

Learn about Spider Monkeys!

Black Handed Spider Monkeys are one of the largest monkeys in South America. There are seven different species of Spider Monkey, all of them have very long arms and legs and a strong prehensile tail that they use to hang on to branches as they climb 80 to 90 feet up in the canopy of their rainforest home. Spider Monkeys are very social, they live in large groups and spend much of their time foraging for fruit, but they will also eat leaves.

No Thumbs!

Spider Monkeys do not have thumbs on hands, this makes brachiating, swinging from branch to branch much easier.

They still toe thumbs on their feet and they can handle things as small as sunflower seeds with their amazing prehensile tail!



The Little Rock Zoo works with the Black-Handed Spider Monkey Species Survival Plan, which helps to protect this amazing species in zoos and in the wild!

Want to Learn more? Check out these links and activities!

National Geographic:

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/mammals/group/spider-monkeys/>

<https://www.nationalgeographic.org/media/photo-ark-colombian-black-spider-monkey/>

Swing Through the Trees with Spider Monkeys - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yqzVI0CSKCU>

Other:

Smithsonian - Why Spider Monkeys Only Have Four Fingers: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uQ1XUz2Me-I>

New England Primate Conservancy: <https://www.neprimateconservancy.org/geoffroys-spider-monkey.html>

San Diego Zoo: <https://animals.sandiegozoo.org/animals/monkey>

Layers of the Rainforest

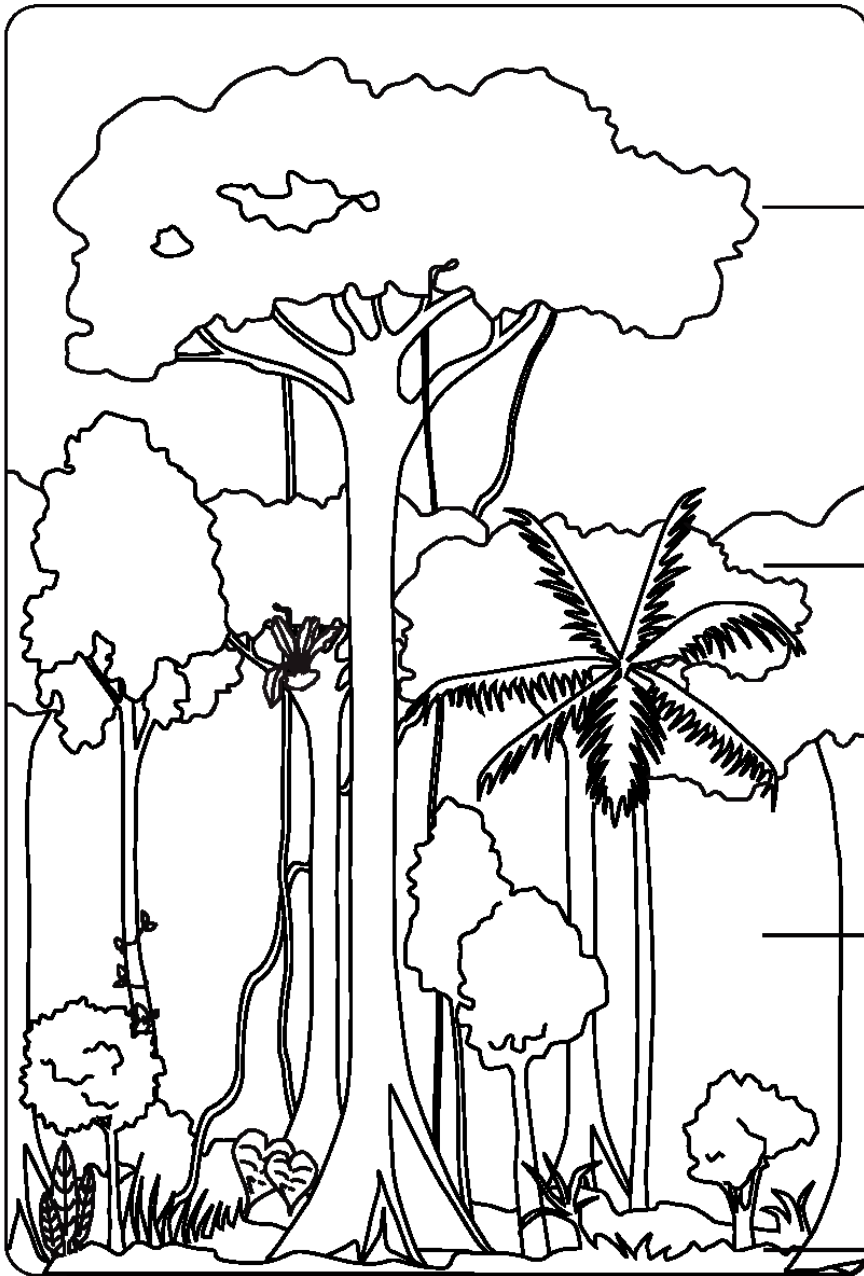
Spider Monkeys are found exclusively in the rainforests of Central and South America! They share these rainforests with many other animals that all use different regions of the forest called layers! Fill in the blanks and then color your forest and add some animals to the layers they live in.

Forest Floor

Canopy

Emergent

Understory



Some very tall trees tower above the main forest layer. These are called _ _ _ _ _ .

This layer is called the _ _ _ _ _ . Many birds, monkeys and other animals live here.

Here it is more airy, and climbing plants can be found. This is the _ _ _ _ _ .

On the _ _ _ _ _ it is dark, hot and humid.

From Top to Bottom: Emergent, Canopy, Understory, Forest Floor