

# Koko The Gorilla

Meet Koko, a female gorilla born on July 4th, 1971, in the San Francisco Zoo. Koko's trainer, Dr. Penny Patterson, taught her sign language. In 1972, at the age of one, Patterson started teaching Koko sign language. Koko must have done well in school because she and Dr. Patterson moved onto the Stanford University campus two years later. Up until 1976, Koko continued her education at the school. She then started residing permanently with Patterson's organization, the Gorilla Foundation. Since then, Patterson and Koko's connection has grown. According to Dr. Patterson, Koko is fluent in sign language. She claims that Koko creates new words and knows more than 1,000 words. For instance, Koko signed the terms finger and bracelet because she could not sign the word "ring." According to Dr. Patterson, this demonstrates the use of language in a meaningful and productive way.

Answer the following questions.

Q1. When was Koko born?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q2. At what age did Koko start to learn sign language?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q3. Who was Koko's trainer?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q4. Until which year did Koko study in school?

A: \_\_\_\_\_

Q5. How many words does Koko know?

A: \_\_\_\_\_