

CHIMPANZEES

Read the text below and circle the word which best fits the gap.

SHE STUDIES WHILE HE PLAYS: TRUE OF CHILDREN AND CHIMPS

Little girls watch and learn, little boys don't pay (1) _____ and play around. At least, this seems to be the (2) _____ with chimpanzees, according to new research.

Chimpanzees in the wild (3) _____ to snack on termites, and youngsters learn to fish for them by poking long sticks and other (4) _____ tools into the mounds that large groups of termites build. Researchers found that (5) _____ average female chimps in the Gombe National Park in Tanzania learnt how to do termite fishing at the age of 31 months, more than two years earlier than the males.

The females seem to learn by watching their mothers. Researcher Dr. Elisabeth V. Lansdorf, director of field conservation at the Lincoln Park Zoo in Chicago, said that it is (6) _____ to find that, when a young male and female are near a mound, "She's really focusing on termite fishing and he's spinning himself round (7) _____ circles." Dr. Lansdorf and colleagues are studying chimpanzees at the zoo with a new, (8) _____ created termite mound, filled with mustard (9) _____ than termites. On the first day, adult females were getting at the mustard and a young female watched carefully and began to (10) _____ the skills. Two young males did not do as well as the females - one simply sat next to his mother and tried to (11) _____ some mustard from her, Dr. Lansdorf said. The behavior of both sexes may seem (12) _____ to many parents, she said, adding, "The sex differences we found in the chimps are (13) _____ to some of the findings from human child development research."

