



Lucy

Lucy liked drinking tea and looking in the mirror. But she wasn't human—she was a chimpanzee. Maurice and Jane Temerlin raised Lucy just like a human baby. The chimpanzee began her life with the Temerlins as the subject of research but soon became a daughter. Maurice, who was a psychotherapist, wanted to know how human Lucy would become. She learned sign language and seemed to truly care for her adoptive parents. In his book, *Lucy: Growing Up Human*, he wrote: "If Jane is distressed, Lucy notices it immediately and attempts to comfort her by putting an arm about her, grooming her, or kissing her."

When Lucy grew up, though, life became difficult for the Temerlin family. An adult chimpanzee is about five times stronger than an adult human, and Lucy got into everything. What's more, she could not live a full life in a human home. Eventually, the human "parents" decided to send Lucy to live with other chimps in the wild. They found a nature reserve in the Gambia, a country in western Africa. Janis Carter, a student who had been helping take care of Lucy, went along to help the chimp adjust.

But Lucy didn't have a clue how to live in the wild, and her health suffered during the adjustment. Carter



Lucy (top left) lived in Oklahoma with adoptive parents. She enjoyed books and her pet cat. But Lucy was not human. She was a chimpanzee! When she grew up, she joined other chimps in a nature reserve in Africa. A caregiver stayed for many years as Lucy learned how to live in the wild.

wound up staying with Lucy for years. She ate ants and leaves to show Lucy what to do. She even lived in a cage so Lucy and the other chimpanzees couldn't reach the human objects that distracted them from normal activities like seeking food and shelter.

Eventually, Lucy did start finding her own food, and Carter moved a short distance away. One year, Lucy

went missing. Carter returned from a visit to the United States to join the search. She and members of the reserve staff found Lucy's body. The chimp had spent half her life in a human home and half in the wild.

Do you think it's right or wrong for people to raise chimps in their homes? What could the Temerlins have done differently?