

CHIMPANZEES



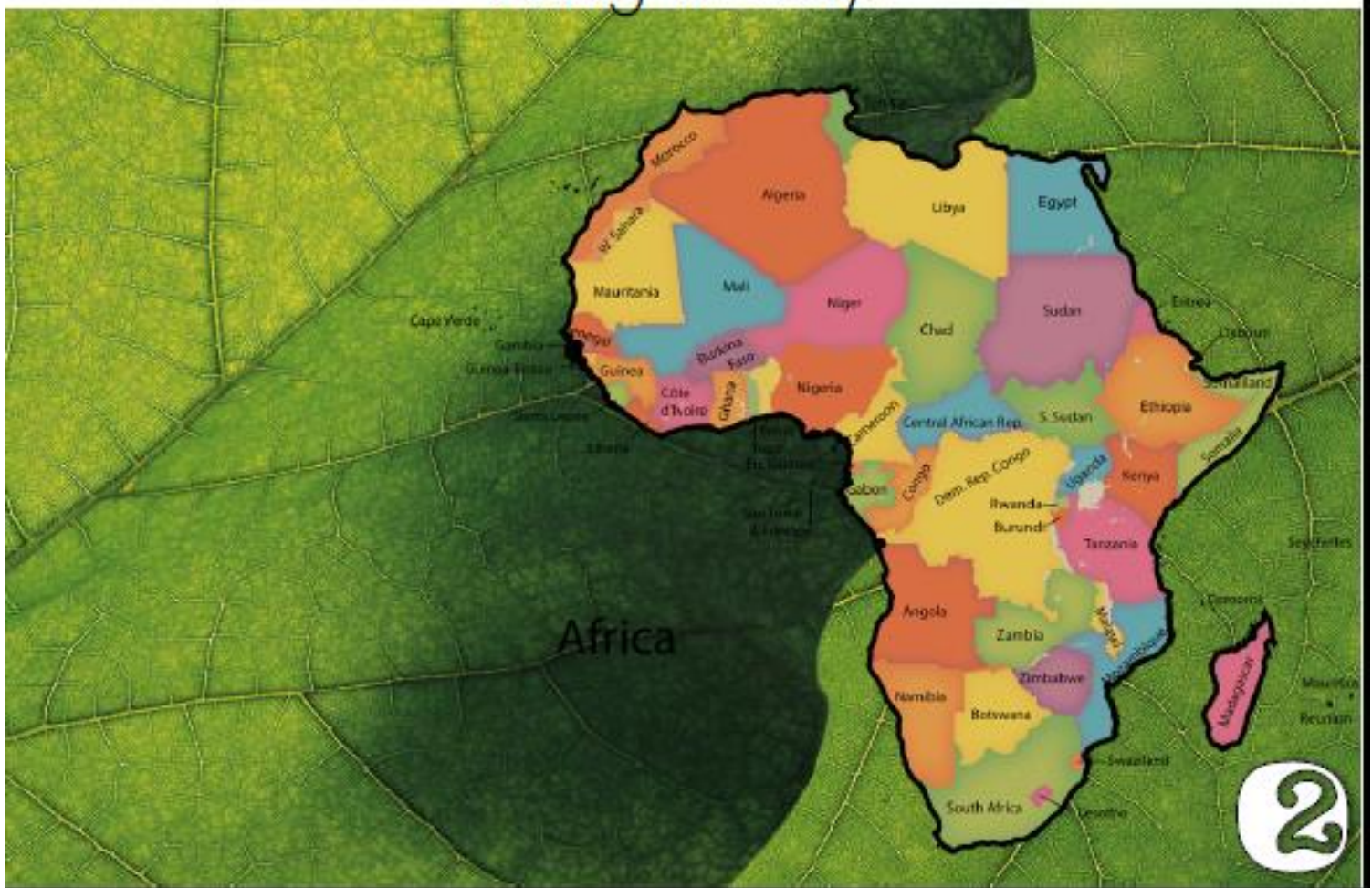
CHIMPANZEES

Did you know that chimpanzees are not monkeys? In fact, chimpanzees belong in the ape family. Monkeys have tails, but apes do not. So, if you are ever wondering if you are looking at an ape or a monkey...look for a tail!



HABITAT

Chimpanzees live throughout the African rain forests, woodlands, and grasslands. There was once millions of chimpanzees living throughout Africa. Now, they are an endangered species with less than 300,000 left living today.



CARING FOR THEIR YOUNG

Female chimpanzees normally have their first baby by the time they are 14 years old. The infants are very dependent on their mother for



milk, protection, and food.

Young chimps stay with their mother for at least 5 years, but some stay with their mothers for their entire life. Female chimps can have between 4-6 babies in her lifetime, but they normally only give birth to one chimp at a time.

BABY CHIMPS

Baby chimpanzees can begin sitting up on their own at 5 months old, and stand with support at 6 months old. Baby chimps sleep with their mother for a few years until they become independent.



MOVING ALONG

Although chimpanzees normally walk on all fours, they are capable of standing on two feet and walking upright. They are also able to swing from branch to branch, where they do most of their eating. When it's time to sleep, the chimps will find a safe spot in the trees.



MEAL TIME!

Chimpanzees are fruit and plant eaters most of the time, but they will also consume insects, eggs, and meat. They have a diet that consists of a variety of foods! In fact, chimps are one of the few animals that use tools to find and prepare their food.



They may use sticks to dig insects out of logs, or use stones to smash open a tasty nuts! Chimps will also help each other to find food.

INTERESTING FACTS

- In the wild, chimpanzees live in large groups of 15-120 members.
- Chimps communicate through noises they make, hand gestures, and facial expressions.
- Some chimps have been taught how to use sign language.
 - Chimps have 32 teeth.
- They are not able to swim even though they live near water.
- Chimps can live for more than 50 years.

