

Homo sapiens

(juvenile female)

Habits

Homo sapiens, primates closely related to the chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*), are highly social, even gregarious, yet they can be very aggressive, with lethal intraspecific agonistic interactions occurring not uncommonly. Usually attractive and docile as juveniles, they often become devious, ill-mannered, and rude with the onset of sexual maturity. Courtship displays are complex and still not well understood, despite having been closely studied for many years.

Diet

Homo sapiens are omnivorous and highly opportunistic, exhibiting great regional diversity in their food preferences. Very young juveniles, such as this specimen, have specialized dietary requirements. Therefore, feeding is not permitted at this enclosure.

Range

Homo sapiens are common throughout their range (see map below) and are especially abundant on the continental land masses of the temperate regions, where they often congregate in large social groups called *cities*. Even larger social groups, known variously as *nations* or *states*, also occur. These larger social groupings usually exhibit an intense territoriality. Originally neo-tropical in distribution, this succesful and adaptive species has recently undergone a major radiation and expansion, spreading into diverse habitats across the globe and driving many endemic species to extinction.

