



THE AKO PROJECT: BOOKS AND POSTERS FOR SCHOOLS IN MADAGASCAR

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BOOKS: Six storybooks about adventures of young lemurs. Malagasy and English. *Ako the Aye-Aye*, *Bitika the Mouselemur*, *Tik-Tik the Ringtailed Lemur*, *Bounce the White Sifaka* published. *Furry and Fuzzy the Red Ruffed Lemur Twins*, *No-Song the Indri* early 2011. Dr. Alison Jolly, author, Dr. Hantanirina Rasamimanana, Malagasy author, Deborah Ross, Artist, Melanie McElduff, designer.
POSTERS: Six posters of regions of Madagascar. Malagasy and English. *Littoral Forest*, *Baobab Forest*, *Spiny Forest*, *Tsingy de Bemaraha* published, *Masoala lowland rainforest*, *Andasibe highland rainforest* early 2011. Artist Janet Robinson.

MADAGASCAR,

UNICEF prints 15,000 each of the six books, and 6,000 each of the six posters. These go to 200 pilot schools, plus other interested programs.

Funders: Sappi for *Ako*, Rio Tinto the final 5 books; McCrae Conservation and Education Fund: poster design and production. Liz Claibourne/Art Ortenberg grant for teachers' workshops and handbook on teaching biodiversity.

The **École Normale Supérieure** conducted education campaigns with primary school teachers in 2007-2009, *American Journal of Primatology*, May 2010. In 2010-2011 ENS is working with teachers to produce a handbook on teaching biodiversity and the use of stories in school.

Phyto-Logic printed 1000 each of the *Ako* and *Bounce* books for commercial sale, as well as packs of note cards from book illustrations.

CNN broadcast *Lemur Lady*, a profile of Malagasy author Hantanirina Rasamimanana, including *Ako* material: *African Voices*, July, 2010 .

USA

Lemur Conservation Foundation publisher and USA distributor.

www.lemurreserve.org

Michigan University, Dearborn conservation education initiative based on the *Ako* Project. Contact Francine Dolins, fdolins@umd.umich.edu

PRISM, Montclair State University, New Jersey: school-to-school podcasts from Madagascar, Contact Jacalyn Willis, willisj@mail.montclair.edu

UK

Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust: Publisher and UK distributor

www.durrell.org

Brighton and Hove Local Education Authority uses *Ako* books to teach language and international outreach. jhhawker@gmail.com

BBC Southeast with Olympic Champion Jonathan Edwards, Dec. 2010: Children read *Bounce* in French, comparing sifaka and Olympic jumping.

BBC 2 program with David Attenborough: Alison Jolly read *Bitika* to children in Kirindy, Madagascar where Mme Berthe's mouselemur lives. Feb. 2011.

Bios of creative team

Alison Jolly, author. BA Cornell, PhD Yale. Studied wild ringtailed lemurs since 1963. 13 books, over 100 scientific and popular articles, including *Lucy's Legacy* and *The Evolution of Primate Behavior*, as well as the National Geographic Madagascar articles of 1987 and 1988. Taught at Cambridge, Princeton, Sussex. Ex-President International Primatological Society, Officer of National Order of Madagascar, Osman Hill Medal Primate Society of Great Britain, Lifetime Achievement Award International Primatological Society, and a mouselemur called *Microcebus jollyae*. ajolly@sussex.ac.uk

Deborah Ross, artist: Magazines: Natural History, New York Times, Harper's Magazine, New Yorker, Zoos: Bronx, Brooklyn, Dallas, Marie Selby Botanical Garden. Watercolour workshops : Walt Disney Studios, DreamWorks, Pixar, Cal Arts, Malagasy villagers of Kirindy and Tampolo, and Kenya's Laikipia Plateau. tokounou@mindspring.com , www.deborahrossart.com

Hantanirina Rasamimanana, Malagasy author. BSc Univ. of Antananarivo, PhD Museum d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris. Studied wild lemurs since 1982. Teaches zoology and scientific education at the l'Ecole Normale Supérieure of Antananarivo. Directs MSc in Primate Conservation, Majunga and Comoros. Leads Ako Project teacher support program. Advisor, Mad. National Curriculum. Published 15 scientific articles, consulted on 3 international television programs, subject CNN profile as Madagascar's "Lemur Lady." rasamitovo@gmail.com

Melanie Kirchner McElduff, designer. Until 2010, designer at prestigious NYC firm of Chermayeff and Giesmar, now free lance (and new mother.) mcelduff.melanie@gmail.com

Janet Robinson, poster artist. MA Natural History Illustration, MSc Ecology and Environment. Silver Gilt Medal Royal Horticultural Society. jmr@jmr.org.uk, www.jmr.org.uk

Art by Deborah Ross and Janet Robinson for the Ako Series books and posters.

Ala kanto ka kajantsika ho lovain'ny taranaka

Let's all help save Madagascar's beautiful forests

Zana-tsifaka
Baby sifaka

Arakaraky ny ala misy ary ny lohen'ny sifaka ao aminy. Fotsy tanteraka ireo any amin'ny Tsingin'i Bemaraha. Mita 3 hatramin'ny 12 ny biby anaty andiany-sifaka iray. Miana-mipetraka ny vavy sy ny lahy ary ny zanany kely. Ravinkazo sy voninkazo no tena fihainany.

Each forest in Madagascar has its own colours of sifaka. In the Tsingy de Bemaraha they are pure white. Sifaka live in troops of 3 to 12 individuals; males, females and young live together. They mainly eat leaves and flowers.

Sarin'ny Tsingy
Tsingy landscape

Haram-bato maranitra ny Tsingin'i Bemaraha. Voasikotry ny orana nandritra ny 2 tapitrisa taona ilay toy. Lalina hatrany amin'ny 120 metatra ny hadilalana sasany ao, ary ahitana zohy sy rian-drano.

The Tsingy de Bemaraha are limestone pinnacles. Rain carved them over 2 million years. Some tsingy canyons are 120 meters deep, with underground caves and waterfalls.

Sifaka fotsy
Sifaka of the tsingy
Propithecus deckeni

Mifandray sy mifampiankina ny zava-manana'aina rehetra anaty ala

All living things in the forest are connected and depend upon one another

unicef



Maky
Ring-tailed lemur
Lemur catta

Mita 4 hatramin'ny 30 ny biby anaty andiany maky iray. Ny vavy no mifidy voalohany ny sakafy sy ny tserana ary ny lahy tiany hiraizana, fa mandefitra ny lahy.

Maro ny fomba fifandraisany amin'ny fiery, ny feo, ny fitsapa ary ny fofona.

Ringtailed lemurs live in troops of 4 to 30 individuals. Females are dominant over males for food, space, and in choosing mates. They have many social signals by sight, sound, touch and smell.



Maky lahy manasotra fofona ny rambony hatrika adim-pefona. Male ringtaileds stink-fight by scent-marking their tails.

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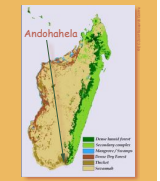


Ny alan-tsilo
Spiny Forest

Ny 95 isan-jatan'ny zava-manitra ao anatin'ny alan-tsilo dia any atsimon'i Madagasikara ihany no misy any. In the spiny forest 95% of the plant species are unique to the south of Madagascar.



Sonimbarike
Cactus tree
Didierea trollii



Mifandray sy mifampiankina ny zava-manana'aina rehetra anaty ala

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