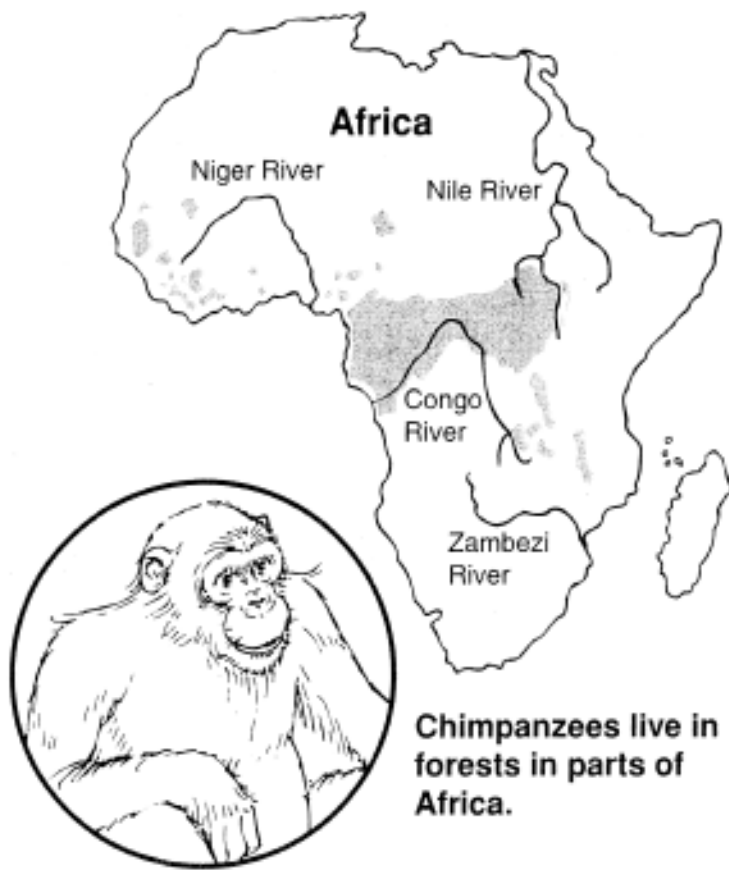


Chimpanzee Champion

For over 30 years, Jane Goodall has been learning about chimpanzees. She has crept and crawled through dense forests in Africa to observe them. She has watched them search for food, play, make friends, and fight. She has learned very important things about them.

Chimps are more closely related to humans than any other animal. Still, it surprised many scientists when Jane learned how much they act like people. She saw chimps using twigs to scoop termites from mounds. That meant they could use tools. Scientists had thought that only humans used tools. Chimps also had social groups like humans. They greeted one another with hugs and kisses. The more Jane watched chimps, the more she thought they were a lot like humans.

Although they act a lot like people, chimps cannot speak for themselves. That's why Jane acts as their champion. She speaks for them. Chimps face many dangers. As people build farms, roads, and houses, they chop down the animals' forest habitats. People hunt chimps for food. They capture chimp infants to sell as pets or lab animals.



Chimpanzees live in forests in parts of Africa.

Because chimps are our closest living relative, Jane thinks they should be protected. She believes that when people harm nature, they also harm themselves. Jane feels that there should be more wildlife sanctuaries in Africa. These protected areas offer safe places for chimps to live. Although chimps face danger every day, she believes that people can work together to make things better.