

## Dame Jane Goodall

Jane Goodall was born in London in 1934. When she was a baby, her father gave her a toy chimpanzee, which she called Jubilee. She loved Jubilee and so began her love of animals. When she was four Jane went on holiday to a farm and hid in a hen house to watch hens lay eggs. When she was eight she read *The Story of Doctor Dolittle* and this inspired her to want to visit Africa.

When Jane was 12 she started her own nature club called the Alligator Society. To join the club you had to name ten types of dogs, ten birds, ten trees and five butterflies and moths. When she



left school at 18 she went to work as a secretary. In 1957 Jane was invited to stay with a friend who had a farm in Kenya and while she was there she met Louis Leakey, a scientist who studied human fossils. When he heard of Jane's interest in animals he asked her to study the behaviour of a group of chimpanzees because he thought that it might help him to understand how the early forms of humans behaved.

Jane travelled to Tanzania and very patiently and bravely gained the trust of a group of chimps. Her observations of their behaviour proved to be groundbreaking. She found out that they use tools – sticks to probe termite mounds and logs to crack nuts (only humans were thought to use tools) – and that they eat monkeys (though they were thought to be herbivores). Jane looked at the chimps differently from other scientists: she gave them human names and discovered that each chimp had its own personality. Previously, scientists thought that all animals of the same species acted in the same way.

Jane returned to England and went to Cambridge University. However, she quickly returned to Tanzania where she started the Gombe Stream Research Centre. In 1977, she founded the Jane Goodall Institute for Wildlife Research, Education and Conservation, which looks at finding ways to empower individuals to protect the environment for all living things.