

Task: **Read** through the information below about Mountain Gorillas.
Make brief notes of the **key information** in your workbook.

MOUNTAIN GORILLAS

What Are Mountain Gorillas?

Mountain gorillas are mammals. A **mammal** is an animal that has hair or fur, gives birth to live babies, and is warm-blooded. Mountain gorillas are very large, usually weighing between 300 and 485 pounds. That's almost as large as a piano! They are usually 4-6 feet tall, which is about the height of an adult human.

Where Do Mountain Gorillas Live?

Mountain gorillas get their name because they do live in the mountains. There are different species of gorillas that live in Africa but the mountain gorillas all live in the Virunga Mountains in central Africa. In these mountain forests, many mountain gorillas make nests in the trees. Heavier gorillas sleep in grasses on the ground, and the babies sleep next to their mothers at night. Gorillas are not very active however they do move around a bit in an area of about 15 miles.



Mounts gorillas are large mammals

What Do Mountain Gorillas Eat?



Mounts gorillas are omnivores

Mountain gorillas do eat bananas, but they also eat insects and worms. Animals like mountain gorillas that eat both plants and animals are called **omnivores**. Mountain gorillas have started to have trouble finding food because people have chopped down their forests to turn the area into farmland and houses.

How Do Mountain Gorillas Grow?

Mountain gorillas are born one baby at a time. Gorilla babies weigh about 3-4 pounds when they are born [the same as 2 bags of sugar]. They learn to crawl at about 2 months old and walk by the time they are 8-9 months old.



Baby gorillas drink milk from their mothers for the first 3 years of their lives.