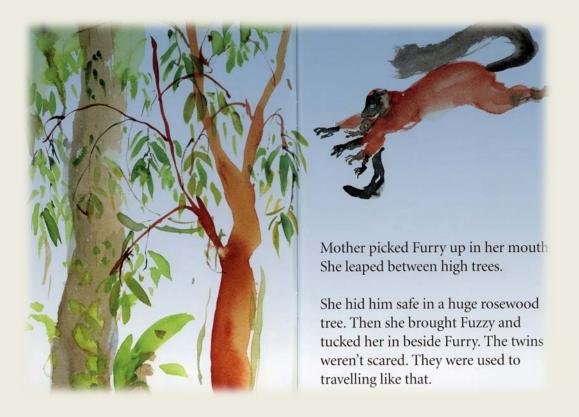


Take a peek inside and enjoy the story of 'Furry & Fuzzy, The Red Ruffed Lemur Twins'!

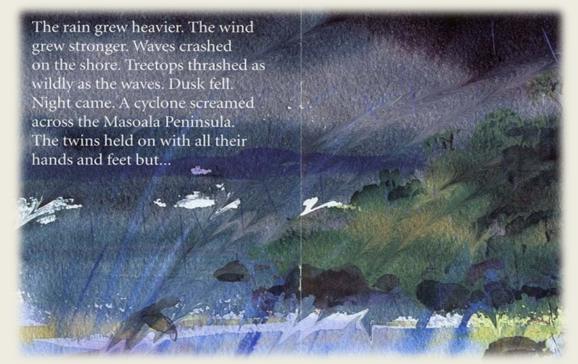
Written by Dr. Alison Jolly and illustrated by Deborah Ross...



The stories are written especially for children 4 to 10 years old, but everyone who loves lemurs will enjoy these books! They are dramatic, exciting, and beautifully illustrated. Each story in the six book set is about a species of lemur and their habitat in Madagascar.







Madagascar is an island near Africa. It is 1000 miles long, and if you walk 10 miles a day it would take 100 days to walk from North to South. It has wet rainforest, dry forest, and forest that is so dry the plants look like cactuses. Nine out of every ten kinds of its forest plants and animals live only in Madagascar. Its most famous animals are lemurs. Lemurs are relatives of monkeys and apes. There are about 100 kinds of lemurs in Madagascar's forests. Ruffed lemurs are quite big, weighing about 3.5 kilograms, with deep deep fur. Black-and-white ruffed lemurs (*Varecia variegata*) live throughout Madagascar's eastern rainforest. Red ruffed lemurs (*Varecia rubra*) mainly live on the Masoala Peninsula, within the Masoala National Park.

Ruffs usually have twins in November. Their families have one or two each of males and females. The family stays close together during the birth season when the infants need everyone's care. After about three months young visit neighbors accompanied by older animals and wander widely. Ruffed lemurs eat the ripest fruit, which means they are especially vulnerable to logging of the largest trees, and to cyclones which shake down fruit and destroy trees. People, trees, and animals on the Masoala all have to find ways to survive frequent cyclones. In spite of the cyclones the Masoala has some of the tallest and most beautiful of all Madagascar's rainforest with a wealth of rare plant and animal species. It is the last remaining lowland rainforest where huge trees grow right down to the seashore, beside the Bay of Antongil which is so deep that dolphins play and humpback whales come every year to bear their own calves.



For more information about the AKO Series or to buy the books visit our Amazon store:

http://n-malagasy-shop-1355257814696.hostedbyamazon.com/

"What a magical experience to have natural history woven into this little children's story. The rain forest quivers with roars and acrobatics of ruffed lemurs, a cyclone sweeps in from the Indian Ocean, young are raised communally, though sometimes left all on their own. These details are real!"

Dr. Natalie Vasey Portland State University

"These beautifully written and illustrated stories help Malagasy children read in their own language. Madagascar's rich biodiversity shines through the text and watercolours to increase children's pride in their unique country and their respect for the environment around them."

Bruno Maes UNICEF Representative in Madagascar





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