



**We Live Here Too
At
Wales Ape &
Monkey Sanctuary**



Wales Ape &

Monkey Sanctuary



There are a lot of other animals here at the Sanctuary. Many of them have been here a lot longer than the apes and the monkeys. These are some of the other characters that you will see on your visit to the Wales Ape and Monkey Sanctuary. You have been given their first names and their common names. All animals also have scientific names.

E.g. Your first name is what your parents call you, your common name is Human and your scientific name is *Homo sapiens*.

These are the scientific names of the animals you will see today.

Equus africanus asinus

Canis lupus familiaris

Psittacus erithacus

Equus mulis or Hybrid

Procyon lotor

Equus caballus

Sus scrofa

Canis lupus

Feline hybrid

Cairina moschata

Vulpes vulpes

Felis silvestris

Capra Aegagrus hircus

Equus ferus caballus

Oryctolagus cuniculus

Suricata Suricata

Letailurus serval

Name	Common Name	Scientific Name
Jane	Human	Homo sapiens
Hector		Capra Aegragus hircus
	Shetland Pony	
Merlin		
	Pig	
Mis		
		Cairina moschata

Use the information boards at the Sanctuary and the biographies in this booklet to complete the table.

Hello! Our names are Barney, Carlo and Georgio and we are red foxes. We were born in early April 2020 somewhere near to the Sanctuary. Our mother was killed crossing the road and we were taken in by a lady who asked us to take us in. We were very young and this meant that we had to be hand reared and cannot live outside the Sanctuary, unlike our friend Todd whose parents were killed when he was 7 weeks old. He lived here for 4 months and then left to live in the local woods, but he comes back every night for food and to say hello.



Foxes live all over the northern hemisphere in the wild but many of us are hunted by people who think we are a pest.

We weighed only 500 grams when we arrived but now we are 8 kilos and 40 centimetres tall at the shoulder. We like to sleep on the roof of our den in the sun in the summer and watch everyone else. In the wild foxes make dens in wooded areas and tend to be nocturnal which means that they are active at night. They hunt for rodents, squirrels, rabbits, birds, reptiles and invertebrates like caterpillars. They will also eat berries and grass as well as foraging amongst gardens and farms to see what they can steal.

I enjoy lots of different meat but my favourite is chicken and duck and the occasional boiled egg.

Hello! My name is Meeko. I am a raccoon and came to the Sanctuary on September 3rd 2013. I used to live in Iowa in the United States of America. One day, looking for food I got trapped in a shipping



container. There was no food and I slept for weeks, which we do in winter sometimes

anyway. I thought I would die of starvation. Then one day the container opened and I was caught by Graham with a net. I was in Wales! I was very frightened. When we got to the

Sanctuary I was put in a building with a cosy bed but the first thing I saw was a bowl of more different foods than I could ever imagine! Things were looking up!

Raccoons live in Southern Canada and all over the United States in the wild. Raccoons are good climbers and we can also swim.

I weigh around 5 kilos and am 60 centimetres long, half of which is my long striped tail. I was born in 2011. I am most active at night but there is so much to look at here and I don't have to hunt for food so I spend a lot of time watching what is going on.

I now have a friend called Cyril who has never seen America and spent a lot of his time being taken around to children's birthday parties before he came here.

In the wild raccoons eat lots of different foods - all fruit, all nuts, corn, crayfish, insects, rodents, frogs, fish, and birds' eggs. We also raid houses and farms and are often thought to be a nuisance. I eat lots of different food here but my real favourite is boiled eggs!

Hello! My name is van Gogh and I am a Meerkat. I was born in a pet shop in Cardiff in South Wales. My family and I came to the Sanctuary



here on Good Friday 2018, when the pet shop we lived in was closed down. There are seven of us and we all get along quite well together. Mia is the boss and she can give a very nasty bite to humans who make her angry!!

Eating both plants and animals, we are omnivores. Our diet mostly consists of insects, which we sniff out using our enhanced sense of smell. We also eat small rodents, fruit, birds, eggs, lizards, and even poisonous scorpions. There are few

animals on Earth who work as well together as us meerkats. We have been recorded as digging burrows up to 2 metres deep.

We lose 5% of our body weight at night when we are asleep so we need to eat plenty of food of a wide variety, fruit, vegetables as well as insects, eggs, chicks and mice.

In the wild in the deserts and grasslands of Africa, every morning, meerkats start their day with grooming or lying in the sun. During the rest of the day, they forage for food. One Meerkat will watch the group of foragers and alert them if a predator approaches. This sentry is relieved and replaced each hour so that everyone can forage. It is the sentry's job to look out for and warn the mob about the approach of predators like hawks, eagles, snakes and jackals.

Hello! My name is Emily and I am a Shire Horse. I was born on the 24th of May 1997 here at the Sanctuary where I have stayed. I have a sister Zara and we are the largest animals here. My ancestors were descended from mediaeval war horses called The Great Horse and they could carry a knight in full armour weighing around 140 kilos. Shires were developed in England for the war and later to work on farms and to pull the drays from the breweries. It was Henry VIII who first gave us that name. Today some of my relatives are Drum Horses in the



Household Cavalry in royal processions. My brother was named after Alexander the Great, the Drum Horse in 1960. All of them were named after Greek heroes. I weigh around 900 - 1000 kilos and I am 18 hands tall at the shoulder which is 183 centimetres (one hand also = 4 inches). I need a lot of food to keep me healthy and strong, although I do not do any work here at the Sanctuary and neither do any of the horses. In the summer we spend more time in the fields and eat the grass that grows there. We also have supplements of sugar beet which must be soaked in water overnight or it could kill us. I like fresh chopped vegetables and herbs and the odd currant bun, apple, pear or even an occasional polo mint as a treat. In winter we need lots of hay and other foods like 'cool mix', alfalfa and sugar beet as well as chopped vegetables and fruit. We also spend more time indoors in the barn at night but provided the weather is not too wet we usually have daily exercise in the fields. A farrier comes every 8 weeks to trim our hooves but we do not need horse shoes

Hello! My name is Magic and I am a Shetland Pony. I was born in North Wales on 14th June 1993 and came to the Sanctuary on December 6th 1993. My father was a champion at shows and I have inherited my good looks from him!



Shetland ponies originally lived in the Shetland Isles which are located off the north-west coast of Scotland. For centuries we lived out in all weathers with only our thick hair to protect us. We have a thick double coat in winter and a thick mane and tail. We were domesticated and used by people since 500BC because we are very strong and are able to pull twice our weight.

I weigh 234 kilos and am 95 centimetres to my shoulder. In 1847 when the law banned children from working in coal mines Shetland Pony colts were in great demand to be used to pull the coal carts underground which meant that we had to live underground for years. We were also used to pull the peat carts, but today we are used for riding for children and for harness driving.

At the Sanctuary I am not used for any work and I enjoy my life with my friends roaming the fields every day and nice and warm and dry in the winter nights indoors in the barn.

In the wild in the Shetlands we eat rough heather and grasses and sometimes seaweed washed up on the beach.

Here I eat grass in the summer and hay, sugar beet, alfalfa and chopped vegetables in the winter.

Hello! My name is Pepe and I am a Donkey or Jack as males are called, who came to live in the Sanctuary in December 1998 when I was two years old. My owner was an old lady who was moving house and she could not take me with her.

My ancestors would have been the African Wild Ass which is endangered today. Donkeys have been domesticated and used by people for 5000 years and we are not always treated well in many countries in the world. We are used to carry heavy loads and also used in farming. Beaches in this country were often famous for their donkey rides along the sand for children.



I weigh around 180 kilos and am 90 centimetres tall and I have very long ears and a very loud voice. I like to bray loudly which can be heard 3 kilometres away and is a real conversation stopper when I am in the barn on wet days. Donkeys do not have water proof coats, but on dry days we like to roll in sand.

I have retired now but I used to go to Swansea every Christmas to spend the day with the Fire Fighters who were raising money for their charity. The Jesus Cross on my back is very prominent and people like to see donkeys at Christmas. They would be waiting for me to arrive, with bags of carrots from the nearby market. I loved my outings!

In the wild, donkeys like to browse grazing on high fibre plants. At the Sanctuary I eat grass but I am also given soaked sugar beet, hay and barley straw. I love carrots, apples pears and I also enjoy a banana.

Hello! My name is Ebony and I am a Miniature Horse. I came to the Sanctuary with my mother Lady in August 1993 when I was 3 months old and only 45 centimetres tall. Before that, we had lived in fields where we were not properly looked after. My friend Ascot and his mother Priscilla came with us. Our mothers both died of old age in 2013 and both of them were over 35 years old.

We are found all over the world and have been specially bred for hundreds of years to be small.



We need as much care and exercise as our Shire friends and we need a kilo of food per day for every 100 kilos that we weigh. I am now 72 centimetres tall and weigh around 100 kilos. The farrier must come regularly to trim my hooves.

In summer I spend all day outside grazing as grass is the main part of my diet. Many people use miniature horses for Shows and sometimes they are used in the same way as Guide Dogs. I lead a more natural life and have no work to do. I just enjoy being with the other horses and animals here at the Sanctuary.

In winter we spend more time indoors and eat hay, sugar beet which has to be soaked and alfalfa. We also have chopped vegetables. The vegetables must be chopped into sticks and not circles. We could choke if the vegetables are not cut properly. If the pieces are too big we can get colic which is a very nasty condition which could kill us. My favourite treats are apples and carrots. I hate parsnips and always leave them at the bottom of my bucket.

Hello! My name is Merlin and I am a Welsh Cob. I came to the



Sanctuary in July 2006 from a lady who could no longer look after me. She had rescued me from some horrible people who starved me because I was no use to them as I suffer from Ringbone a kind of rheumatism in my leg. My ancestors were used as early as

1485 when the Welsh Militia assisted Henry Tudor to gain the British throne and they rode with him from Milford Haven up the west coast of Wales. Before the invention of cars, doctors and tradesmen used Welsh Cobs as a means of transport. We were also used by the army for mounted infantry and for pulling heavy guns and machinery over rough terrain. My best friends here are the Shires but I also like spending time with all the little miniature horses and do not like to be separated from them. The Ringbone does not really bother me unless I gallop too fast and often up and down the hilly fields the other side of the Sanctuary. I have no work to do so I can please myself and go at my own pace. I am 147 centimetres tall which is around 14.2 hands and I weigh 450 kilos. In the summer I spend my time grazing when there is plenty of grass in the fields. We are always given extra food even in summer and this is usually soaked sugar beet and fresh chopped vegetables. In winter we have lots of hay and we are also given sugar beet, chopped vegetables, a cool mix and alfalfa. Cool mix is a mixture of oil, protein, fibre and ash with added vitamins and minerals. We also have a mix flavoured with mint and garlic which are both good for our health. My favourite treat is a hot cross bun!

Hello! My name is Bonnie and I am a Mule. This means that my father was a donkey and my mother was a horse. This means that we have 63 chromosomes. A horse has 64 and a donkey has 62 chromosomes. Jan and Graham brought me and my friend Victoria to the Sanctuary from a horrible horse sale where our owner was getting rid of us. I was only 4 years old at the time in 1999 and Victoria was 10 years old.



Mules are used as pack horses and in farming. United States forces used mules in the War in Afghanistan to transport goods over rocky and mountainous terrain. Pack mules are often used to carry supplies to mountaineering base camps.

I weigh around 200 kilos and am around 90 centimetres tall. Mules can be a variety of colours and sizes but I am dark brown or bay and I have the same Jesus Cross as my father and Pepe have. We do not always have the cross

mark on our backs.

I eat grass, sugar beet and chopped vegetables in the summer and on rainy days have to be indoors with Pepe as I do not like to get wet. My coat is not waterproof. Horses have waterproof coats for protection against the weather.

In winter I have hay, barley straw, sugar beet, alfalfa and I enjoy chopped vegetables and fruit.

Hello! Our names are Jimbo, Chester and Alvin and we are African Grey Parrots. We lived somewhere near to the Sanctuary. Our owner was moving to a smaller home which had no space for us. He brought us to the Sanctuary in August 2018 and we moved into an indoor new cage specially built for us. It was not long before we started chewing the wood so plans were quickly made to get us into an outdoor building made of stone and metal! It has an outdoor area and two indoor rooms with windows so we can keep an eye on visitors and shout at them! We have lots of toys as we are easily bored! We are learning lots of new sounds!!



We actually talk a lot and are very intelligent often referred to as the 'Einsteins of the Bird World'. In the wild, African Grey Parrots generally inhabit savannahs, coastal mangroves, woodland and edges of forest clearings in their West and Central Africa range. They live in large flocks of thousands of individuals made of family groups - these parrots are monogamous and mate for life. An adult weighs around 410 grams and is 33 cm long with a wing span of 50cms. African Grey Parrots eat a variety of seeds, nuts, fruits, berries and vegetation in the wild. They will clamber from branch to branch while feeding instead of flying. They especially enjoy the fruits of the oil palm. African Greys are vulnerable to calcium and vitamin A deficiencies and obesity. Here we have Bagged parrot pellets which provide a complete and balanced nutrition. We also have fresh foods like, potato, green beans, corn on the cob, peas, peppers, spinach, spring greens, celery, kale, broccoli, cauliflower, carrots, any dark leafy greens and some fruit. Especially our favourite pomegranates!

Hello! Our names are Cabbage and Spanner and we are Kunekune pigs. We came to the Sanctuary on the 29th of November 2011 when we were rescued from a trip to the slaughterhouse.

Our ancestors came from New Zealand where we were kept originally by the Maoris and the name Kunekune is Maori for fat and round. No one really knows how we got to New Zealand because there are no indigenous land animals in New Zealand. It is possible the Maoris brought us because pigs are very important to the Polynesians. Maybe the early whalers and farmers brought us. I do know that in the 1970s we came very close to becoming extinct. Two wildlife park owners prevented this from happening.

In 1992
Kunekune
pigs first
came to
Britain. So it
could be said
that we are
rather
special.



We weigh 120 kilos and are around 76 centimetres tall. We like to live outdoors as long as we have a shelter with a thick bed of straw which we keep very clean. All pigs are very clean animals.

Kunekune pigs can survive on grazing and do very little foraging which is why we do not dig up the ground. Here at the Sanctuary we are given lots of fruit to eat and some rolled barley. We are vegetarians and must never be given anything that has any meat or meat by product in its ingredients.

Hello! My name is Napoleon and I am a brown and white tabby cat. I was born on December 27th in 2010 and was brought here with my brothers Thomas and Ginger on March 29th in 2011. Our parents were stray cats with no real home. Seven cats live here at the Sanctuary and we are great favourites with the visitors.

My ancestors were first domesticated 4000 years ago in Egypt although some people believe they were around in 7500 BC.



I am around 30 centimetres long and weigh about 3.5 kilos. We have more bones in our bodies than you do. We have 230 bones. We eat cat food, biscuits and other meat because our digestive systems are not designed to eat plant material.

We do a very useful job here at the Sanctuary because there is always a lot of food around in the monkey and ape enclosures. Without us there would be large numbers of rats and mice living here. We are not all good hunters as Sophie stays in the house all the time but we catch lots of mice and keep rodents away from the Sanctuary.

Monty and I enjoy being in the lounge and shop because we know everyone coming in will make a fuss of us. If we are lucky they will share their packed lunch with us. I like to hover around the picnic tables either for a fuss or snacks!

Hello! My name is Mis and I am a Kangal dog. I was born in August 2014 and came to the Sanctuary in February 2015 together with Nela a Pyrenean, Lucky a German Shepherd Dog and Berta a St Bernard. We were all in kill shelters in Poland.

Kangal Dogs are a very old Turkish breed and have been used for Guarding sheep and cattle. African farmers are being encouraged to use them to guard their animals from attack by cheetahs. This is also good for the cheetah as it stops the farmers from killing them.



I weigh around 60 kilos and am about 85 centimetres tall. I have a long sable colour coat and a black mask. My tail is long and my feet are very big. In August 2021 I had my back left leg amputated as I had a painful aggressive tumour in it. I manage really well just like Lucky does! I share my

enclosure during the day with Nela but I have also met Grizzly a Belgian Shepherd Dog from Kuwait and Khampa a Newfoundland Dog from Poland. We are all taken for long walks every day. We all play in our large enclosure together all day and sleep in our lovely big wooden house at night.

We have lots of friends already who visit and bring treats and toys every week. Friends from the village bring us something every day!

Hello! My name is Mo and I am a Muscovy Duck. I live here at the Sanctuary with my brothers and I was born here in 2004. My ancestors came from Mexico and Central and South America. We were first brought to Europe by explorers returning home in the sixteenth Century.



Although used to a tropical climate we adapt well to colder weather and have a wooden house to shelter in at night and keep us safe from

foxes. I am around 76cms long and weigh around 5 kilos. I have black and white feathers and iridescent back feathers. I have long claws and webbed feet. We all have red wattles on our faces and beaks.

Although we have lots of water areas here we spend most of our time wandering around the Sanctuary and stopping to wash in any puddle we find.

In the wild Muscovy Ducks graze on plants and grass and they also eat small fish amphibians, reptiles, crustaceans and millipedes. They are very popular in warm wet areas because they eat mosquitos and other pests.

Here at the Sanctuary we are given corn and bread but we also eat grass, insects and snails. Farmers like us because we eat the snails that spread disease to sheep.

Hello, my name is Marissa. My sister Phelan and I are first generation Czechoslovakian wolfdogs. We are four-year-old sisters and were bred in the Orkneys with a view to being sold as pets. We do not like living as pets and were ultimately found living in a shed.



A rescue centre in South East England contacted the Sanctuary and asked if the Sanctuary would give us a home. We moved here in September

2015. Lupi joined us via the Wolfdog Rescue group in April 2016 after 7 different homes rejected him. Depressed and in a kennels he was being prepared for euthanasia.

We eat only raw meat as cooked meat upsets our stomachs because we cannot digest it properly. Our favourite food is heart!

We like lots of physical exercise and fresh air and get bored easily as we are very intelligent.

We live in a lovely open enclosure with a great den to sleep in. We have a pool to take a dip when we get too warm.

Since then, Tiye, Rubea, Zebb and Petra have joined the Sanctuary!

Hello our names are Hector and Winston. We came to the Sanctuary on Tuesday 12th December 2017 - a very eventful journey! There had been snow and the man who drove us here ignored all warnings and crashed his jeep on the hill! We were very frightened and had to be led out of the trailer and taken into the barn by our new keepers. However, we soon



settled in when we saw our cosy pen with lots of straw and nice food!

We, goats are amongst the earliest animals domesticated by people - around 10,000 years ago.

In the wild we prefer to browse on vines, shrubs, buds, leaves and many other kinds of plant material. We are very inquisitive and will chew anything that is plant matter, just to see if it tastes good! We are naturally curious. We are also agile and well known for our ability to climb and balance in precarious places. This makes us the only ruminant to regularly climb trees. Due to our agility and inquisitiveness, we are notorious for escaping our pens by testing fences and enclosures, either intentionally or simply because we are used to climbing. If any of the fencing can be overcome, we will almost inevitably escape. Due to our intelligence, once we have discovered a weakness in the fence, we will exploit it repeatedly, and other goats will observe and quickly learn the same method.

This can get us into trouble of course especially if we strip the bark from trees and eat the garden plants!!

Hello! My name is Ginger and I am a Giant Rabbit. I live at the Sanctuary with Grace and Dixie. We can grow to weigh up to 10 kilograms and can be a metre in length. We are not as big as that - yet!! Our ancestors lived in Belgium as long ago as the 16th Century and they were originally bred for meat and fur! That will not happen to us of course as we live in the Sanctuary.

We have a large house as we could not live in a rabbit hutch. We burrow a lot and can dig very fast so there is mesh underneath our enclosure.



We are friendly and docile and very intelligent animals. We like to play with toys especially ones we can gnaw on, as we need to keep our teeth worn down.

We needed three vaccinations in order to prevent us contracting diseases which can be fatal to rabbits. Our diet should consist of lots of hay and grass, fibrous green vegetables, some pellets and only a very small amount of treats and a constant supply of clean water. In hot weather our keepers put a plastic bottle of ice into our enclosure for us to cool down! We must not be allowed to become overweight as this causes lots of problems and prevents us grooming ourselves properly.

Hello! My name is Mercedes and I am a first generation African Savannah Cat. The African Savannah cat is a hybrid of a Serval and a domestic cat. It is the wild heritage that is responsible for my



characteristic beautiful pattern of spots and large ears.

I had been living in a cage in a garden before I came to the Sanctuary on May 28th 2021. All the kittens I had given birth to had been taken away from me and sold. Because of this I am not very friendly to people and I don't like other cats much either, especially Urus.

Many people do not realise that, being an F1, I am essentially a wild cat and therefore naturally aggressive. My back legs are longer than my front legs, I climb easily and can jump almost 3 metres horizontally. I weigh around 6kg and am about 40cms long.

Cats are obligate carnivores, which means that they rely on nutrients found only in animal products. Cats evolved as hunters that consume prey that contains high amounts of protein, moderate amounts of fat and a minimal amount of carbohydrates. Cats also require more than a dozen different nutrients, including vitamins, minerals, fatty acids and amino acids. Their systems are designed to metabolize a natural diet high in moisture and protein and very low in carbohydrates.

Hello! My name is Urus and I am a wild African cat called a Serval. I had been living in a cage in a garage before I came to the Sanctuary on May 28th 2021. Servals are medium sized wild cats with tawny black-spotted coats and long legs and necks that allow them to see over savannah grasses. They have large ears and ultrasonic hearing. This means they can hear the high-pitched communications of rodents. In the wild they would eat 95% small mammals, 5% birds

and the remainder would be insects, frogs and lizards. In the wild, servals eat whatever is available, which makes replicating its ideal natural diet difficult. You may not necessarily have access to everything Africa has to offer wild servals, but rodents, rabbits, birds, fish, insects, reptiles, and frogs are usually on the menu of its varied protein sources.



I like to play with my food before I eat it and I like to have plenty to do.

Unlike Mercedes I like people and have a very calm placid temperament. I can jump really high to catch flying birds.

In the wild Servals are crepuscular which means they are most active at twilight which would be the coolest part of the day. In Africa Servals live south of the Sahara. Unlike domestic cats they like to play in water.

Hello! Our names are Fritz and Karl and we moved in to the Sanctuary on 6th October 2021. We were born on the 25th June 2021 and were handed in to a rescue along with our brother who has gone to live with one of the Sanctuary Keepers and her dogs. We are staying here together.

We are Schnauzers and may grow to be much bigger than we are now. A Schnauzer is a dog breed that originated in Germany from the



14th to 16th centuries. The name comes from the German word for "snout" and means colloquially "moustache", or "whiskered snout", because of the dog's distinctively bearded snout. Based on paintings by Renaissance artists Rembrandt and Albrecht Durer, as well as a tapestry created in 1501 by Lucas Cranach the Elder, it's evident dogs

of this type have existed for several centuries. Schnauzers were used to guard farm families and livestock, herd cattle and sheep, get rid of vermin, and protect their owners as they travelled to market.

We can be a bit territorial and stubborn, but we also have high intelligence and energy. We would make a perfect guardian and best friend to go with you on adventures and we are very loyal. Renowned for their guarding abilities and devotion to their families, they're also often described as a dog with a human brain. Schnauzers are squarely built and have stiff, wiry coats. A hallmark of the breed is the arched eyebrows and a bristly moustache and beard.

Name	Interesting Information

Choose some of the animals and write down one interesting piece of information that you have discovered today.

Produced by Wales Ape and Monkey Sanctuary
and

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

We support a network of teaching professionals to develop and disseminate accessible talk-for-learning activities in all subject areas and for all ages.

17, Barford Street, Islington, London N1 0QB UK Phone: 0044 (0)20 7226 8885

Website: <http://www.collaborativelearning.org>

