

CHIMPANZEE

Pan troglodytes



FACTS AT A GLANCE

TYPE OF ANIMAL

Primates

OTHER NAMES

Chimps

FOUND WHERE

Forests & Savanna of
Tropical Africa

HEIGHT

Between 1 - 1.7m (standing tall)

WEIGHT

Up to 60kg

CONSERVATION STATUS

Endangered and could be extinct
in the wild within 5 to 10 years.

LIFE SPAN

Up to 50 years in the wild
and up to 60 years in captivity

Chimpanzees are native to the forests and savannahs of Tropical Africa. It is estimated there are 175,000 chimpanzees left in Africa compared to the 2-3 million of just 60 years ago. Chimpanzees are very intelligent animals and can make and use tools.

DIET

Chimps are omnivores with a mixed diet of fruits, vegetables, leaves, flowers, seeds, bird eggs, insects and other animals. Hunting is predominately a male activity and is typically opportunistic, although there is some evidence of searching for prey.

Chimpanzees living in the West African savanna have been observed fashioning deadly spears from sticks and using the tools to hunt small mammals.



Chimpanzee
distribution

REPRODUCTION

Females can give birth every 5 - 6 years. They normally only produce a single infant and very rarely twins.

Babies are not weaned until they are about 5 years old and remain close to their mothers for the first decade of their lives.

Male chimps tend to stay within the family group their entire lives, whereas females will most likely move away when they are ready to breed. This can be up to the age of 13 - 16.

FUN FACTS

Chimps share 98% of their DNA with humans, making them our closest relatives. They also use tools to help them do things like fishing for termites, and they will also use leaves to catch water for drinking!