



PEORIA
ZOO

Species Fact Sheet



MAMMALS

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/mammals.html>

Black-and-White Ruffed Lemur

Varecia variegata variegata



Peoria Zoo Exhibit Historic Entry Building

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/exhibits.html>

Habitat: Arboreal-lives in trees. They spend most of their time in the upper half to third of the canopy in the rainforests

Range: The Eastern side of the island of Madagascar

Activity Cycle: They can be active at any time during the day, but they tend to be most active at dusk.

Size: They are the largest of the true lemurs, reaching up to 4 feet in length, with 2 feet being tail, and between 7-10 pounds

Social Structure: They live in small groups of 2-16 lemurs. They share a common home territory that they defend from neighboring groups and from predators. Adult females are dominant over males.

Distinguishing Features: They are named for the "ruff" of long hair that runs from the ears along the cheeks to beneath the chin. The coat is long and soft, mostly black with large white areas on the head, back and legs.

Diet: Mainly fruit, but also seeds, leaves and nectar of flowers

Life Span: Average between 17-20 years in captivity

Did you know?

Ruffed lemurs are known for their loud calls. The calls are used to warn other animals from entering their territory.