

Name _____

Main Ideas



Find the Main Idea

Howler monkeys start and end the day with loud cries. The cries are their way of keeping in contact with the rest of their troop. They are also a way to signal to competitive troops when they are encroaching on their territory. Male Howler Monkeys have large throats and specialized vocal chambers which allow them to project their cries much more loudly than is possible with other monkeys. You can hear a Howler Monkey from up to three miles away! The more Howler Monkeys there are living together, the more often they belt out their cries.

The main idea of the paragraph is:

- A. Howler Monkeys are very loud creatures.
- B. Howler Monkeys live in groups.
- C. Howler Monkeys have a unique throat and vocal chord structure.

New World monkeys have flatter noses than Old World monkeys. Nostrils in New World monkeys face to the side, while those of Old World monkeys face the front. New World monkeys are almost all arboreal, since unlike Old World monkeys, they have both prehensile tails and opposable thumbs. New World Monkeys also form monogamous pairs to mate, and are very attentive to their young; Old World monkeys do not.

The main idea of the paragraph is:

- A. New World monkeys are better than Old World monkeys.
- B. New World monkeys are different from Old World monkeys.
- C. Old World monkeys were around before New World monkeys.