

Chimpanzee biographies

Samantha



At 51 years old, Samantha is the oldest chimp at the sanctuary. She was born in the wild in 1974 but her family was killed by poachers and she was sold to the lab by a local villager when she was just one and half years old. She went on to spend nearly three decades being used in invasive research before being retired. Samantha learned to cope with life at the lab by figuring out new ways to escape. Laboratory records show that staff would be alerted whenever she broke out, because they would hear the other chimps vocalizing loudly. She never went far though; instead, she would go cage to cage visiting the other chimps until she was tranquilized and recaptured. After many years of escapes, Samantha was moved to the secure breeding colony, where she gave birth to three babies, all of whom died soon after. Her first two babies were taken from her to be unsuccessfully raised by staff. The tragic loss of her babies will have caused Samantha great anguish but she did at least get the chance to be surrogate mother to many young chimpanzees over the years. In the early 2000s, when Samantha was released on Island 5, she immediately ran into the forest with the others and hid for the first few months before eventually feeling safe enough to come out when caregivers arrived with fresh food and water. Today, Samantha is one of the dominant females on Island 5. Her favorite foods are pineapple and rice balls but, as she enjoys the respect of the entire group, she can usually take whatever food she wants from another chimp without any resistance.

Springroll



Springroll was born in the jungle in 1976 but taken as a baby when her family was killed by poachers for bushmeat. She was sold as a pet to a local family in Liberia who, in 1981, sold her to the lab for \$150 when she was four and half years old. In her first year at the lab, she was anesthetized over 40 times. Between 1983 and the early 2000s, Springroll was moved back and forth between the terrifying confines of the laboratory and the relative freedom of a nearby forested island. Every time she was brought back to the lab for experiments it must have been extremely traumatic for her. In those years she gave birth to three babies, the last of whom - named Chop Suey – still lives at the sanctuary. When the lab began phasing out its chimpanzee research and moved them to the nearby islands, Springroll suffered permanent eye damage while being tranguilized, leaving her blind in one eye. She lives on Island 1 with seven other chimps. She is quiet and easygoing and spends her days roaming the island, eating, grooming, playing with the other chimps, and relaxing. She likes to carefully wash each piece of food she receives in the salty river before eating it. Her favorite food is pineapple, and she also likes apples as a special treat.

Stuart



Stuart was born at the laboratory in 1988 and immediately began being used in harmful research. As anesthesia was not given to baby chimpanzees, Stuart was fully conscious during these experiments until he was 1½ years old. He was also separated from his mother when he was just two years old to make it easier for researchers to use him in experiments, despite the fact that in the wild chimps stay with their mums until they are five years old. For over a decade and a half, Stuart was routinely subjected to invasive procedures but nothing stopped him from

causing havoc in the laboratory where his lab file described him as "notorious" for throwing dirt and feces at lab workers to try to protect other chimpanzees from being harmed. Now safe at the sanctuary, Stuart is the only male among six females on Island 1. All the chimpanzees on Island 1 grew up together at the laboratory so are closely bonded. Stuart's favorite foods are potato greens and avocados.

Brutus



Now 48 years old, Brutus was purchased by the lab for \$100 in 1981 when he was just four years old and was immediately used in biomedical research. Brutus was described as an extremely shy chimp who frantically screamed whenever staff approached with a tranquilizer gun. Over the decades he was anesthetized more than 250 times, endured over 40 liver biopsies and was used as a breeder to produce more baby chimps to be used in invasive research. In the early 2000s, Brutus was moved to Island 1A, but he continued to remain very fearful of humans but thanks to the caregivers' peaceful persistence he eventually realized they were not going to harm him. Because of a failed vasectomy performed by the laboratory, Brutus is believed to be the father of multiple chimps born between 2008 and 2012 on Island 1A. Once Humane World for Animals took over the chimps' care in 2015, all of the female chimps have been on birth control to help prevent additional births. Brutus' favorite foods are rice balls and pineapple!

David:



David was most likely stolen from the wild as a young baby for the pet trade because in 1979, when just a year and a half old, David was given to the laboratory by his owner who no longer wanted him. From a very young age, David was gentle and playful, constantly wanting to play games with the caregivers and other chimps but could only do so through the metal bars of his cage. His records show that he loved to be tickled. Despite this, David was used in harmful experiments for 20 years, tranquilized 372 times, endured 42 liver biopsies and spent time in the breeding colony at the lab. He was also injured several times including suffering a permanent foot injury that became infected and endured frequent attacks by other chimps, resulting in multiple wounds and the loss of a toe. David was so frightened by his new surroundings when he was first relocated to an island that his caregivers had to walk with him to help him adapt and feel safe. Now 48 years old, David enjoys a peaceful existence on Island 2, where he is often seen patrolling his territory alongside the canal that separates Islands 2 and 3. His favorite food is bananas!

Jiminy Cricket



Jiminy Cricket has suffered throughout her life and is a true survivor. In 1981, when she was approximately four months old, the laboratory in Liberia purchased her for \$55 from a man who said he'd been keeping her since her mother was killed in the wild. The experiments started as soon as JC arrived at the lab as an infant. At the nursery, Jiminy Cricket received basic care and was left unattended at night, in stark contrast to chimp infants in the wild who never leave their mother's side. In addition to the trauma of growing up without a mother to care for her, Jiminy Cricket was routinely subjected to invasive procedures for two decades, including frequent liver biopsies and multiple blood draws. Her lab notes document chronic infections and illnesses due to stress and severe wounds from attacks by other chimps due to her submissive nature. After being moved to the breeding colony, JC gave birth to a stillborn baby girl in 1994, a baby boy who died a few days after birth in 1995, and another baby girl in 1996 who also died a few days after birth. The loss of her three babies deeply traumatized Jiminy Cricket and her records indicate she later attempted to "steal" other chimpanzee's infants on several occasions. In the early 2000s, Jiminy Cricket was moved to Island 2 where, despite her suffering, she has embraced her freedom and can often be seen putting her strong mothering instincts to work as a second mother to Fanta's daughter, Novi, who she has an extremely strong bond with. Jiminy Cricket's favorite food is pineapple!

Saffa



Saffa was born in 1979 and arrived at the laboratory in 1981 as a very sick two-yearold. Unfortunately, his poor health did not prevent him from being used in experiments within months of his arrival and in fact he is the chimp who endured the highest number of tranquilizations, with over 500 "knockdowns" in addition to over 100 liver biopsies.

As a result of a damaged immune system and the stressful environment of the lab, Saffa suffered from many illnesses and injuries over the years and was also moved between cages and locations within the lab more than 100 times, an extremely stressful event for a chimpanzee. In 2008, after nearly 30 years in the laboratory, Saffa was retired from a small metal cage to the 66 acres of mangrove forest on Island 3 where he rebounded and lives with 12 other chimpanzees. Now 46 years old, Saffa is elderly and respected in the group. Despite having no teeth left—likely due to malnutrition as a baby, inappropriate diet during his years in research, and now his old age—Saffa has found a way to still enjoy his favourite food, coconuts. He strategically watches another chimp crack open a coconut and then casually moves in to take away the soft flesh. Due to the respect the chimps have for Saffa, his coconut theft is politely obliged without disagreement.

Lolo



Lolo was born at the laboratory in 2002 and was used in harmful research from an infant. He was allowed to stay with his mom, Lotte, however such was Lotte's distress when her baby was taken away for research, that both mother and baby had to be tranquilized together. This was extremely traumatic for them both. Lolo's notes say that he would often hide behind his mother and scream until the drugs took effect. Lolo and Lotte were eventually relocated to Island 5 when Lolo was five years

old but sadly after only a few years on the island, Lolo lost his mom. Thankfully, another chimpanzee named Sally stepped in to care for him. Years later, Lolo challenged Bullet the alpha male on the island, and with help from his longtime childhood friend, Dorvelee, Lolo ousted Bullet and became joint leader of Island 5 with Dorvelee. Lolo's favorite food is pineapple!

Sally



Sally was born at the laboratory in 1992 and removed from her mother, Lucy, when she was just two days old and raised in the lab by humans. She was lucky to survive; many infants raised this way did not. She began being used in harmful experiments when she was one month old and continued to be used for many years.

While in the lab, Sally gave birth to a baby who died and the death sent Sally into a deep depression, including periods when she refused food or water. In 2003, a 2-year-old chimpanzee named Mallak was brought to the laboratory and was paired with Sally who became his devoted surrogate mother and the two have been together ever since. In 2004, Sally, Mallak, and three of Sally's longtime friends (Dovelee, Ms. Bush, and Doris) were moved to Island 5 where Sally went on to "adopt" another young chimp named Lolo. Sally is strong and healthy and no longer showing any signs of depression. In fact, she is excited to eat and drink every day, especially when her favorite food—soursop—is on the menu!

Bullet



Bullet was born in 1977 and hit by the bullet that killed his mother so that Bullet could be sold as a pet. He was sold to the lab aged 3 years old for \$150 where an infection

in his bullet wound eventually led to his arm being amputated by the laboratory. Following the surgery, Bullet was almost immediately used in research that would continue for 20 years including 55 liver biopsies and hundreds of blood draws. He spent the majority of his days shaking and rattling the bars of his cage, screaming loudly whenever he spotted the tranquilizer gun and running around the cage until he finally tired himself out. Over the years, Bullet endured these terrifying tranquilizations more than 400 times. Incredibly, he also managed to survive Liberia's civil wars at a time when many of the chimpanzees died of starvation and dehydration because their caretakers were unable to reach them. In the early 2000s, Bullet was moved to Island 5, where he became the alpha male of the group for many years until he was deposed by Lolo and Dorvelee. He now spends his days relaxing and washing his food in the water before eating it. His favorites are soursop and bananas.