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NARRATED BY MORGAN FREEMAN

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# DISCOVER THE MYSTERY OF MADAGASCAR

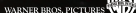
Use the map inside to learn about Madagascar's  
**LEMURS**—found nowhere else on Earth.

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The Duke Lemur Center, located in Durham, North Carolina, is the only university-based facility in the world dedicated to the preservation and study of prosimian primates. Here, 238 lemurs from 17 different species live on 70 acres of preserved forest. More than 100 researchers per year study lemurs at the Center, while tens of thousands of visitors travel from all over the world to meet these captivating animals. <http://lemur.duke.edu/imax>



# WELCOME TO LEMUR ISLAND

Lemurs are evolutionary relatives of monkeys, apes, and people. They live natively on the island of Madagascar, and nowhere else.

Madagascar is the world's fourth-largest island, and 9 out of 10 of its species are found nowhere else.

The Malagasy name "sifaka" comes from the distinct call this animal makes as it travels through the trees: "shif-auk."

Lemur in Latin means "ghost" and many of the Malagasy people believe lemurs are similar to spirits or ghosts because of their haunting stare and night activity.

Indris are among the most tree-loving lemurs. They avoid the ground and spend most of their time climbing and jumping from tree to tree.

Until recently, gray mouse lemurs were thought to be the smallest living primate. This was disproven when the pygmy mouse lemur, thought to be extinct, was rediscovered.

Bamboo lemurs eat large amounts of bamboo, which contains a potentially toxic chemical. Scientists don't fully understand how they eat so much bamboo without being poisoned.

Ring-tailed lemurs live in big groups of up to 24 animals. Females rule the groups.

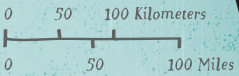


## USE YOUR MAP SKILLS

- 1 Maromokotro is part of which massif?
- 2 Six rain forests border the island's east coast. Which body of water is closest to them?
- 3 What river flows through the capital city?
- 4 What percentage of plants and animals evolved on Madagascar and nowhere else?
- 5 Which lemur species is the smallest?
- 6 Which Madagascar species is named for its long neck?
- 7 Centre ValBio is located in what national park?
- 8 What province is the Tsingy Stone Forest located in?
- 9 What massif is in the southern part of Madagascar?
- 10 Are ring-tailed lemurs found north or south of Antananarivo?

**LEGEND**

- Rain Forest
- Forest
- Deforestation
- Mountains and Massifs
- Province Name
- Country Capital
- River
- Province Boundary
- Lemur Territory



# SNACK LIKE A LEMUR

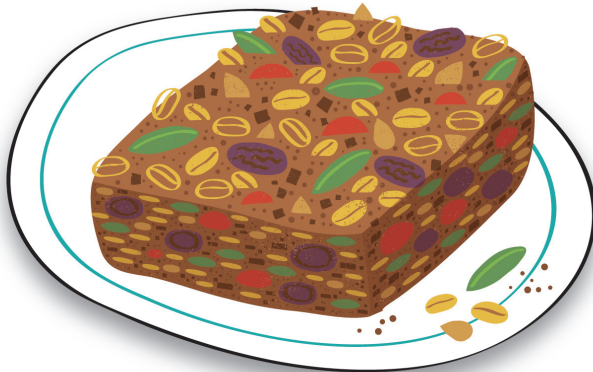
Lemurs mainly eat leaves, nuts, flowers, fruits, and seeds. Make these yummy lemur-inspired bars to enjoy with your family!

## Fruit-and-Nut Bars

(Adapted from thekitchn.com)  
Makes 12 bars

### Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup melted coconut oil
- 3 tablespoons peanut butter
- 3 tablespoons brown rice syrup
- 1/4 cup ground flaxseeds
- 1 1/4 cups applesauce
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 3 cups rolled oats
- 1/2 cup raisins
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup pumpkin seeds
- 1/4 cup sunflower seeds
- 1/4 cup chopped Madécasse chocolate (or any milk/dark chocolate)
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon salt



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## WE ARE FAMILY

What's it like to be a lemur? In some ways very different from life as you know it. Like humans, lemurs and other primates have opposable thumbs, which means they can use them to touch each of the fingers on the same hand. Try this activity to see what life would be like without these flexible digits.

**Materials:** Package of toothpicks, stopwatch, masking tape

### Procedure:

- 1 Spread out several dozen toothpicks on a table.
- 2 Time each family member as they pick up all the toothpicks as fast as they can. Have each family member pick up the pile of toothpicks three times, then average the results.
- 3 Take turns taping each family member's thumb and index finger together. Repeat steps 1 and 2.
- 4 Try doing other normal activities with your thumbs taped. How difficult is it to eat a snack? Pick up a cup of water? Write your name?

### Think About It:

- 1 What was each person's average time for picking up toothpicks when using his or her thumb freely?
- 2 What was each person's average time for picking up toothpicks with a taped thumb?
- 3 How big of a difference did the thumb make in manipulating objects?
- 4 What was it like doing other activities without the use of your opposable thumb?
- 5 Primates such as lemurs evolved for life in the trees. Talk about how an opposable thumb would be especially useful in the treetops.