

Treetop Treats

Almost as soon as she was born, Rosie started traveling into the treetops with her mom. Even with a baby on her chest, Mom is fearless. If she spies a tasty meal of leaves or fruit in another tree, she doesn't **clamber** down to the ground and then climb back up the other tree. She jumps from one treetop to the other! Good thing Rosie has a tight grip on Mom's fur.



the lemur life



Climbing even rough or prickly trees is no problem for ring-tailed lemurs. They have tough, well-padded hands and feet (see right) that are a good defense against **prickles**. And their feet are great at **grasping**—perfect for holding on tightly to high-up branches.



Unlike some other tree-living animals, lemurs don't curl their long tails around branches to keep themselves steady. But their tails may help them to keep their balance.

On the Ground

Ring-tailed lemurs spend more time on the ground than any other kind of lemur. They are pretty good runners, even when a baby is on board! And whenever they are on the ground, their tails wave in the air like flags. It's the ring-tailed lemurs' way of saying to their troopmates, "Hey, guys! Over here!"



Let's Stick Together

By the time she's four months old, little Rosie will spend most of her time off her mom's back, exploring the forest. But she and Mom will likely stay in the same troop their whole lives.



Eventually, Rosie will help take care of her younger brothers and sisters. And when she grows up and has babies of her own, Mom—who will become Grandma Lemur—may help keep an eye on them, too. Even when it's too big to hitch a ride on Mom, a ring-tailed lemur knows its family always has its back.