MONKEY MANNERS

Misplaced Monkey Mischief - How to Handle
What are Monkey Problems and their cause?

1. Today - modern times - there is less space between wild animals like monkeys and where people live. Monkeys find it easier to raid crops and eat garbage around homes and other human habitations, in villages, towns and cities, than to forage in a shrinking or crowded forest. Therefore there are a growing number of monkeys coming into human localities.

2. Some places like temples and tourism sites encourage the feeding of monkeys for sake of pilgrims obtaining blessing and for entertaining tourists. Today there are just too many monkeys, and they have learned bad habits.

3. These monkey groups thrive on the easily accessible, rich food and their numbers increase, thus increasing the problem. So ...

MORE Monkey Problems and their cause

4. Mischievous monkeys are not popular. Sometimes people try and solve the problem themselves by killing them irregardless of their unique type. It is not good for the maintenance of biodiversity as some of the rare unique ones are being killed and shifted in addition to the numerous common ones.

5. Mischievous monkeys destroy crops, creating hardships for farmers and their families. Government panics and uses wrong method to control them, which makes the problem worse.

6. The longer the problem persists, the bolder the animals become through familiarity.

7. Disease can be passed from people to monkeys to people. Such diseases are called “zoonoses”. This is very bad for both people and monkeys

Monkey Manners

Rule # 1 is Don’t feed monkeys & don’t leave food where monkeys can get
Rule # 2 : Don’t smile or show your teeth to monkeys
As a student, as a family member, & as a concerned citizen, you can

At home, offer to be “garbage monitor”, insuring that it cannot be accessed by monkeys or other animals.

At school make sign-boards telling how destructive it is to feed monkeys and places around areas where this happens.

Encourage your parents, teachers, & their clubs to support the city government purchasing incinerators so that they get rid of garbage entirely instead of simply moving it from one area to another. This is also good for controlling rats and other pests.

Things that your government authorities should probably be doing:

Legislators should pass a legal ban on public feeding of monkeys

Municiple authorities should create an action plan for combating monkey menace without harming animals.

Forest authorities should provide training to wildlife staff to handle the monkey menace

Sanitation authorities should check that the garbage is being removed every day.

Temple authorities should find other ways for devotees to satisfy the need to feed monkeys without creating problem monkeys

Monkey Manners

Rule # 3 : Don’t tease monkeys by offering food and then jerking it away
Rule # 4 : Don’t try to scare them away if you are alone.
          Just move away slowly always facing them
Hello! Will you answer some questions?
just answer “yes” or “no”

• Do you have wild monkeys roving about your neighborhood doing bad things?
• Have you ever had wild monkeys come home, steal food & make a big mess?
• Have you ever been bitten by a wild monkey in a public locality?
• Have you ever met a wild monkey in a park and felt scared?

If you have replied YES to even one question, you need to learn some
“Monkey Manners!”

But what ARE Monkey Manners

Monkey Manners are NOT the bad manners of monkeys, described before.

Monkey Manners are a set of behaviours or actions to be learned by YOU and your friends and family, so that you will be safe from these mischievous relatives of mankind. That’s what this booklet, and this whole packet is about.

“Mind your monkey manners” means that you will NOT act in ways that makes monkeys mean.

The monkey problem is NOT because monkeys are mean. It is because human beings have been short-sighted. Human beings have not managed other humans, forests and wildlife in such a way that there is enough space for all.

It is now high time we human beings learned our
“Monkey Manners!”
Monkey Menace ...rap with monkeys!
Sanju Paul, Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

Man ‘o’ Man
You are cuttin’ our jungles,
You are blowin’ our habitat’s balance,
... then you say, it’s
MONKEY MENACE, ... MAAAAAN

Man ‘o’ Man,
You are makin’ us man-food addicts,
You are directin’ our natural diet
... then you say it’s
MONKEY MENACE, ... MAAAAAN

Man ‘o’ Man
You are temptin’ us
with artificial breeding places,
disturbing even our breedin’ balance
... then you say it’s
MONKEY MENACE, ... MAAAAAN

Man ‘o’ Man
You are shrinkin’ distance between us
You are expandin’ zoonoses among us,
... then you say it’s
MONKEY MENACE, ... MAAAAAN

Man ‘o’ Man
Don’t curse our race,
We just want to live with grace.
Let us live in our own space,
Let us feed on our own food,
Know this, our sincere appeal,
if you have CONSERVATION zeal!

Man, please don’t rock our natural balance, we don’t want no phoney talents
We jus’ want that nobody suffers
MONKEY MENACE, ... MAAAAAN

This poem makes great Rap! Try it Baba Sehgal-style.
Monkey Drama

You can get your neighborhood together on what to do about the monkey problem by conducting a drama or a series of dramas with other kids.

Get together as many of the kids in the neighborhood as you can. Divide them into two groups: householders and monkeys. Conduct a drama a day for several days. Every day let kids playing householders exchange roles with kids playing monkeys. Use this method to teach the adults what they can do about the monkey problem. Here are some sample ...make your own dramas from what you learn in this book

Day 1 : Demonstrate what happens when house-holders are careless with garbage or put out food for stray animals to eat. Show the mon-keys demanding more and more food and becom-ing more and more aggres-sive. Show them entering houses where the shutters have been carelessly left open.

Day 2: Demonstrate how to wean the monkeys away from living off human houses. You can show monkeys hanging around the trash bins piteously begging and householders acting strong and refusing to give food.

Day 3 : Demonstrate how kids should behave around monkeys. Show what happens when you ignore them (don't meet their eyes, or go close, feed, or speak to them) and what happens when you tease them and give them treats.

Day 4 : Conduct a debate between household-ers and monkeys. Let each give their point of view and figure out what to do.

Day 5 : Bring government officials, animals welfare enthusiasts and forest-er and wildlife officers into the debate. If the monkeys and householders couldn't figure out what to do yesterday maybe this group can!
Monkey see ... monkey do...monkey do's ... monkey don'ts

DO's

1. MAKE A SYSTEM FOR HOLDING GARBAGE FROM YOUR HOUSE SO IT DOESN'T ATTRACT MONKEYS.
2. REPORT DESTRUCTIVE MONKEY INDIVIDUALS TROOPS TO YOUR WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT AND ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY
3. IF A WILD MONKEY TROOP HABITUALLY VISITS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, MAKE YOUR HOUSE SECURE SO THAT THEY CAN'T ENTER.
4. AVOID BEING CLOSE TO ANY WILD MONKEY OR MONKEY TROOP.
5. AVOID CONFRONTATION FOR BOTH YOUR SAFETY AND THAT OF THE MONKEY

DON'TS

1. DON'T FEED WILD MONKEYS OR EAT IN FRONT OF THEM ...IN PARKS, ON THE ROAD, AT HOME ... ANYWHERE
2. DON'T SMILE OR SHOW YOUR TEETH TO MONKEYS -- IT MEANS DANGER TO THEM.
3. DON'T TAUNT OR TEASE WILD MONKEYS ANYWHERE. (EX. OFFERING THEM FOOD THEN PULLING IT BACK)
4. DON'T RUN FROM WILD MONKEYS - IF IT THREATENS YOU STAND YOUR GROUND WITH A THREAT POSE. BETTER TO AVOID WILD MONKEYS ENTIRELY.
5. DON'T TRY AND FIGHT IF A MONKEY GRABS SOMETHING OF YOURS. YOU ARE MORE VALUABLE THAN ANYTHING YOU CARRY.
These chimpanzee expressions and their meaning can give you a good idea of how easy it might be to misunderstand a monkey. These expressions also might give you a good idea that you should not take a monkey for granted. There are several expressions there which look “friendly” but actually reflect fear or excitement. It is better never to try and interact with monkeys. Even a small monkey is very very fast and very very strong -- don’t take a risk. Monkey bites are dangerous.

More Monkey Manners

Rule 5: Don’t look monkeys directly in the eyes; that can be interpreted as a threat by them

Rule 6: Don’t snarl or even smile at monkeys - showing teeth means “hostile” to monkeys

Rule 7: Don’t act afraid... that is interpreted as weakness, meaning you are safe to attack.

Rule 8: Don’t go close to them; respect their territory.

Rule 9: Don’t tease them ...for any reason anywhere

Rule 10: Don’t run up to them or run from them.

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