

# Gorilla



Mammals



Central Africa



Endangered

## SIZE

5 to 6 feet

An average refrigerator is  
5.8 feet tall



## FOOD

Plants

Herbivore



## HABITAT

Rain forest



## The Big Guys

Gorillas are the largest primates in the world. Adult males and weigh up to 500 pounds.

### Noses

No two gorillas have a similar nose. Scientists can identify gorillas by their nose.



### Silverbacks

Male gorillas are known as silverbacks because of the silver hair on their backs.

### Toe-riific

The big toe of a gorilla's foot is opposable, like our thumb, to help it grab food or climb trees.

### Terrific Troops

Gorillas are very gentle animals that live in groups called troops.

Gorillas love to eat!  
Gorillas eat up to 40 lbs of food each day. Gorilla food includes leaves, stems, fruits, seeds, roots, ants, and termites.



# Conservation

**In the past 15 years, we have lost half of the gorilla population. Today, there are less than 100,000 gorillas.**

**For comparison:  
300,000 people live in Pittsburgh.**



**Gorillas have no natural enemies or predators, yet these peaceful creatures are at critical risk because of humans hunting or destroying their habitat. Gorilla are also at risk for Ebola virus.**



**Did you know that cellphones have a connection to the well-being of gorillas? Here's the 411:**

**Cellphones contain a rare ore called coltan. This metal is mined in Africa, and increased mining means habitat loss for wildlife. Cell phone recycling programs keep phones out of landfills and help to reduce a little of the coltan demand.**



# Zoo Keepers

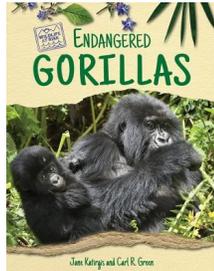
## Gorilla

### Book List

#### *Endangered Gorillas*

by Jane Katirgis

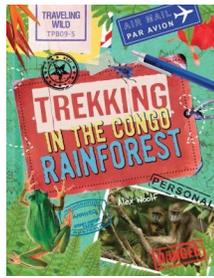
Learn all about their lives, the challenges they face, and what can be done to help save them.



#### *Trekking in the Congo Rainforest*

by Alex Woolf

Learn all about the Congo and the animals that live there including gorillas.



#### *I am a Gorilla*

by Steve MacLeod

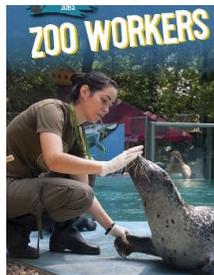
Read about these gentle giants: what do they eat? What are their habitats like?



#### *Zoo Workers*

by Richard Alexander

Discover what zoo workers do and how a person can prepare for a career in this field.



#### *Zookeepers*

by Sarah Tieck

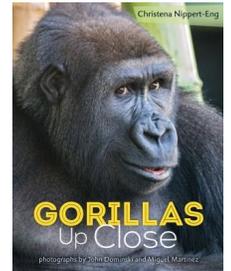
This dynamic title gives readers an up-close, out-of-this-world look at zookeepers.



#### *Gorillas Up Close*

by Christena Nippert-Eng

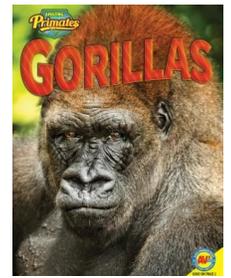
Get up close with gorillas and learn all about their lives and how they're similar to humans.



#### *Gorillas*

by Pamela McDowell

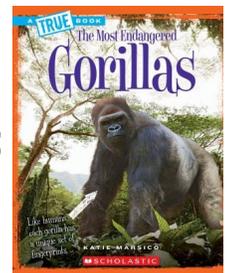
Learn about their habitats, habits, communities, and the conservation efforts to help their survival.



#### *The Most Endangered Gorillas*

by Katie Marsico

Learn traits and habitats as well as the forces endangering its survival and efforts to protect it.



#### *The Wild World of a Zoo Vet*

by Ruth Owen

Discover how vets use science and equipment to solve problems, save lives, and care for wild animals.



#### *How Did They Build That? Zoo*

by Tamra Orr

Let's build a zoo! Who will live here? Don't forget the visitors! Putting it

