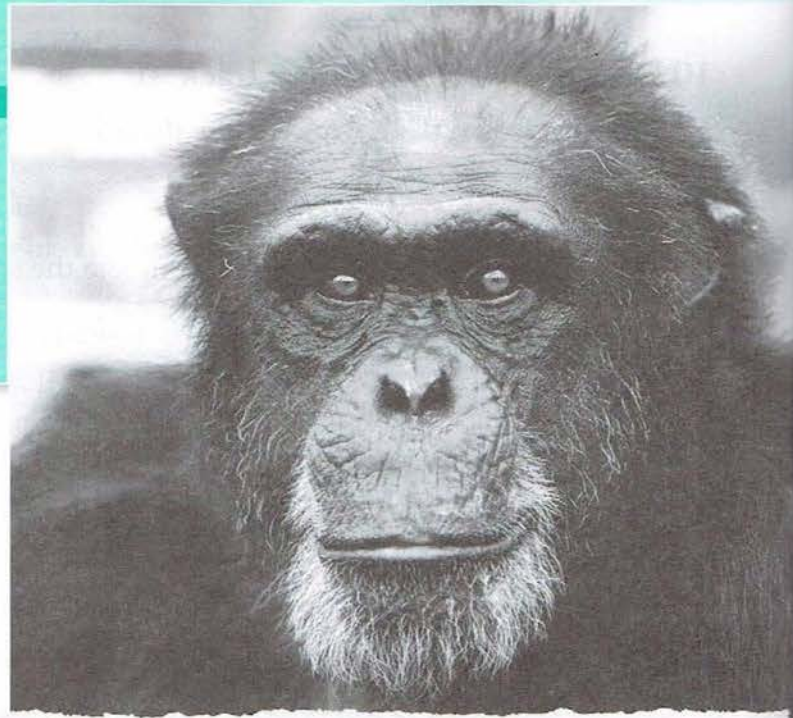


Animal Artists



1. Read the story

Look at the pictures on these pages.
What is the story about? Now read it.

QUEBEC, CANADA ¹Tom loves to **paint** with a brush. His **paintings** explode with **feeling**. ²Binky **would rather** paint with his fingers and feet. He smiles the whole time that he is working. Binky and Tom are **artists**, but they're also chimpanzees*! ³These chimps and four of their friends have shown their work in galleries** in the Canadian cities of Toronto and Montreal. ⁴Many people have enjoyed their work. "It's so strong and **sensitive**," said one person. "You can really see their feelings." Their work sold, too. Buyers paid between \$500 and \$1,800 for a painting.

⁵Before they became artists, the chimps had a **cruel** life. They were used for many years as test animals in **laboratories** and had become weak and

sick. "It's so sad what happened to the chimps," says a Montreal art buyer.

⁶Now the chimps are in a better **situation**, living happily on Gloria Grow's farm with llamas*** and other animals. ⁷The clever chimps can use sign language and **tools**. They also enjoy watching TV and hanging **upside-down** in trees. ⁸Since the chimps get bored so easily, Grow decided to make their lives better by giving them a hobby. "Binky gets this great big smile on his face," she says, "when you come near him with the **paints**."

* chimpanzees: animals with no tails; similar to monkeys

** galleries: businesses that show and sell art

*** llamas: South American animals that are like horses and used to carry things

NEW WORDS

paint *v*

painting *n*

feeling *n*

would rather *v*

artist *n*

sensitive *adj*

cruel *adj*

laboratory *n*

situation *n*

tool *n*

upside-down *adv*

paint *n*

>> See Glossary on page 95. >>

2. Rate the story

How much did you like it? Mark an **X**.

Not at All

A Lot



3. Check your comprehension

Put the sentences in the correct order. Number them 1–6.

- ___ Their work was put in a gallery.
- ___ The chimps lived in laboratories.
- ___ Grow wanted to make their lives better, so she gave them paints.
- ___ The chimps became artists.
- ___ People bought the chimps' paintings.
- ___ They moved to Gloria Grow's farm.

4. Check your vocabulary

Complete the sentences with the New Words.

- Tom p_____ with a brush, but Binky would r_____ use his fingers.
- Before the chimps began to make pa_____, they had a cr_____ life.
- Now they are in a better sit_____.
- The chimps also like to use t____s and hang upside-_____ in trees.

5. Listen to the story track 32

Now listen to the story two or three times. Look at the pictures below as you listen.



6. Retell the story

Cover the story and look at the pictures above. Retell the story using the New Words.

7. Answer the questions

About the story...

- Why were the chimps weak and sick?
- How do Tom and Binky like to paint?
- How much do people pay for their work?
- What else do the chimps do on the farm?

About you...

- Do you think animals should be used in laboratories? Why or why not?
- Do you think animals have feelings? Why or why not?
- Are you an artist? What do you do?
- Who is your favorite painter?

8. Learn word partnerships

Study the partnerships below. Complete the sentences so they are true for you.

WOULD RATHER

would (much) rather do something

than (do) another thing.

Binky would rather paint with his fingers

than (paint) with a brush.

I would rather drink cola

than (drink) milk.

I would rather study music

than (study) math.

I'd much rather walk to school

than take the bus.

I'd much rather cook a meal

than wash dishes.

- I would rather eat _____ than _____.
- I'd _____ watch _____ than _____.
- I'd much rather _____.

9. Learn word groups

Complete the sentences so they are true for you. Use words from the pictures.

ANIMALS



alligator



elephant



lion



snake



llama



parrot

- My favorite animal above is a/an _____.
- I'm afraid of _____s.
- I would like a/an _____ as a pet.

10. Take a dictation track 33

Use your own paper to write the dictation. Check your answers on page 87.

11. Complete the story

Use the words from the box to complete the story.

parrot sensitive tools artist feelings upside-down

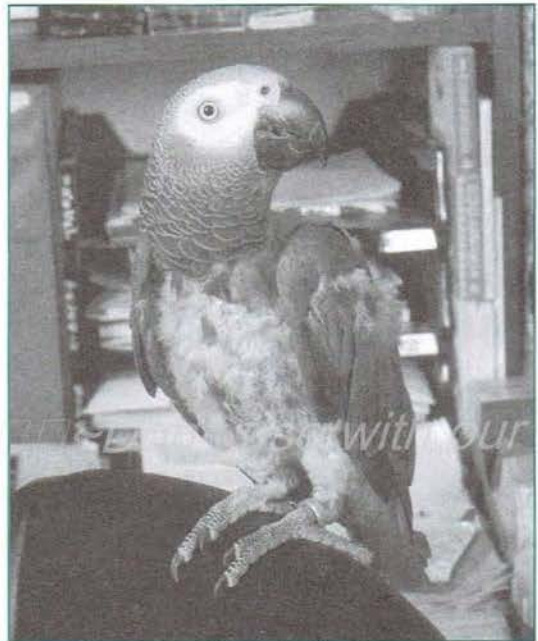
An English-Speaking Bird

NEW YORK CITY, USA “What ya doing on the phone?” N’kisi calls out to Aimee Morgana in their apartment in New York City. The question seems ordinary except N’kisi is a bird! In fact, he is one of the best users of English in the animal world.

N’kisi, an African gray (1) _____, can say 950 words in English. He speaks in the present, past, and future. N’kisi puts together his own words, just as a human child does. He says “flied” instead of “flew.” N’kisi is also funny. He once saw another parrot hanging (2) _____. “You got to put this bird on the camera,” N’kisi shouted.

N’kisi’s owner, Aimee Morgana, is an (3) _____ who has strong (4) _____ for animals and the natural world. Her bird hears a lot of English because Aimee speaks to him six hours a day. She uses children’s toys* as teaching (5) _____ for the bird.

Animals surprise us more every day. They are more intelligent and (6) _____ than scientists had thought. Professor Donald Broom of the University of Cambridge says that the more we look at animals, the smarter they appear. A conversation with N’kisi is proof**.



* toys: things for a child to play with

** proof: something that shows that an idea is true



Talk about the stories

How are Tom (the chimp) and N’kisi (the parrot) similar? How are they different? Which one would you prefer as a pet? Why?