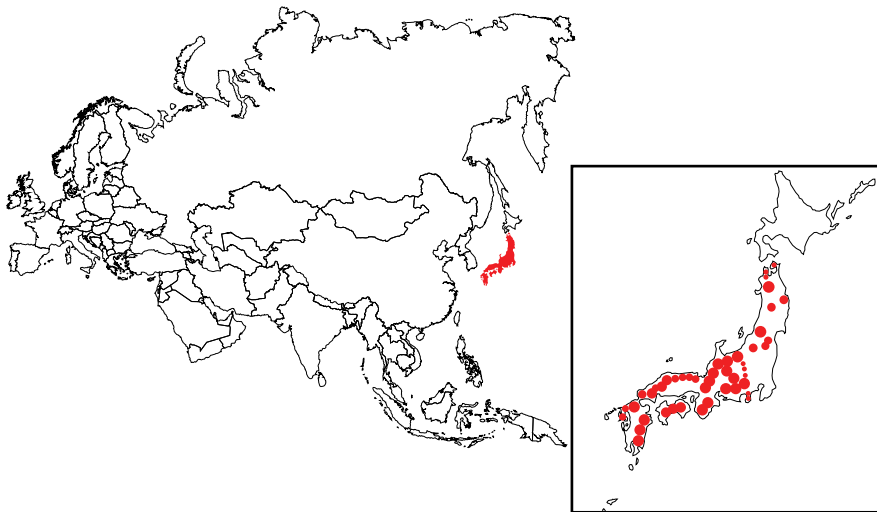


Range

Look at this map to see where the snow monkey lives.



There are many different species (types) of monkey in the world.

Do you think there are any monkeys that live further north than the snow monkey?

range

Young

Snow monkeys are mammals.



©Alex Riddell / RZSS

What is the baby snow monkey's first food?

young



Answer card

Young

The baby snow monkey will feed on mother's milk.

At about a month old, the mother will start to teach the baby snow monkey what foods are good to eat.

The snow monkeys are adult at around 5-6 years old but will still continue to grow until about 8 years old.

Answer card

Range

The snow monkey lives further north than any other monkey.

No other non-human **primate** lives further north.

Primates are the group of animals which include lemurs, lorises, tarsiers, monkeys and apes.

Diet

Look closely at this picture of what a snow monkey might like to eat.



Is the snow monkey a carnivore, a herbivore or an omnivore?

carnivore – eats meat

herbivore – eats plants

omnivore – eats meat and plants

diet

Threats

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) uses this scale to provide information on endangered species.

The scale below is for the snow monkey. They are classed as least concern.



Do you think there are threats to the snow monkey?

threats



Answer card

Threats

There are no major threats to the snow monkey.

They used to be hunted for food, medicines or killed as pests. The species has been protected from hunting in Japan since 1947.

This doesn't mean that there are no threats at all to the species. Forests are still being cut down which means their habitat is shrinking.

Scientists will continue to research the species.

Answer card

Diet

The snow monkey is an omnivore.

The snow monkey eats a wide variety of foods including fruits, berries, leaves, seeds, insects and other small animals.

Playing

Why do you think playing is a very important part of growing up for the snow monkey?



playing

Grooming

Look closely at this picture



grooming

Describe what grooming means.



Answer card

Grooming

Grooming is a behaviour where the snow monkeys clean each other.

This is an important behaviour in the troop. It brings troop members together and is a friendly activity.

Answer card

Playing

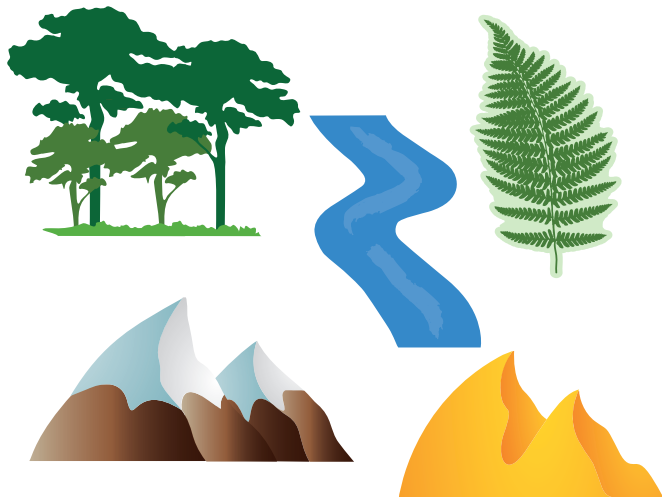
Young snow monkeys spend a lot of the time playing.

Playing allows them to learn the skills they will need to survive.

Habitat

Snow monkeys can live in different habitats.

What does the word habitat mean?



habitat

Adaptations

An adaptation is a special skill which helps an animal to survive.



How are the feet of the snow monkey adapted to live in the forests?

adaptations



Answer card

Adaptations

The snow monkeys have feet that are very similar to their hands. They have five toes but the big toe acts like a thumb.

This means they can hold and grip with both their hands and feet which helps them to climb the trees.

Answer card

Habitat

Habitat is the natural home of an animal.

Although often called the snow monkey, they can live in both warm and cold habitats.

The snow monkeys mainly live in sub-tropical forests in the south and in mountain forests in the north.

Groups

The snow monkeys live in groups called troops. A troop could be between 20 and 100 animals.

The troop has an alpha male and an alpha female.



What position in the troop do you think the alpha male and alpha female hold?



Answer card

Groups

The alpha male is the top male of the troop and the alpha female is the top female of the troop.

Both the alpha male and alpha female settle any arguments between the troop members.

The alpha male needs the alpha female's support to keep his position in the troop.