



Of all the wildlife in the African rain forest, perhaps the most relevant to humanity are the great apes. Chimpanzees, gorillas and bonobos exhibit **intelligence, sensitivity, family values, and social dynamics** remarkably like our own. **Apes and humans suffer many of the same diseases**, from the **common cold to tuberculosis, measles and heart failure.**

While only a dozen or so ape societies have been observed in the wild, each has shown distinction in its **use of tools, selection of foods and medicines, patterns of social behaviour, and relationship to outsiders and other animals.**