

# Jane Goodall



Dame Jane Goodall is an English scientist and conservationist. She is a world expert on chimpanzees and has studied them for over 60 years.

## Becoming a Researcher

In 1957, Jane visited Kenya where she met a scientist called Louis Leakey. He was so impressed by her animal knowledge that he offered her a job as his assistant.

In 1960, she was given the opportunity to work with wild chimpanzees in Tanzania and study their behaviour.

## Research Findings

Jane noticed that chimpanzees had different personalities. They could also show feelings, such as happiness, sadness and anger.

At the time, it was thought that chimpanzees were herbivores. However, Jane observed them working together in groups to trap small animals to eat.

She also realised that chimpanzees could make their own tools after watching one use a twig to catch insects.

## Early Life

Valerie Jane Morris-Goodall was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1934 in London, England. As a child, she loved animals and would spend hours observing them. After reading the 'Tarzan' novels, she fell in love with Africa and it became her dream to go there.

## Achievements

In 1977, Jane founded her charity, the Jane Goodall Institute. It aims to protect chimpanzees and educate people about environmental issues.

She has received many awards and honours, including being named a United Nations Messenger of Peace in 2002 and being made a Dame in 2003.

Jane has published many books about chimpanzees and conservation.

## Fun Fact

When Jane was a child, her father bought her a toy chimpanzee which she called Jubilee. She still has the toy today.

**Disclaimer:** We hope you find the information on our website useful. Please be aware that aspects of an individual's life may be controversial to some. Due to this, we highly recommend that you carefully research the individual before teaching about them to children. If your children do independent research about an individual, we advise using only pre-selected, child appropriate sources of information and websites appropriate to their age.