

# PRIMATES ARE A DIVERSE GROUP, PRIMARILY FOUND IN TROPICAL REGIONS.

## NEW WORLD MONKEYS

ARE FOUND IN CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA. LITTLE IS KNOWN OF THIS GROUP'S FOSSIL HISTORY.

THE HOWLER MONKEY PRODUCES CALLS WHICH CAN BE HEARD FOR OVER A MILE. BONES IN ITS THROAT ARE EXPANDED INTO A LARGE RESONATING CHAMBER, WHICH AMPLIFIES THE VOICE.



## HOMINOIDS ARE GIBBONS, ORANGUTANS, GORILLAS, CHIMPANZEES AND HUMANS.



CHIMPANZEES ARE OUR CLOSEST LIVING RELATIVES. LIKE HUMANS, THEY ARE INVENTIVE TOOL-MAKERS AND PROBLEM-SOLVERS.



DRYOPITHECUS WAS A PRIMITIVE UNSPECIALIZED HOMINOID WHICH LIVED IN AFRICA 20 MILLION YEARS AGO.

## OLD WORLD MONKEYS

DIVERGED FROM OLD WORLD APES. THEY ARE A NUMEROUS AND VARIED GROUP WITH DIVERSE HABITS.



MORE ADVANCED FORMS, SUCH AS BABOONS, SHOW A TENDENCY TOWARD LIFE ON THE GROUND. THIS EXTINCT SPECIES IS RELATED TO THE MOUNTAIN-DWELLING SELADA BABOON.



## ADVANCED PRIMATES INCLUDE MONKEYS, APES AND HUMANS. SOME OF THEIR COMMON TRAITS ARE HIGHLY DEVELOPED VISION AND A COMPARATIVELY LARGE BRAIN.

AEGYPTOPITHECUS WAS AN EARLY APE WHICH LIVED IN NORTHERN AFRICA SOME 25 MILLION YEARS AGO.



TARSIERS HAVE HAD A LONG HISTORY OF EVOLUTION INDEPENDENT OF OTHER PRIMATES. THIS FAMILY IS REPRESENTED BY ONLY A FEW LIVING SPECIES. THEY HAVE HUGE EYES AND POWERFUL LEGS, USED FOR JUMPING AMONG BRANCHES.



THESE FOSSIL FORMS SHOW THE SHORT FACE AND LARGE FORWARD-TURNED EYE SOCKETS CHARACTERISTIC OF TARSIERS.

NECROLEMUR



TETONIUS



PLESIADAPIDS WERE AN EARLY BRANCH OF THE PRIMATES. THEY EVOLVED RODENT-LIKE FEATURES, INCLUDING FRONT TEETH ADAPTED FOR BAWNING. BY 40 MILLION YEARS AGO, THE GROUP HAD DISAPPEARED.



THE FAMILY LORISIDAE INCLUDES LORISES, POTTOS AND GALAGOS. ALL ARE NOCTURNAL, TREE-DWELLING CREATURES FOUND IN TROPICAL REGIONS OF THE OLD WORLD.



LEMURS HAVE BEEN ISOLATED ON THE ISLAND OF MADAGASCAR FOR OVER 50 MILLION YEARS. THEY SHOW A GREAT VARIATION IN FORM, SIZE AND HABITS.



MEGALADAPIS WAS MUCH LARGER THAN ANY OF TODAY'S LEMURS. IT MAY HAVE BECOME EXTINCT ONLY A FEW HUNDRED YEARS AGO.



ADAPIDS- IT IS THOUGHT THAT BOTH THE LEMURS AND MORE ADVANCED PRIMATES AROSE FROM THIS GROUP. THEIR REMAINS ARE FOUND IN NORTH AMERICA, EUROPE, AFRICA, AND ASIA, AND DATE FROM 55-10 MILLION YEARS AGO. IN APPEARANCE THEY PROBABLY RESEMBLED MODERN LEMURS.

SMILODECTES



ADAPIS



THE FIRST PRIMATES APPEAR IN THE FOSSIL RECORD ABOUT 80 MILLION YEARS AGO. THEY SEEM TO HAVE RESEMBLED MODERN TREE SHREWS.