



The Caravan

CaravanFriends.org



Dalla

Dalla

[Da'la] / noun / Swahili meaning servant of God

Dalla is a feeler. She's the first one to cry at a sad story. Her face lights up a room when she giggles. If she is scared, she gets goose bumps from head to toe. Sometimes, Dalla gets embarrassed or frustrated. When that happens, she prefers to be alone in the jungle. Dalla was born in the lowland swamps of the Congo River. When Dalla first peeked out from her mother's arms, her father fell instantly in love with her. Dalla's father would swing her far up into the tops of the rainforest trees.



Dalla was different from the other baby gorillas. Her mother noticed it first. When Dalla was just a week old, she was sleeping in her family's nest. Suddenly, a thunderstorm approached and a loud crack of thunder shook the trees. But, Dalla slept soundly. Dalla's mother realized Dalla couldn't hear. Dalla was different in another way, too. She was born with a purple streak of hair on top of her head. Gorillas from other troops often pointed and stared at Dalla's streak, but Dalla didn't mind. She loved the way her father braided nut shells and vines into her purple hair. He made her feel beautiful.

One day, Dalla headed to her favorite hideout — the tangled roots of a tree — to climb and swing. If she could hear, she would have heard the sounds of the approaching men. They had been watching her for weeks. Suddenly, Dalla felt a heavy net fall on top of her. She saw three men come out from behind the trees. Dalla scratched, cried and grunted. But, everything went black and she fell asleep.

Deaf. There are 33.5 million Deaf people around the world. Even though they live in many different places and cultures around the world, the Deaf have a similar language. They use sign language to communicate. In many countries, Deaf cultures are often very similar to each other. They share some of the same values and have some of the same tendencies. The majority of Deaf people are lost and do not know about Jesus.

Gorillas. Gorillas are the largest primates in the world. They live in the tropical regions of Central Africa. They like to eat all kinds of leaves, branches, fruits and sometimes bugs and insects. Male gorillas can range in size from 300 to 500 pounds and reach an arm span of seven to eight feet. The females weigh half the size of a male. Gorillas are highly intelligent and have been taught how to use simple sign language.



Democratic Republic of the Congo. The Democratic Republic of the Congo is located in Central Africa. It has the second largest rain forest in the world, the Congo rain forest.



Favorite Verse

“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faith, gentleness, self-control. Against such things there is no law.”

Galatians 5:22-23