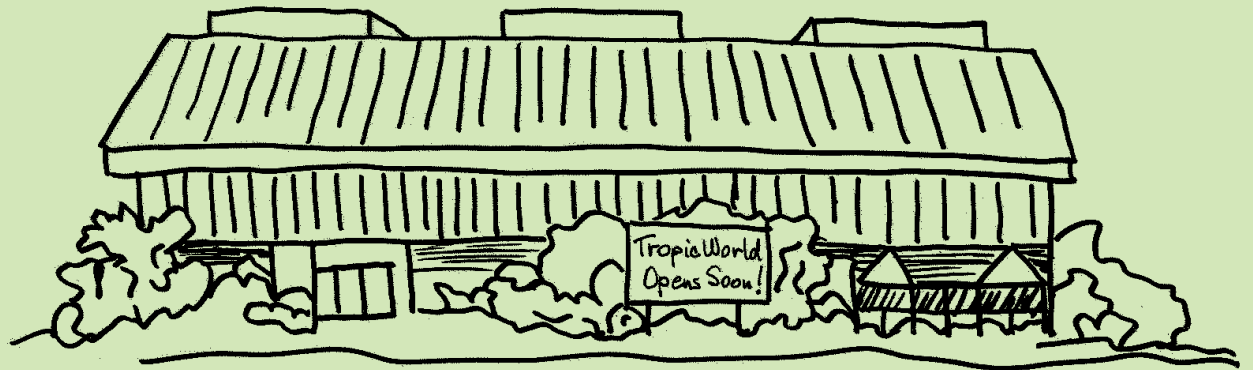


**A
HISTORY
OF
TROPIC
WORLD'S
GORILLAS**



1980

- January Samson arrives at Brookfield Zoo on breeding loan from Buffalo Zoo.
- April Alpha and her daughter, Babs, are moved from the old Primate House to off-exhibit areas in Tropic World. Samson is introduced to Alpha and Babs.



1981

- September Samson, Alpha, and Babs are introduced to the exhibit.
- October Becky is born to Babs and Samson.
- December Aquilina is born to Alpha and Samson.



Babs and Becky



Samson



Aquilina and Alpha

1982

May Tropic World: Africa opens to the public.



Samson with visitors



1983

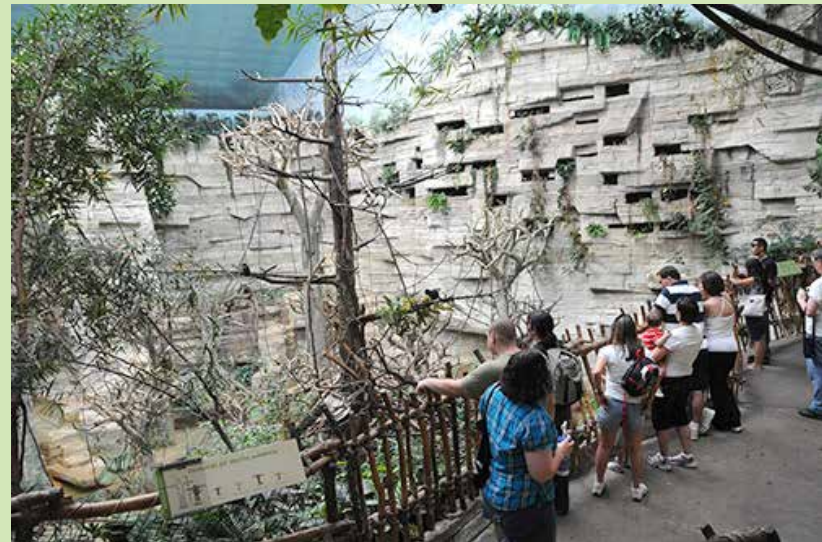
May Tropic World: Asia opens.



Otis Bornean orangutan

1984

- May Alpha becomes pregnant for the second time by Samson.
- June Tropic World: South America opens.



Tropic World: South America

1985

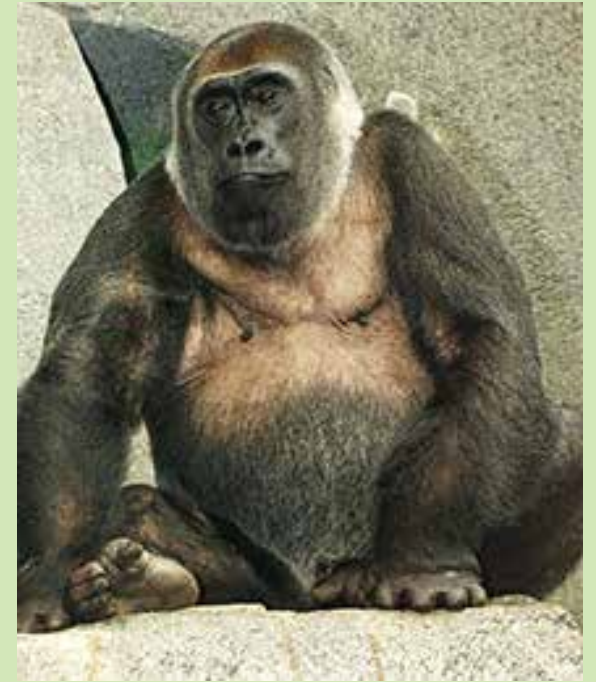
February Jabari is born to Alpha and Samson.
The name Jabari means “ruler” or
“brave and fearless.”



Jabari and Alpha

1986

February At 25 years old, Beta starts to undergo hip-replacement surgery to help her battle arthritis.



Beta

1987

May Becky is sent to Buffalo Zoo on breeding loan.

December Aquilina is sent to Lincoln Park Zoo on breeding loan. Bassa arrives from Lincoln Park Zoo on breeding loan.



Becky



Bassa



1988

March Kwizera is born to Babs and Samson. Her name means "to hope." Samson becomes ill and dies of a brain tumor.



Kwizera

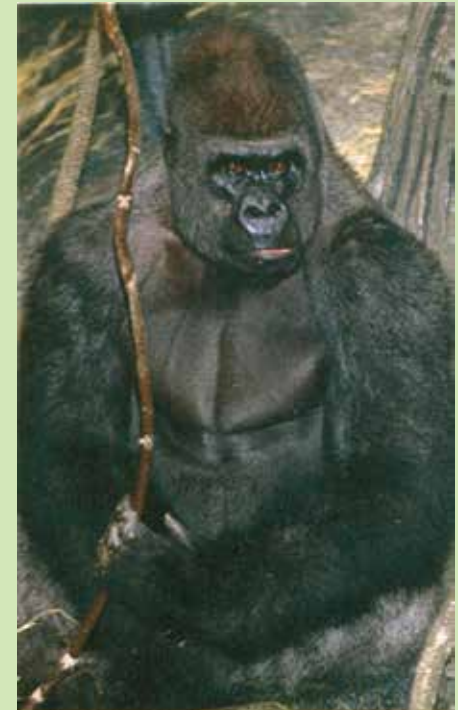
April Kwisha is born to Alpha and Samson. As Samson's last offspring, he is named Kwisha, which means "the last."



Kwisha

May Kwisha's right arm is broken in a tug-of-war between Alpha and Bassa. He is taken off exhibit for handrearing.

June Aquilina returns to Brookfield Zoo from Lincoln Park Zoo. Bassa is sent back to Lincoln Park Zoo. Chicory arrives from Audubon Zoo on breeding loan.



Chicory

July Ndume arrives at Brookfield Zoo on breeding loan from Cincinnati Zoo.

September Kwizera receives a skull fracture from an unknown cause and is taken off exhibit for handrearing.

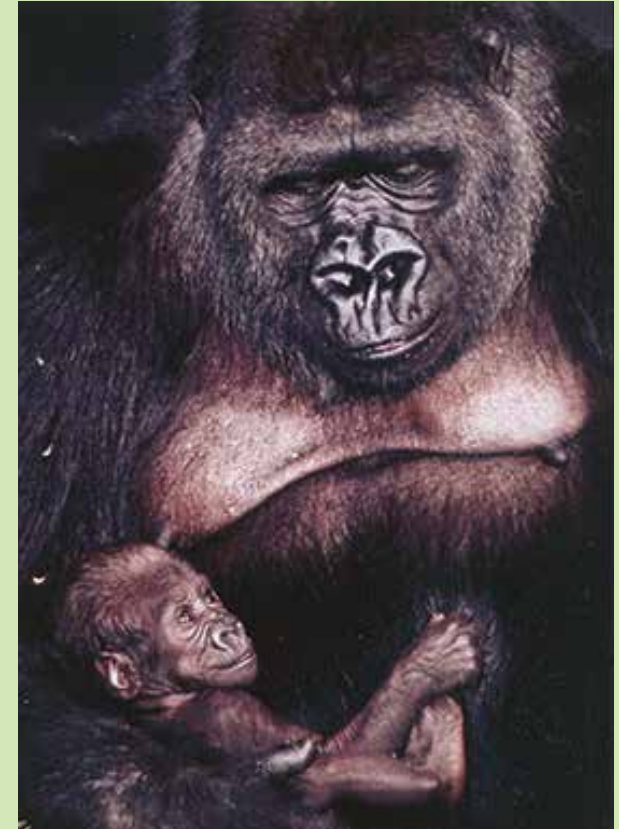
1989

July Kwisha is reintroduced to his mother, Alpha, after 14 months of handrearing.

August Kwizera is reintroduced to her mother, Babs, after 11 months of handrearing.

November Jabari is sent to St. Louis Zoo to become part of a bachelor group.

December A male infant is born to Aquilina and Ndume, but he fails to nurse and dies.



Babs and Kwizera

1990

August Baraka is born to Babs and Ndume. Her name means “a blessing.”



Baraka

1991

February Binti Jua arrives from San Francisco Zoo on breeding loan. Her name means “daughter of sunshine.”

June Mtu Chuma is born to Alpha and Ndume. His name means “man of iron.”

August Ndume is sent back to Cincinnati Zoo.

September Zuza is born to Aquilina and Ndume. His name means “gift.” Keepers handrear Zuza because he fails to nurse.

December Ndume joins female Koko at the Gorilla Foundation in California. Koko, the signing gorilla, supposedly chooses Ndume as a mate.



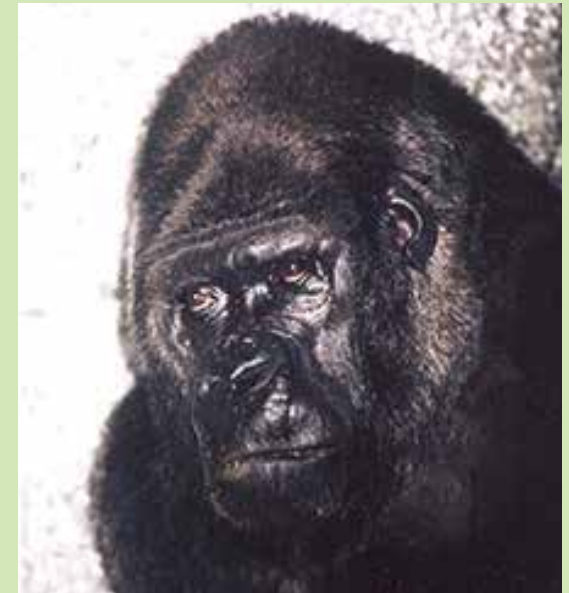
Binti Jua



Mtu Chuma

1992

July Abe arrives at Brookfield Zoo on breeding loan from Henry Doorly Zoo. Although Abe is older (about 36) and has not yet reproduced, his presence in the group provides the stabilizing influence of an adult male.



Abe

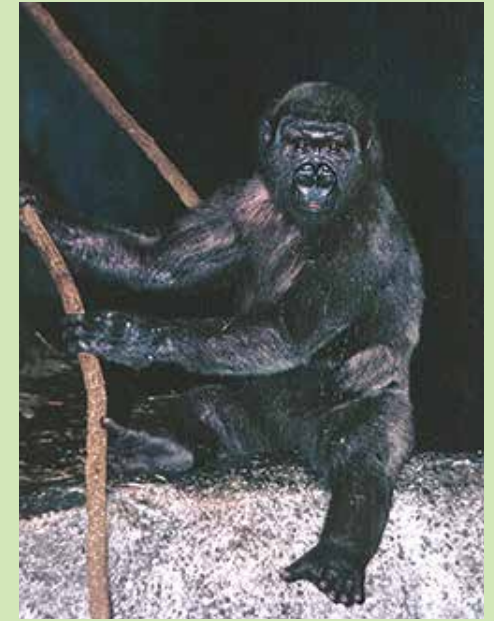
1993

July

Kwizera is sent to Buffalo Zoo on breeding loan. Zuza is sent to Pittsburgh Zoo to be part of a group of handreared infants of similar ages.



Zuza (at lower left) with part of his social group at Pittsburgh Zoo



Kwizera

1994

February Chicory has three episodes of what appear to be a nervous system disorder. An MRI reveals that Chicory has a life-threatening tumor.

June Kwisha is sent to Toledo Zoo on breeding loan.



Chicory's MRI



Kwisha

1995

February

Koola is born to Binti Jua and Abe. The name Koola, when used as part of the word “koolakamba,” represents a mythical creature thought to be a gorilla-chimpanzee hybrid.



Binti and Koola

March

Bana is born to Babs and Chicory. The name Bana means “to hold.”



Babs and Bana

May

Abe dies due to age-related health complications.

1996

- August A three-year-old boy accidentally falls into the gorilla exhibit and Binti Jua carries him to safety.
- September Akanyi is born to Aquilina and Chicory.
- December Akanyi is moved to Columbus Zoo to participate in a surrogate/fostering program.



Binti Jua

1997

- January Aquilina is sent to Dallas Zoo on breeding loan. Shortly after her arrival, she becomes pregnant.
- June Mtu Chuma is sent to Disney's Animal Kingdom to become part of a bachelor group.
- July Beta is housed with the Syke's guenon group for companionship and environmental enrichment.



Sykes Guenon



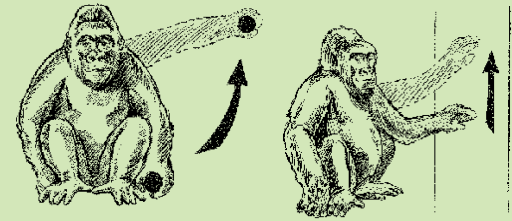
Beta

1998

June Babs is found to be pregnant.
Chicory is the father.

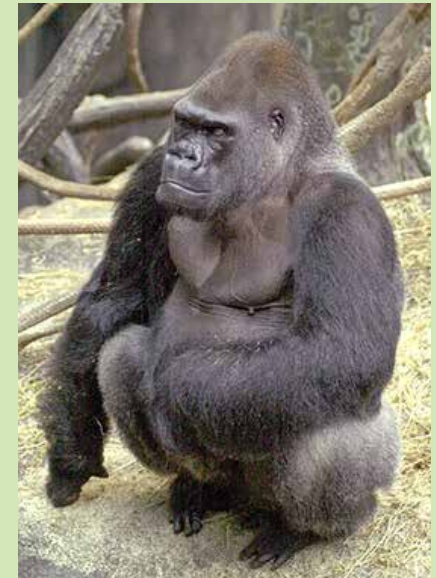
August Chicory dies unexpectedly. A cause of death is not immediately determined.

October Beta begins receiving therapy from staff of Loyola University Medical Center to help her increase her strength and range of motion.



November Ramar arrives from North Carolina Zoo on breeding loan. He is here to succeed Chicory.

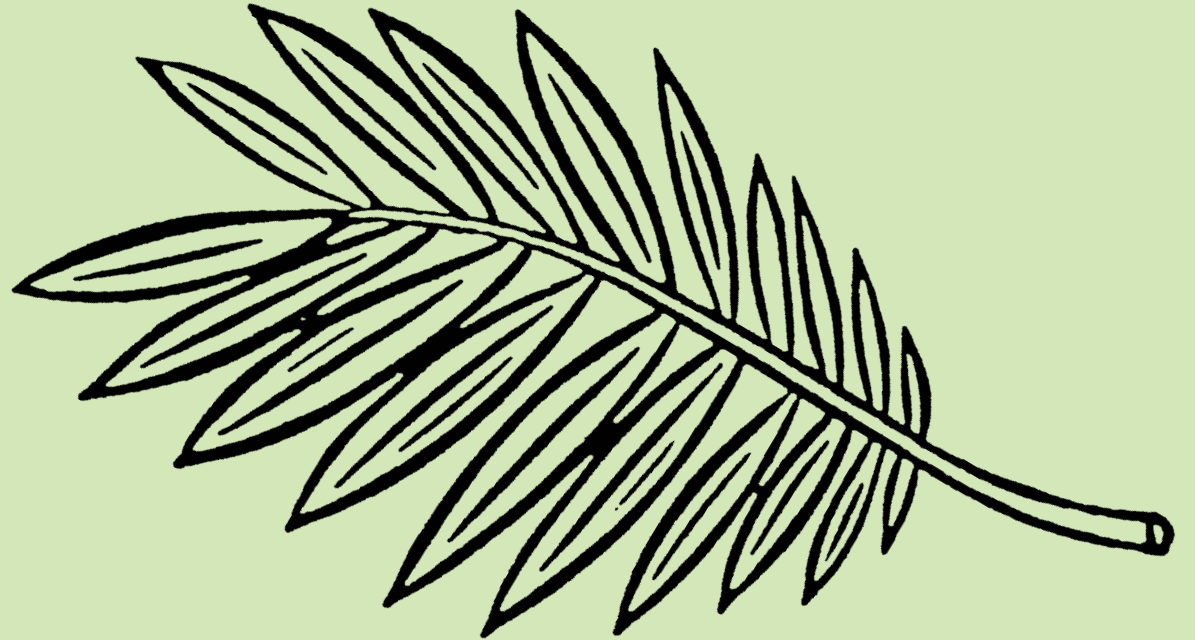
December Ramar is successfully introduced to the gorilla group and the exhibit.



Ramar

1999

February Babs' baby is stillborn.



2000

September Animal care staff observe that Baraka, after mating with Ramar, eats less, is less active, and stays in her nest longer in the morning.



A pregnant Baraka

2001

April Nadaya is born to Baraka and Ramar.
His name means "first." Both Baraka
and Ramar are first-time parents.



Ramar, Baraka, and Nadaya.

2002

January Animal care staff start training the gorillas to present their upper arm to receive an injection for medical procedures, reducing the stress of sedation for animals and staff.



March Animal care staff begin participating in a long-term, multizoo study to see if female gorillas have menopause.

April Ramar is hand-injected so veterinarians can remove a bone spur and corn, perform a root canal on a canine tooth, and repair a tooth socket from a previous extraction. They use a human bone graft to help the socket heal—the first time ever for a gorilla.



2003

May Animal care staff begin thinking up innovative ways to provide browse year-round.



Ramar

2004

February Results from the menopause study that began in 2002 show that gorilla females do reach menopause.

April Baraka develops peritonitis, an infection that takes over her abdominal cavity, resulting in an undetected abscess in her reproductive organs, which ultimately causes her death. Grandmother Babs assumes the maternal role for her grandson Nadaya.



Baraka

September Kamba is born to Koola and Ramar. This is Koola's first infant.



Koola and Kamba

December Babs dies after a long battle with chronic kidney disease.



Babs

2005

May

Bakari is born to Binti and Ramar. His name is chosen in a contest from over 2,000 entries, and it means "one who will succeed."



Bakari



2006

November A symposium held at Brookfield Zoo is the first time that animal care staff, veterinarians, pathologists, and physicians convene to discuss all aspects of gorilla heart disease.



2007

April Beta undergoes a hydrothermal ablation to destroy a fibroid in her uterus. Animal care staff had given her birth control pills to stop the bleeding, which returns heavily.

September Beta's bleeding returns again. A uterine fibroid embolization stops the bleeding.



Beta



Beta's uterine fibroid embolization

2008

December Beta Gorilla dies at age 47.



Beta

2009

March Alpha, longtime matriarch of Brookfield Zoo's gorilla group, dies at age 48.



Alpha

2010

April Female gorilla Bana moves downtown to Lincoln Park Zoo.



Bana



2011

- March Competition and some aggression start to occur between Ramar and his son, Nadaya.
- July Nadaya and Bakari are transferred to St. Louis Zoo.



Nadaya and Bakari

2012

April Ramar moves into retirement.

May JoJo arrives at Brookfield Zoo.



Ramar in retirement



JoJo

2013

November Nora is born to Koola and JoJo.



Koola and Nora



Koola and Nora

2014

Fall Animal care staff begin seeing Nora crawl, among other normal developmental milestones.



Nora



Nora



Koola and Nora

A History of Tropic World's Gorillas

TROPIC WORLD GORILLA FAMILY TREE

