



Observing Monkeys

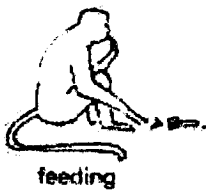
Many kinds of monkeys spend a great deal of their lives in trees. Because they are in the trees so much, they need adaptations that enable them to move through the trees easily. These adaptations include:

- * hands and feet designed for grasping
- * tails used for balancing and grasping
- * forward-facing eyes to help judge distances correctly

1. Choose one of the monkeys in the exhibit and observe it closely. Observe the monkey's hand. A grasping hand enables the monkey to climb trees, groom its fur, and reach for food. What special finger on the monkey's hand enables it to pick up things? Draw an arrow to this important finger.



2. Observe one monkey for 5 minutes. Especially watch the monkey's hands. Keep score how many times it does each activity below.



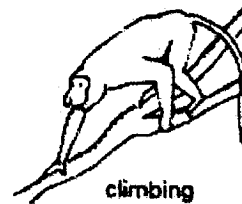
feeding



grooming



scratching



climbing

3. When the monkey moves around the exhibit does it:

___ use its arms and legs? ___ use its legs only? ___ use its arms only?

4. Watch several monkeys to see how they use their tails.

Did you see any tails used for ___ balancing? ___ grasping?

5. Monkeys have eyes that are positioned close to each other on the front of the face. This helps them to judge distances between branches when they jump through the trees. Look at several monkeys to see where their eyes are located.