



Ny Biby (Animals)

The daily life of the Malagasy people is closely linked with insects and animals, whether wild or domesticated. Farmers often engage in animal husbandry alongside crop farming. Since rice is the important staple for the Malagasy, without the zebu, there would be no rice paddies, except with a great deal of extra work.

Animals play many roles in their lives: companions like the cat and dog; protectors like the dog; sources of food like meat, eggs, honey, locusts, etc.; sources of fertiliser; work animals like the zebu; means of transport; sources of income for the family and the country's economy; indicators of time, for example, the first crowing of the rooster is at 3 a.m.; some transmit diseases like mosquitoes or are pests like locusts, unfortunately. Malagasy people are superstitious, and seeing certain birds like crows or owls has a particular meaning.

We'll talk a bit about zebras, which have important roles at all stages of life, from birth to funerals, even after the death of a Malagasy person.

They work the fields.

Source of meat, fertiliser, milk, horns, and skin for industry.

Symbol of wealth and success.

A form of savings. In difficult times, such as illness, zebras are sold to obtain the necessary money.

Means of transport, harnessed to carts, replacing cars in rural areas, and able to cross poor roads between hills.

In culture (sports, sacrifices, in wedding ceremonies, funerals, national holidays, and New Year in certain regions).

In some ethnic groups, a boy only becomes a man after stealing his first zebra.

In certain ethnic groups in southern Madagascar, when a man from the Mahafaly ethnic group dies, his zebra herd is sacrificed before burying him, with the skulls and horns hanging on his tomb. The people of the village eat the sacrificed meat. In this case, there is no inheritance for the children; they must create their own herd.

In some regions, during the wake or wedding, one or more zebras are killed to feed the village, family, or guests.

Zebra sacrifice is also important in certain regions during the "Famadihana" (turning of the dead) ceremony.

In certain regions, the man gives a zebra as a "Moletrey" dowry to the bride's family.

In the Malagasy language, for the names of most animals, the word "vavy" (female) is added for the female, "lahy" (male) for the male, and "kely" (small) or "zanaka" (child) for the young.

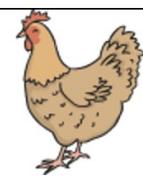
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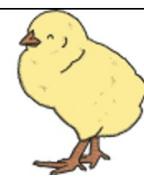
Akoho



Akoho lahy |



Akoho vavy



Akoho kely /
Zanak'akoho



Some common animals in Madagascar:

Madagascar has endemic animals like lemurs and others, but there are no venomous animals.

OMBY <i>Aomby tsm</i>	ONDRY <i>Ondrikondriky tsm</i>	OSY <i>Bengy tsm</i>	AKOHO <i>Akôho tsm</i>	GANAGANA <i>Drakidraky tsm</i>	GISA <i>Gisy tsm</i>
KISOA <i>Lambo / kisoà tsm</i>	APONDRA / <i>BORIKY</i>	SOAVALY <i>Savalikaka tsm</i>	VORONTSILOZA <i>Kolokoloko tsm</i>	VOROMPOTSY <i>Kilandy tsm</i>	VOROMAILALA <i>Pizina tsm</i>
SAKA <i>Piso tsm</i>	ALIKA <i>Amboa tsm</i>	BITRO	PAPANGO	FODY (sparrow) <i>VORONKELY (bird)</i>	

RENITANTELY <i>Renim-pandrama tsm</i>	MOKA <i>Aloa Tsm</i>	LOLO <i>Golagolà tsm</i>	TANALAHY <i>Kandrondro tsm</i>	ANDRONGO <i>Katsatsaka tsm</i>	SOKINA
VALALA <i>Mendry tsm</i>	VITSIKA <i>Visiky tsm</i>	PARASY <i>Pià tsm</i>	TRONDRO <i>Lako tsm</i>	FOZA	MAKAMBA
HALA <i>Fôko tsm</i>	BIBILAVA	SOKATRA <i>Kapiky tsm</i>	TOTOZY <i>tsivingivingy tsm</i>	VOALAVO <i>Valavo tsm</i>	GIDRO <i>Komba tsm</i>

Malagasy-Tsimihety with Bako

Theme Lesson 9
Animals

English	Malagasy (off)	Malagasy (tsm)
Bull	Omby	Aomby
Sheep	Ondry	Ondrikondriky
Goat	Osy	Bengy
Pig	Kisoa	Kisoà/lambo
Donkey	Apondra	Boriky
Horse	Soavaly	Savalikaka
Cat	Saka	Piso
Dog	Alika	Amboa
Rabbit	Bitro	Bitro
Chicken	Akoho	Akoho
Duck	Gana	Drakidraky
Goose	Gisa	Gisy
Turkey	Vorontsiloza	Kolokoloko
Aigrette (EGRET)	Vorompotsy	Kilandy
Dove	Voromailala	Pizina
Kite	Papango	Papango
Sparrow	Fody	Fody
Bird	Voronkely	Voronkely
Bees	Renintantely	Renim-pandrama
Mosquito	Moka	Aloa
Butterfly	Lolo	Golagola
Grasshopper	Valala	Mendry
Ants	Vitsika	Visiky
Fleas	Parasy	Pia
Spider	Hala	Fôko
Snake	Bibilava	Bibilava
Turtle	Sokatra	Kapiky
Chameleon	Tanalahy	Kandrondro
Lizard	Androngo	Katsatsaka
Hedgehog	Sokina	Sokina
Fish	Trondro	Lako
Crab	Foza	Foza
Shrimp	Makamba	Makamba
Mouse	Totozy	Tsivingivingy
Rat	Voalavo	Valavo
Lemur	Gidro	Komba

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Exercises

- a. Listen and repeat, then memorise the Malagasy names of the animals listed above.
- b. Among the animals above,
 - b.1. Which are mammals ("biby mampinono")? Say their Malagasy names. (13)
 - b.2. Which lay eggs ("biby manatody")? Say their Malagasy names. (22)
 - b.3. Which are insects ("bibikely")? Say their Malagasy names. (6)
 - b.4. Which are birds ("vorona")? Say their Malagasy names. (8)
 - b.5. Which live in water ("biby anaty rano")? Say their Malagasy names. (4)

Answers



- b.1. Mammals ("biby mampinono"): Omby, Ondry, Osy, Kisoa, Apondra, Soavaly, Saka, Aliko, Bitro, Sokina, Voalavo, Totozy, Gidro
- b.2. Laying eggs ("biby manatody"): Akoho, Gana, Gisa, Vorontsiloza, Vorompotsy, Voromailala, Papango, Fody, Renintantely, Moka, Lolo, Valala, Vitsika, Parasy, Hala, Bibilava, Sokatra, Tanalahy, Androngo, Trondro, Foza, Makamba
- b.3. Insects ("bibikely"): Renintantely, Moka, Lolo, Valala, Vitsika, Parasy
- b.4. Birds ("vorona"): Akoho, Gana, Gisa, Voronotsiloza, Vorompotsy, Voromailala, Papango, Fody
- b.5. Living in water ("biby anaty rano"): Trondro, Foza, Makamba, Sokatra



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