

The KINKAJOU

What actually is the kinkajou? The kinkajou is a small, brown animal. When you see it, you see it, you think that is monkey, because it has agile hands and long branch-grasping tail. But it is not a monkey. The kinkajou actually belongs to raccoon family, but because of its serious claws and rounded ears some people call it *honey bear*.

Kinkajou live almost entirely on fruit, especially on wild figs. They lap supplemental balsa-flowers nectar with a long tongue. Sometimes the kinkajou visits all flowers in a tree. Then it sit down and chill out and then go visit them all again.

They are not rare, but hard to find. All night you hear them call – it is a short, barking wee-wee-wee that seems to say: “This is my tree, stay out of it!” But after any initial suspicion, kinkajous had no problem sharing their tree with humans.

Everyone assumed they were solitary, because you usually find them alone, but no one knew what was actually going on up in the company at night. Kinkajous rarely come to the ground, and they sleep all day tree holes. It roams only at night.

Kinkajous are very warm to other kinkajous, especially mother to her child. Mom carries her kid two years, then he leave her – kinkajous are very friendly even to people.

GLOSSARY

lap	(for animals) to drink sth with quick movements of the tongue
supplemental	provided in addition to sth else in order to improve or complete it
initial	happening at the beginning; first
fondle	to touch and move your hand gently over sth/sb, especially in sexual way or in order to show love
agile	able to move quickly and easy