



SIAMANGS

Siamangs are small and live in trees on the peninsula of Malaysia, Thailand and the Sumatran rainforest. They are a gibbon, but slightly larger than the gibbons at IPPL and they have shaggy black fur. They live their lives moving slowly through the trees (brachiating) eating fruit, young leaves and insects. They live in a small family of a Dad, Mom and brothers and sisters. The males defend their territory of about 30 acres. They sing like the gibbons at IPPL, and their song in the wild is used to tell others that this is their territory. When another siamang comes into another's territory, they swing through the trees chasing the intruder out of their territory. They have only one baby at a time and only every two or three years. Males help raise the babies and often carry them around with them when they look for food. The girls run the group. The females have a louder and longer song than the males. They all have very long arms and when they do go to the ground they walk on two legs similar to a human primate. They have a grey or sort of pinkish throat sac they use to "sing". The sac can be as large as

a grapefruit. If they fill the sac with air and close their mouth they can make a BOOM sound. If they fill the sac with air and open their mouths the sound is more like WOW. They also have a tiny bit of webbing between their second and third toes. Like all the other primates they are very smart.



Sleeping Siamang

