

Ethogram of Snow Monkeys
Central Park Zoo, New York

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Behaviors Observed and Definitions

States	Definitions
huddling	bodies pressed together in close proximity, not moving
eating	putting objects in mouth, chewing, swallowing
foraging	moving hand over surface, picking up objects with fingers and putting them in mouth
walking	moving body in forward direction on four legs
climbing	pulling body up onto objects, using legs to push off
sitting	body upright in crouching position, not moving
resting	body laying down on ground
grooming	meticulous combing through fur with hands
being groomed	stationary body, sitting or laying still, while other animal combs through first animal's fur
cleaning face	head held back, face upwards, picking and wiping eyes, ears, and nose.
inspecting palms	palms open flat, upwards facing, eyes looking at palms and rubbing fingers over palms
chasing	one animal running after another, separated by distance
playing hide-n-seek	chasing after one another, coming in close proximity, then running far away and hiding, then chasing again
running	moving body in forward direction on four legs very quickly gaining considerable distance in a short amount of time

Events	Definitions
deficating	secreting solid; bowel movement
urinating	secreting liquid; bladder movement
screeching	yelling loudly, high-pitched scream
jumping	propelling body with force across some distance
scratching	moving foot or hand back and forth in place on body
mounting	pressing front of body close to another's bottom from behind, or climbing on top of another's body from behind
hitting	using hand or foot to physically strike an object with force
swinging	moving body from one location to another, to or fro, while suspended in the air
standing up	body upright, erect, with two hind legs in fixed position on the ground
biting	opening and closing of mouth / teeth around an object or animal
touching face	gentle stroking of hand on side of face
pulling	hands or feet gripped onto an object and moving object out of its original place with force

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Focal Data Collection

3 snow monkeys, 1 minute intervals

Focal Animal: Rio (baby monkey, Mika's child)

Time	Behavior	Comments
3:00	being groomed	
3:01	running	
3:02	jumping	
3:03	huddling	
3:04	running	
3:05	being groomed	
3:06	eating (snow)	drinking water from snow
3:07	being groomed	face cleaning from mom
3:08	screeching	freaked out; ran away
3:09	running	jumping to/from rocks
3:10	climbing	
3:11	eating	buds, tendrils
3:12	pulling tree branches	
3:13	scratching right thigh	
3:14	pulling tree branches	
3:15	eating	

frequency of event behaviors:

pulling tree branches = 13% (2/15)
jumping = 6% (1/15)
screeching = 6% (1/15)
scratching = 6% (1/15)

percentage of state behaviors:

running = 20% (3/15)
being groomed = 20% (3/15)
eating = 20% (3/15)
climbing = 6% (1/15)
huddling = 6% (1/15)

duration of behavioral states:

running = 3 minutes
being groomed = 3 minutes
eating = 3 minutes
climbing = 1 minute
huddling = 1 minute

Focal Animal: Tatano (alpha male monkey)

Time	Behavior	Comments
3:20	grooming	
3:21	grooming	
3:22	eating	eating things from partner's fur
3:23	grooming	left side of partner's body
3:24	grooming	partner's neck
3:25	grooming	
3:26	grooming	
3:27	grooming	
3:28	eating	eating things from partner's fur
3:29	grooming	

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3:30	lays down / resting	switches position with partner		
3:31	being groomed	lying on rock		
3:32	being groomed			
3:33	being groomed			
3:34	being groomed			
3:35	resting			

frequency of event behaviors:

lays down = 6% (1/15)

percentage of state behaviors:

grooming = 53% (8/15)

being groomed = 27% (4/15)

eating = 13% (2/15)

resting = 10% (1.5/15)

duration of behavioral states:

grooming = 8 minutes

being groomed = 4 minutes

eating = 2 minutes

resting = 1.5 minutes

Focal Animal: Mika (female monkey, Rio's mama)

Time	Behavior	Comments		
3:40	huddling	huddles w/ baby +2 other monkeys		
3:41	huddling	huddles w/ baby +2 other monkeys		
3:42	grooming			
3:43	huddling			
3:44	huddling	places her head down on baby's head		
3:45	huddling			
3:46	scratching arms with foot			
3:47	looked up from huddle			
3:48	huddling			
3:49	looked up from huddle			
3:50	huddling			
3:51	sitting			
3:52	huddling	huddles with different monkey, baby left		
3:53	grooming			
3:54	walking	towards her baby		
3:55	screeching	finds baby, yells at baby		

frequency of event behaviors:

looked up from huddle = 13% (2/15)

scratching = 6% (1/15)

screeching = 6% (1/15)

percentage of state behaviors:

huddling = 53% (8/15)

grooming = 13% (2/15)

sitting = 6% (1/15)

walking = 6% (1/15)

duration of behavioral states:

huddling = 8 minutes

grooming = 2 minutes

sitting = 1 minute

walking = 1 minute

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Scan Data Collection

9 snow monkeys total in pack, 6 snow monkeys observed, 5 minute intervals

Start Time: 2:40pm

End Time: 3:40pm

Subject 1	Subject 2	Subject 3	Subject 4	Subject 5	Subject 6
foraging	chasing	playing hide-n-see	sitting	grooming	sitting
playing hide-n-see	foraging	foraging	foraging	grooming	grooming
playing hide-n-see	playing hide-n-see	sitting	sitting	grooming	grooming
chasing	chasing	running	chasing	sitting	sitting
being groomed	grooming	sitting	eating	being groomed	sitting
running	chasing	eating	sitting	being groomed	eating
eating (snow)	eating (snow)	grooming	sitting	grooming	sitting
running	foraging	huddling	huddling	grooming	being groomed
foraging	eating	eating	sitting	grooming	being groomed
eating	foraging	eating	sitting	being groomed	grooming
eating	eating	foraging	huddling	being groomed	grooming
being groomed	grooming	grooming	foraging	being groomed	grooming
huddling	huddling	huddling	huddling	grooming	being groomed

percentage of behavioral states:

grooming = 21% (16/78)

sitting = 15% (12/78)

eating = 14% (11/78)

being groomed = 13% (10/78)

foraging = 11.5% (9/78)

huddling = 9% (7/78)

chasing = 6% (5/78)

playing hide-n-see = 5% (4/78)

running = 4% (3/78)

By far, the snow monkeys spend a large percentage of their time grooming, being groomed, and huddling. These were the primary behavioral states observed over a 2-hour period. The younger monkeys spent more of their time running, chasing, eating, and playing, while the older monkeys spent more of their time grooming, being groomed, sitting, and resting.