



# KUBA

Helping



Kuba lost his mother at the age of 6 when she was killed by a poacher. Although his older sister was in the group as well, he rarely stayed with her, but preferred to stick with his father Zyon who cared for him until he became an adolescent. Being without a mother and having a crippled left hand made life sometimes very difficult for Kuba and he was lagged behind in his development in comparison to the other juveniles of his age. Although he is handicapped he is a very skilled hunter and loves to eat meat.



Kuba was in his late adolescence when the group was hit by a deadly epidemic in December 2009. A lot of chimpanzees died and several infants and juveniles lost their mothers. Kuba became very ill as well, but recovered faster than most of the others. For several days he went from one sick individual to another, spread out across the group's territory. He spent some time with them, encourage them to walk with him and only leave them behind again when he realized that they were still too weak to follow him over longer distances. As soon as an infant became strong enough again he would pick it up and bring it back to the group. With the help of Kuba, who we followed at this time, we were able to locate several sick chimpanzees and give them antibiotic shots that helped them to survive.