



# Learn about Chimpanzees!

Chimpanzees are one of three Great Ape species that live in Africa! Chimpanzees live in a complex society, called a community, that is made up of many individual family units. Chimps use body language, facial expressions, hand-clapping, grooming, and kissing to communicate with the other chimps that live within their community.

## Clever Primates

Chimpanzees are famous for using tools to help them access food. They will often strip a branch of its leaves and then dip it in an ant or termite hill to get the insects inside. When it gets too dry, they will even make sponges to help soak up rainwater for them to drink!



The Little Rock Zoo supports the conservation initiative of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' Ape Taxon Advisory Group and Chimpanzee SAFE, both help to protect this endangered species in the wild!



Want to Learn more? Check out these links and activities!

AZA Ape Taxonomic Advisory Group:

<http://www.apetag.org/Chimpanzees.html>  
<http://www.apetag.org/conservationApe.html>  
<http://www.apetag.org/aboutTAG.html>

National Geographic:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/c/chimpanzee/>  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/video/banana-thief/>  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/article/jane-goodall/>

Other:

Smithsonian Channel: Orphan Chimp Learns Survival Skills: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQHupmiMdi4>

San Diego Zoo: <https://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/chimpanzee>

# Handy Tools

Chimpanzees, like all primates, have an opposable thumb on both their hands and both their feet! They can use their thumb to figure out how to use tools to help them do certain tasks, mostly to help them get to some of their favorite foods!

Compare your hand to this life-sized handprint of a 10 year old chimpanzee at the Little Rock Zoo! How are they similar? How are they different?



What kinds of tools do chimpanzees use and what kinds of tools do you use?

Go on a tool scavenger hunt around your house and find:

1. Something to scoop with.
2. Something to open things with.
3. Something to grab things with.