



# Welcome to Monkey Kingdom



## Why Are Toque Macaques Important?

**Toque macaques are culturally significant:** Macaques and humans have been *coexisting* or sharing the environment in South Asia for hundreds of years. In many cultures, macaques are highly regarded and praised for their intelligence and curiosity.

**Toque macaques are like us:** They live in families called troops and are social animals. Toque macaques communicate using a wide variety of facial expressions, body postures and *vocalizations*. There are different calls used to communicate a variety of things to the group such as alerting them to danger. Troop members groom and socialize with each other.

**Toque macaques are part of a diverse community:** Toque macaques share the forest with an incredible diversity of species. Asian elephants, leopards, langur monkeys and more all share the tropical forest habitat with the toque macaque. The macaques must keep an eye out for *predators* such as snakes and water monitors that could be waiting for food nearby.

**Toque macaques help replant the forest:** As part of their diet, macaques consume a large quantity of fruit. These monkeys *disperse* seeds through their feces or poop, “planting” trees all over the tropical forest floor. Over time, these trees grow tall and provide food and cover for animals of the tropical forest.

**Toque macaques face challenges:** Toque macaques are an *endangered* species and need of help for their continued survival. They face many challenges such as habitat loss, diminishing resources and changes to weather seasons. People can make a positive difference by joining conservation efforts to help protect them.