



Although ring-tailed lemurs are primates, they do not look like some of the other primates such as the monkeys or apes. Instead, they resemble the oldest ancestors of primates that existed tens of millions of years ago.

Lemurs got stranded on the island of Madagascar, the only place where they are found today. Because there were very few predators (animals that ate them) on the island and there was plenty of food, lemurs did not evolve (develop over time) in the same way as the other primates on the mainland.

Lemurs are part of a group called prosimians which means 'pre-primates' or 'before apes'.

Activity 6:

Look at the lemurs; write down the differences and similarities that you can see for yourself compared with the monkeys and apes.



