

ANT 3514 – Introduction to Biological Anthropology
Lab 3: Primate Behavior and Morphology
Week of 5/23/05

Station 1: Behavioral Observation/ Sampling Methods

We will practice what it is like to take behavioral data on primates. Watch the video for 5 minutes and take **ad lib data** (see handout) on the monkeys you see.

Now watch the same video and record **focal scan data** on one of the monkeys in 30 second intervals. Here are some descriptions that may help you: groom self, groom other, receive grooming, visual scan, move, forage, eat, scratch, etc. Use any other words you feel will best describe the activities.

Compare your two data sets. Which do think is a more accurate way of collecting data?
In what situation would you need to use ad lib data?

Station 2: Social decision making

What is going on in this picture (A)?

Pretend you are an adult male monkey. Why would you spend time doing this to:

- a)an infant _____
- b)an adult female _____
- c)another adult male _____

The marmosets in picture B are participating in **food sharing**.

Pretend you are an adult female monkey. Why would you spend time doing this to:

- a)an infant _____
- b)another adult female _____
- c)an adult male _____

Station 4: Social Systems

Name the types of social systems pictured here:

- A.
- B.
- C.
- D.
- E.

Station 5: Ecology

Look at the two different habitats pictured (savanna and tropical wet forest). What behavioral and anatomical traits (listed below) would likely emerge in each of these ecological settings?

a) SAVANNA:

b) TROPICAL WET FOREST:

Traits:

Long-distance vocalizations (for non-visual communication)

Brachiation

Prehensile tail

Large social groups (for predator detection and defense)

Semi-terrestrial locomotion/quadrupedalism

Station 6: Dentition

A. Which set of teeth is human and why?

B. Write down the dental formula for each of the following sets of teeth

A.

B.

C.

D.

C. Answer the following questions using the labeled sets of teeth. There may be more than one correct answer.

Which has bilophodont molars?

Which has a Y-5 cusp pattern?

Which is a New World monkey and why?

Which is a Strepsirhine and why?

Station 7: Identification

Using what you know about primate classification, decide which of these are the following. Give at least one morphological reason for each.

Platyrrhine primates _____

Catarrhine Primates _____