



## LEMUR CONSERVATION FOUNDATION

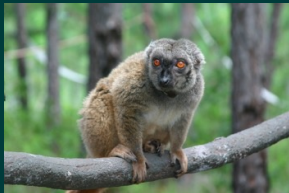


# LEMUR LATITUDES

e-newsletter

December 2012

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Meet **Fred**, a rare Sanford & Brown lemur hybrid. He is the oldest lemur at the LCF Myakka City Lemur Reserve.



**ANIMAL PLANET PROGRAM ABOUT SILKY SIFAKA:**  
Animal Planet will air a unique and important program about silky

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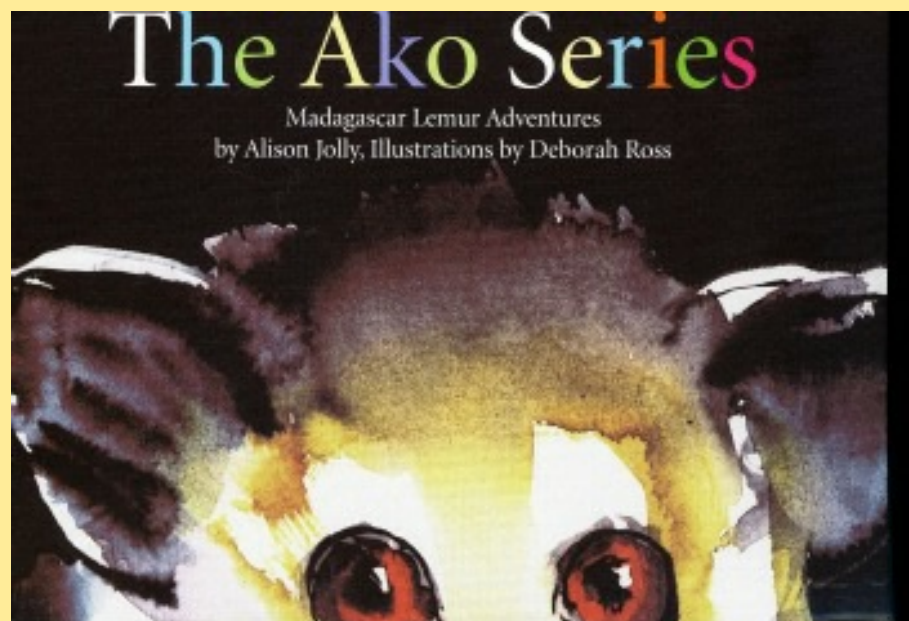
sifaka lemur and rosewood conservation in Madagascar. It will air on December 18, at 8 PM ET.

'There will likely never be another film like this, and this will be the first airing in the USA. Months of filming over several trips took place in Madagascar including aerial helicopter footage over the Marojejy massif,' Dr. Erik Patel. The program, Lemurs, is episode 6 of Animal Planet's 'Frontier Earth.' "Found in the treetops of Madagascar's rain forest, the silky sifaka lemur is one of the rarest primates on Earth." [READ MORE](#)

Lemurs, the final episode of the Animal Planet series, 'Frontier Earth,' is based in part on a film produced in cooperation with the BBC.

It was narrated by Sir David Attenborough when it aired with great success in the UK in April 2012. The film received a Conservation Film Prize at the prestigious International Wildlife Film Festival in Missoula, Montana.

Dr. Patel's work is featured in the program. He has been working in Madagascar for over 10 years, studying the behavioral biology and conservation of the silky sifaka, one of the most rare, and also one of the most critically endangered primates in the world. Read more about Dr. Patel's work and his team featured in the film at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b01dlcgk> You can also learn more about his work and the Silky Sifaka on the web site of his foundation, 'Simpona,' <http://www.simpona.org/>



**'The Ako Series' is now available in English!**

'The Ako Series, Madagascar Lemur Adventures' - a six book series written by [Dr. Alison Jolly](#) and illustrated by [Deborah Ross](#) especially for children 4 to 12 years old. Each book features a different lemur - from the tiny mouse lemur, to the engaging ring tail - in a captivating story that imaginatively teaches children about natural science, conservation, and the island of Madagascar.

The books were originally published in Malagasy to help children there learn about lemurs, and to have stories in their own language. Teachers' Guides, by [Dr. Rasamimanana](#), and posters were also created as part of the Ako Project initiative.

The Ako Project has grown into a major UNICEF-supported school outreach in Madagascar. Malagasy children have little material available about their natural heritage. Only 10% of the country has natural forest remaining. Most Malagasy never see a lemur in the wild, let alone on television or in a book. The goal of the Ako Project is to enrich empathy for and knowledge about the extraordinary biodiversity of Madagascar. .

[Click to READ MORE about the AKO Project on our web site.](#)

Today all six books of 'The Ako Project' are available in English individually or as a box set at the Lemur Conservation Foundation's Amazon store. Publication is made possible by the Partnership in Global Conservation, Lemur Conservation Foundation, and 'Nature's Path EnviroKidz Organic'.

**[Click to Shop](#)**

(this link is to the new LCF Amazon webstore. New items are being added daily)

*'This enchanting and ravishingly illustrated little book about some of the world's most beautiful and endangered creatures cannot fail to captivate its readers, young and old.'* Dr. Ian Tattersall

**The lemur Conservation Foundation Mission is *CLEAR: Conservation, Lemurs, Education, Art, and Research***

Thank you for supporting the Lemur Conservation Foundation. 2013 is a very exciting year for LCF, and a great opportunity to build upon the success we have achieved together. Your involvement means we can expand our successful programs, engage, inspire, and



educate the communities we serve. Together we have a great opportunity to make a difference through our efforts at the LCF Myakka City Lemur Reserve, and to effect change in Madagascar, one of the most important biodiversity 'hot spots' in the world.

Your participation means that our core mission, holding and breeding some of the most endangered species in the world in a naturalistic, free ranging forest habitat, advances lemurs chance for survival as a species and expands our knowledge of this iconic animal. Because the Myakka City Reserve provides a wild forest home for our lemur colony it is an important field environment for rigorous research. Each year we welcome professional research scientists like conservation biologists and anthropologists. It is also home to unique field training programs for undergraduates, science and art education, and other outreach opportunities that inspire learning and engagement.

Graduates of our Field Training School have gone on to earn 3 Fulbright Scholarships, doctorate degrees, and now conduct research projects in lemurs only wild habitat, the island of Madagascar. In addition to university level science education, LCF engages in special primary and secondary science and art and education initiatives. Programs like 'Children of Madagascar Paint Their World,' 'The Ako Project,' and 'The Teachers' Institute for Conservation Biology' teach important lessons about science and conservation in the USA and Madagascar. For example, The Teachers' Institute program invites middle school science

educators to the Myakka City Reserve to gain 'hands on' field experience. They work with some of the most distinguished conservation biologists in the world and learn ways to bring field science into their classrooms. ***This is why we ask you at this time to make a special gift to help us expand our success in lemur care, science, and art education programs. DONATE NOW***

*"Pulitzer Prize winning poet Gary Snyder wrote...find your place on the planet, dig in, and take responsibility from there..."*



## **HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

**Artist Deborah Ross** created this charming watercolor of a Mongoose lemur to help us say Happiest Holidays to friends of the Lemur Conservation Foundation. Thank you for your interest in LCF and support of our lemurs and mission. Our best wishes to you at this very special time of year.

Ms. Ross traveled to Tampolo, Madagascar in 2005 and again in the summer of 2011 to work with local children on a project called 'Children of Madagascar Paint Their World.'

**[Click here to see some photographs from the first trip on our web site.](#)**

We're so lucky to have her! Ms. Ross is on the faculty of the

School of Visual Arts in New York and also teaches workshops in animal drawing and movement for animation studios including: Dreamworks, Pixar and Walt Disney Feature Animations.

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