



Caring For Marmosets/Primates

As appealing as they are, marmosets and other monkeys have very specific needs and require tremendous training, care, and work to make a desirable companion. The more information you know about these primates, the better experience you will have with your baby.

Facts:

- Lifespan 12-18 years
- Adult weight 1lb
- 7-10 inches in length
- Gestation (pregnancy) about 144 days (5mos)
- Typically 2-3 offspring
- They are omnivores
- Carry and pass transmissible diseases to people

Common Problems:

- Gastrointestinal issues
- Internal/External parasites
- Respiratory infections
- Abscesses/wounds
- Kidney failure
- Lymphoma
- Diabetes
- Periodontal disease
- Obesity

Preventative Care:

- Complete physical exam every 6-12 months
- Yearly fecal exam to check for parasites
- Spay/Neuter at 5-6mos
- Annual blood work to monitor organ function
- Tuberculosis testing
- Rabies/tetanus vaccines

DIET ESSENTIALS- Marmosets

The larger variety of fruits, proteins, and vegetables you introduce your monkey to at an early age, the better. Try not to feed the same foods in consecutive days. Remember: fruits are very high in sugar; do not feed too many of these. Be sure to cut all foods into small, age appropriate, bite-size pieces.

Proteins: Asparagus, Broccoli, Brussel sprouts, Crickets, Grasshoppers, Mealworms, Cheese, Chicken, Cottage cheese, Eggs, Greek yogurt, Green peas, Monkey chow/biscuits, Marmoset canned diets, Nuts/seeds, Oats, Tofu, Turkey
 DO NOT FRY/SEASON FOODS. BAKED, BROILED, OR BOILED, ONLY!

Vegetables: Beets, Carrots, Cauliflower, Celery, Collard greens, Corn, Cucumber, Green beans, Mushrooms, Mustard greens, Okra, Bell peppers, Pumpkin, Squash, Sweet potato, Tomatoes

Fruits: Apple, Apricots, Banana, Berries, Coconut, Figs, Grapes, Melon, Kiwi, Mango, Oranges, Papaya, Peaches, Pear, Plum, Prunes, Coconut

Treats: Banana/fruit chips, Yogurt treats, Cheese chips/crackers, Butterscotch drops, Honey sticks, Mints, Nectar, Trail mix

The average amount consumed at each feeding is as follows:

Age	Amount
Birth to 2 weeks	0.5mL - 2.5mL
Weeks 3 to 4	2mL - 4.5mL
Weeks 5 to 12	4mL - 7mL
Weeks 12 and up	6mL - 10mL

Feeding Schedule:

Age	Day Feeding	Night Feeding
Birth to 4 weeks	Every 2 hours	Every 2-4 hours
4 to 8 weeks	Every 3-4 hours	as needed if hungry
8 to 12 weeks	Every 5-6 hours	as needed if hungry
12 weeks and up	Every 5-6 hours	As needed if hungry



Toxic foods and things to avoid:

- Onion/onion powder
- Cats- transmissible diseases
- Kissing your monkey
- Strangers
- Caffeine
- Spices, salt, pepper
- Avocado, peach, cherry, anything with a pit
- Chocolate
- Toxic plants
- Sick people/animals
- Lit candles
- Aerosol sprays
- Unsupervised pets & kids
- Sharp objects
- Electrical outlets/cords
- Swimming pools
- Toilet bowls
- Stoves/ovens/anything hot
- Fried foods
- Refined/added sugars
- Cleaning products
- Your medications
- Beads, anything small that can be a choking hazard
- Batteries

Fresh, clean water should be available to your pet around the clock.

Each day, change out the water in the dish or water bottle for fresh water. On a weekly basis, sanitize the water dish/bottle with a mild dish detergent and rinse thoroughly before adding drinking water.

Other safe/recommended foods

Applesauce (no sweetener or cinnamon), baby cereal, baby food, baby puffs, cheerios, cream of wheat, nuts, oats, cooked pasta/rice, greek yogurt, sunflower or pumpkin seeds.

Toxic Plants

Ackee Fruit, Acorn, Amaryllis, Anemone, Angel Trumpet, Apple Seeds, Apricot Pit, Arrowhead, Autumn, Autumn Crocus, Avocado Leaves, Azaleas, Baneberry, Belladonna, Betel Nut Palm, Bird of Paradise, Bittersweet, Black Locust, Bleeding Heart, Boston, Boxwood, Bracken Fern, Buckeye, Burning Bush, Buttercups, Caladium, Calla Lily, Cedar, Century Plant, Cherries (PITS), Chinaberry, Chinese Lantern, Choke Cherry, Christmas Rose, Chrysanthemums, Climbing Night Shade, Cocklebur, Columbine, Cowbane, Creeping Charlie, Crocus, Cyclamen, Daffodil, Daphne, Deadly Night Shade, Delphinium, Desert Potato, Devil's Ivy (Pothos), Dogwood, Dumbcane, Elderberry, Elephant Ear, English Ivy, Euonymus, Fava Bean, Four O'clock, Foxglove, Golden Chain, Hemlock Poison, Holly Berries, Horse Chestnut, Horsetail Reed, Huckleberry, Hyacinth(bulbs), Hydrangea, Impatiens Plant (NOT FLOWER), Indian Turnip, Inkberry, Iris, Ivy, Jack in the Pulpit, Japanese Yew, Jasmine, Jerusalem Cherry, Jimson Weed, Jimson Weed Seeds, Johnson Grass, Jonquil, Lantana Camara, Larkspur, Laurels, Ligustrum, Lily of the Valley, Lobelia, Locoweed, Lucky Nut, Marijuana, Marsh Marigold, Mayapple, Mescal (Peyote), Milkweeds, Mistletoe, Monkshood, Moonseed, Morning Glory, Mother-in-law tongue, Mountain Laurel, Snow Drop, Mushroom, Narcissus, Nephthytis, Nightshade, Oak Tree, Oleander, Peach Seeds, Peach Seeds, Pencil Tree, Periwinkle, Peyote, Philodendron, Pigeon Berry, Poinsettia, Poison Hemlock, Poison Ivy, Poison Oak, Pokeweed, Poppy, Potato Sprouts, Primrose, Rhododendron, Rosary Pea, Sorrel, Star of Bethlehem, Sweet Pea, Swiss Cheese Plant, Thorn Apple, Thread Leaf, Toadstools, Tobacco, Tomato-vines, Tulip, Virginia Creeper, Water Hemlock, Wild Black Cherry, Wild Mustard, Wisteria, Yaupon Tree, Yellow Jessamine, Yew

Formula

Baby Formula (for bottle feedings) varies by age. Mix 1 scoop of formula per 2 ounces of warm water. Check the temperature, like you would with a human child, prior to offering. Please follow the guidelines on the chart (page 1) for frequency of feedings and estimated amounts based on age. A regular size bottle can be used for mixing formula. Clean bottles thoroughly after each use. Dispose of any pre-mixed formula that is 3 days old or older. You may also consider adding a small "dab" of some of the following to the formula mixture: yogurt (creamy/no chunks), monkey cereal, Marmoset Protein Diet.

Examples of a healthy and varied diet

DAY 1:

Breakfast- oats, protein powder, Vitamin D3, Activia, apple slice

Lunch- butternut squash, Marmoset Diet, pasta, tofu, mango, Vitamin D3

Snacks- granola, mealworms, baby puffs

DAY 2:

Breakfast- scrambled eggs, cheese, protein powder, Vitamin D3, applesauce, mealworms

Lunch- Mixed seasonal vegetables, brown rice, Marmoset Diet, crickets, papaya, mushrooms, Vitamin D3

Snacks- seed or nut mixture, yogurt treats, cheerios

DAY 3:

Breakfast- protein powder, Vitamin D3, baby cereal, cottage cheese, blueberries

Lunch- chicken, carrots, noodles, Marmoset Diet, Vitamin D3

Snacks- cereal, crickets, berries, pumpkin

Signs of illness

Decreased appetite, lethargy, diarrhea, weight loss, limping, discharge from eye/nose. Primates are extremely susceptible to chickenpox, measles, HIV, herpes, and other illnesses.

Husbandry

Large indoor enclosure, kept at room temperature. Provide branches, ropes, ladders for climbing/play. Have a nesting box. It is important to provide them with a lot of attention. They are very social animals and get lonely. Note there will be a strong odor from the enclosure, this is normal. However, it is important to clean the enclosure thoroughly, weekly. Provide artificial heating and lighting if needed.