



The Mini Page

Betty Debnam, Founding Editor and Editor at Large



Mini Spy ...

Mini Spy and her friends love to visit the chimps at the zoo. See if you can find:

- number 3
- word MINI
- bat
- cup
- dragon
- sock
- question mark
- heart
- letter A
- teapot
- fish
- number 7
- umbrella
- doughnut
- cherry



A Branch of the Family

Meet the Chimpanzee

When you've watched chimpanzees at the zoo or in nature films, did you realize you were watching one of your closest relatives in the animal kingdom?

Experts say humans share from 95 percent to 98 percent of the same DNA with chimps.

Chimpanzees and humans are a lot alike. We are also a lot different.

The Mini Page talked with a research videographer from the Jane Goodall Institute to learn more about this fun, intelligent animal.

Jane Goodall has been studying chimpanzees for more than 50 years. She founded the institute, which helps chimpanzees, an endangered species.



Jane Goodall shares a close moment with one of the chimps at Gombe (GOM-bay) National Park in Tanzania, Africa.



Fanni, a chimpanzee from Gombe, cradles her infant, Fax. Chimp offspring often stay emotionally close to their mothers for their whole lives.

Sharing DNA

DNA is the coding in genes for how all living things on Earth look and act. All life, including plants, share DNA.

Humans share more DNA with chimps and another ape, the bonobo, than with any other animal. But no one would mistake a human for a chimp.

Hard to compare

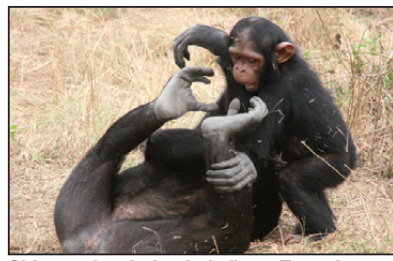
No one really knows how intelligent chimps are. They have different uses for their intelligence than humans do, so it can be hard for us to measure.

Human brains are about three times bigger than chimps' brains. But the structure of chimp and human brains is a lot alike.

Joking around

Chimps love to laugh and play. Experts say they can hear chimps laughing through the forest. They pretend to bite and chase each other, play keep-away, and play jokes.

Some of their jokes look a lot like what some humans might do. For example, a chimp might casually stick out its leg and trip another chimp walking by. And then the joke-player laughs.



Chimps play their whole lives. Even the oldest male chimps may play with the young.

Meet Some Wild Rescues



An orphaned orangutan that had been rescued and returned to the wild shows off her new baby.

The movie features animal experts from Borneo and Kenya who work to save these animals. The scientists and their teams rescue the orphans, raise them and then return them to the wild.

This orangutan lost her parents, but she was lucky and was rescued. Her story and the story of other orphaned and endangered animals is told in the IMAX documentary movie "Born to Be Wild 3D."

This film tells the true story of orangutans and elephants that were left without parents but given new homes. The story is also about the caring people who rescued and raised these baby animals.

Chimps Communicating

Language

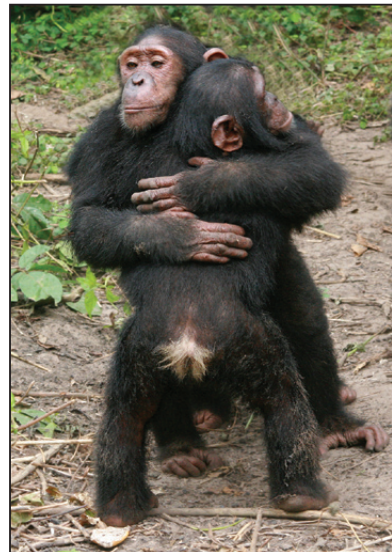
Jane Goodall says one of the main things that set humans apart from chimpanzees is our spoken language. Our language is closely tied with the development of the human intelligence.

Chimp calls

Chimps send information by different calls, both within their own groups and across the forest. They have special calls to give warning, to show they are puzzled, to say they like their food, to express anger or fear, and to show excitement.

They have a greeting grunt and an evening call. The evening call is especially calm and peaceful as they're going to bed.

Chimps also learn who to listen to. For example, one chimp at Gombe was so lazy that he always called the evening sound hours before bedtime. But it did him no good. The other chimps ignored him.



Chimps communicate with touch and physical displays, or shows. They make faces at each other to show their feelings. They show affection by grooming each other, kissing, hugging, tickling, touching each other's hands and patting each other's backs, much like we do.

Individual calls

Chimps have a long-distance call called a **pant-hoot**. Just as you can recognize a voice on the phone, chimps can tell which chimp is calling, even if they can't see it.

Experts say it is important for chimps to know where all the other chimps are. This way, they know how to behave. For example, if they didn't know the top, or **alpha**, male was coming, they might not act non-threatening enough. That male might then do something unpleasant to them.

Getting along

Chimps call back and forth throughout the day. Like people, chimps have grudges and enemies. They have **allies**, or helpers, and favorite companions. Chimps want to know where the other chimps are so they can avoid them or join them.

Gus Goodsport's Report

Supersport: Steven Stamkos
 Height: 6-1 Birthdate: 2-7-90
 Weight: 188 Hometown: Markham, Ontario, Canada
 Steven Stamkos maneuvers the puck with poise, looking for the right time to strike. Then, in a flash, he passes to an open teammate — or blasts a shot into the net. The young Tampa Bay Lightning center can light up a hockey scoreboard and electrify a crowd with an assist or goal.
 As of Jan. 23, Stamkos ranked first in the National Hockey League in points (67) and goals scored (38), and was chosen to play in his first All-Star Game on Jan. 30 in Raleigh, N.C.
 The first overall pick in the 2008 NHL draft, Stamkos rose to star status last year when he scored 51 goals, tying superstar Sidney Crosby for the league high. His big jump resulted in part from intense off-season training after his rookie year.
 The success also has landed him several high-profile endorsement deals. At age 21, Stamkos has star power — on and off the ice.

Chimp Challenges

Talking to humans

Chimpanzees are smart. Chimps in captivity have been taught to "talk" with sign language. The most famous chimp, Washoe, learned 240 signs.

Jane Goodall said that Washoe could guess at a word even if she didn't know the exact name for something. For example, once when she was shown a brush, she called it a comb. She wasn't just memorizing names. She could figure out how the two things were alike.

When she saw herself in the mirror, she was asked in sign, "Who is that?" She signed back, "Me, Washoe."



Tool-making

For years, people thought the only creatures that made and used tools were humans. Jane Goodall discovered chimps creating a kind of fishing rod to capture termites, a favorite chimp food.

She saw chimps actually breaking off twigs and stripping off the leaves to make a better termite fishing rod. Her discovery changed the way we look at animals and ourselves.



A chimp "fishes" for termites. Chimps use tools to clean themselves, as weapons, and to get food and water. They use tools for more purposes than any other animal except humans.

Mighty Mike

The chimps that can use tools have a survival advantage over other chimps. Mike is a good example.

Often chimps fight each other to become alpha male. But Mike was small. It was hard for him to win fights against bigger chimps. But he was smart, and he found another way.

He discovered that if he stole a cooking oil can, he could roll it in front of him so it made a loud noise while he put on a charging **display**, or show. When he first tried this, the other chimps ran away screaming. Mike became the alpha male, the leader of his group.

Mike learned to use three cans to make his display even scarier. He stayed alpha male for six years.



MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

- Charlie:** How do you catch a chimpanzee?
Charlotte: Hang upside down and make a noise like a banana!
- Chase:** What kind of ice cream do great apes eat?
Camille: Chocolate chimp!
- Charlize:** What flower do chimps plant in their gardens?
Chester: Pansies!

Basset Brown The News Hound's Chimps TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of chimpanzees are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: AFRICA, ALPHA, BEHAVIOR, CALL, CLIMB, DISPLAY, ENDANGERED, FOREST, GROOM, HABITAT, JOKES, LANGUAGE, LAUGH, NEST, PLAY, RELATIVES, SIGN, SMART, TOOL, TREES, USE, WILD.

CHIMPS ARE A LOT LIKE PEOPLE!

B L C C B M I L C T S E R O F
 E J A A T M E G A U G N A L D
 H O K U L O H A B I T A T G I
 A K P W G L O K L T S E N R S
 V E S L I H M L A L P H A O P
 I S I U A L N V S E E R T O L
 O K G S V Y D A C I R F A M A
 R V N E L S E V I T A L E R Y
 D E R E G N A D N E T R A M S

Ready Resources

The Mini Page provides ideas for websites, books or other resources that will help you learn more about this week's topics.

- On the Web:**
- www.janegoodall.org
 - <http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/kids/animals/creaturefeature/chimpanzee/>
 - <http://www.lpzoosites.org/chimp-ssp/chimpanzees.htm>

- At the library:**
- "My Life with the Chimpanzees" by Jane Goodall
 - "Chimpanzees Are Smart!" by Leigh Rockwood

The Mini Page Staff
 Betty Debnam - Founding Editor and Editor at Large Lisa Tarry - Managing Editor Lucy Lien - Associate Editor Wendy Daley - Artist

NEW! The Mini Page® **Book of States**

The Mini Page's popular series of issues about each state is collected here in a 156-page softcover book. Conveniently spiral-bound for ease of use, this invaluable resource contains A-to-Z facts about each state, along with the District of Columbia. Illustrated with colorful photographs and art, and complete with updated information, The Mini Page Book of States will be a favorite in classrooms and homes for years to come.

To order, send \$15.99 (\$19.99 Canada) plus \$5 postage and handling for each copy. Make check or money order (U.S. funds only) payable to Universal Uclick. Send to The Mini Page Book of States, Universal Uclick, P.O. Box 6814, Leawood, KS 66206. Or call toll-free 800-591-2097 or go to www.smartwarehousing.com.

Please send _____ copies of **The Mini Page Book of States** (item #0-7407-8549-4) at \$20.99 each, total cost. (Bulk discount information available upon request.)

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____