communicators! Whilst they may not 'speak' like humans, they talk to one another in a number of ways. They make noises such as grunts or hoots, they make different facial expressions just like us and even gestures with their hands... like this chimp!

In the wild, chimpanzees live in communities of up to 80 members! Much like us, they eat, sleep and even travel together - often breaking up into smaller groups to do so.

Chimpanzees use grooming one another (cleaning), as a way to bond, create relationships and strengthen bonds, much like we have friends. They spend quite a bit of time running their fingers through one another's hair to find parasites, dirt and even dead skin... yuck!

Did you know that chimps are actually not monkeys?! They are part of the 'great ape' family, along with gorillas and orangutans.

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