

Baboons, Drills And Mandrills

Baboons- are terrestrial monkeys found in open or rocky areas, including open woodland, savannah, grassland, and rocky hills in Africa. They have doglike faces and walk on all fours. Baboons are boisterous, cunning, and often fierce animals that have been known to raid human settlements for food and occasionally attack humans to defend themselves. Baboons are very smart and noisy. Five species are known; the hamadryas baboon; the western baboon; the olive baboon; (known to the ancient Egyptians as Anubis); the yellow baboon; the chacma baboon. Baboons are among the largest of the monkeys. Depending on the species, baboons measure between 20 and 45 inches in body length and weigh between 30 and 88 pounds.



Olive
baboon



Hamadryas
Baboon-
female

Olive baboons live in groups or "troops" as they are often called, ranging in size from 15 to 150 baboons. The friendships between boys and girl baboons include relaxed grooming sessions, traveling and hunting for food together during the day, sleeping near each other, help defend them from bullies, and help each other in caring for babies. When two boys meet each other for the first time, the greeting begins when one male approaches another with a rapid wal , looking directly at the other male, smacking his lips, squinting, laying his ears flat against his head, and finally showing his bottom. One unusual thing seen in young olive baboons in Nigeria is their ability to swim and dive. They have been seen swimming with their faces under water in a river, and diving from trees that hang over the river. They "talk" to each other using noises.



Hamadryas
Baboon-male

Hamadryas baboons spend most of their time on the ground. They group themselves in a few different ways to help them survive in their harsh environment. The smallest social unit, called a harem, contains one adult male, one or more “follower” males, and up to 9 adult females with their young. The males are in charge of herding, which directs the group and keeps the females from straying or being approached by other males. Two to three harems combine to form clans, and several clans—made up of two to four clans—make up a band. A band searches for food together. At night, the bands link up to form groups of about 100. They all bed down together at the same cliff site because sleeping spots are rare, and by linking together, they are better protected from predators. Hamadryas baboons are omnivorous (eat a wide variety of foods), including grass, root , nuts, insects, eggs, small birds and mammals. They change their tastes depending on what is easiest to get. Usually, a baboon mother gives birth to one baby in the late spring or early wintertime. By about 5 years old, the females are full grown; males take an extra two years to reach adult size. A hamadryas baboon can live for around 38 years in a zoo. Hamadryas baboons live with and around; cheetahs, serval cats, leopards, hippopotami, reedbuck, aardvarks, East African oryxs, ostriches and carmine bee-eaters. The hamadryas baboon is threatened by habitat loss and hunting. In Ethiopia, home to the most hamadryas baboons, irrigation projects have led to habitat destruction and conflicts with people.



Chacma
baboon-male

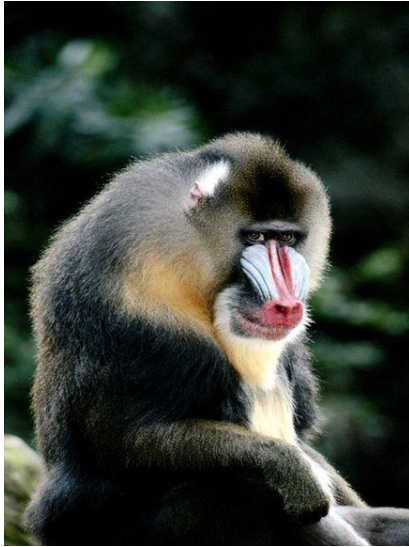
The Chacma baboon is found in southern [Africa](#), [Angola](#), [Zambia](#), and [Mozambique](#). Size and color different according to where they live in Africa. The Cape Chacma from southern South Africa is a large, heavy, dark brown baboon with black feet. The Gray-footed Chacma lives in South Africa to southern Zambia. It is slightly smaller than the Cape Chacma, lighter in color and build, and has gray feet. The Ruacana Chacma is found in Namibia and southern Angola, and generally appears to be a smaller, less darkly colored version of the Cape Chacma. Chacmas usually live in social groups composed of multiple adult males, adult females, and their babies. Chacma troops are ruled over by a dominant male and female. A female's ranking within the troop is inherited (passed down to her baby) through the mother and remains fixed, while male ranking is often in questions, especially when the dominant male is replaced. Chacmas are unusual among baboons in that neither males nor females form strong relationships with members of the same sex. Instead, the strongest social bonds are often between unrelated adult males and females. Killing of a baby is also common compared to other baboon types, as newly dominant males will often attempt to kill young baboons from the previously dominant male. Baboon troops communicate by body language, expressions on their face, by voice and touch.



Yellow baboon-
female with
baby

The Yellow baboon has yellow-brown to yellow-grey fur. Their cheek hair is lighter than the hair on top of their heads. Adult males have a mane (like a lion) and babies are born with black fur. They eat grass, seeds, young leaves, fruits, roots, cereals, young birds and small mammals. They will eat whatever foods are around. Yellow baboons live in more than one male, more than one female groups with alpha (dominant) individuals. They have overlapping territories. Juvenile females inherit their mother's rank in the group. Group-size depends on how much food is available and by how many animals that eat them are (predators) in the area. They spend most of their time on the

ground. While looking for food, they may travel for 3-12 square miles a day. They live in thorny bush areas, savannahs (open grasslands) and in the woods.



Mandrill-male

Mandrillus- of West Africa are the largest of all monkeys. They are shy primates that live only in the rain forests of Africa. Mandrills are very colorful. They can be identified by the blue and red skin on their faces and their bright colored bottoms (rumps). The female's face is a dull brown. The colors become brighter when the animal is excited. They also have very long canine teeth (like the big teeth of a dog) that can be used for self-defense—though showing them is usually a friendly smile to another mandrill. These monkeys usually spend their time on the ground (terrestrial monkeys), and they move with long arms to look for food on the ground like fallen fruits, roots, and animals such as bugs, reptiles, and amphibians. Their cheeks have built-in pouches that are used to store their snacks to eat later. Though mandrills spend much of their time on the ground, they can climb trees and do sleep in the trees. Mandrills live in troops, which are headed by a dominant male and include a dozen or more females and young. Their troops can number nearly 200.





Drill monkey-
male

Drills- They are found only in Cross River State in Nigeria, southwestern Cameroon (south to the Sanaga River), and on Bioko Island, part of Equatorial Guinea meaning rainforests. The Drill is a short-tailed monkey that looks a lot like the mandrill, but doesn't have the bright blue and red on the face of that species. The body is overall a dark grey-brown. Mature males have a pink lower lip and white chin on a dark grey to black face with raised grooves on the nose. The rump is pink, mauve and blue. Female drills lack the pink chin. A single dominant male leads a troop of around 20 females and is father to most of the young. This group of 20 may join others forming super groups of over 100. According to the season and the food available, they roam around. They will often rub their chests onto trees to mark their territory. They are semi-terrestrial that means they look for food mainly on the ground, but climb trees to sleep at night. The females have a single baby; female young remain in the troop, while young males move out to join other groups. They live up to 28 years and eat a wide range of fruit, but they also eat herbs, roots, eggs, insects, and sometimes small mammals. Drills are among Africa's most endangered mammals.

