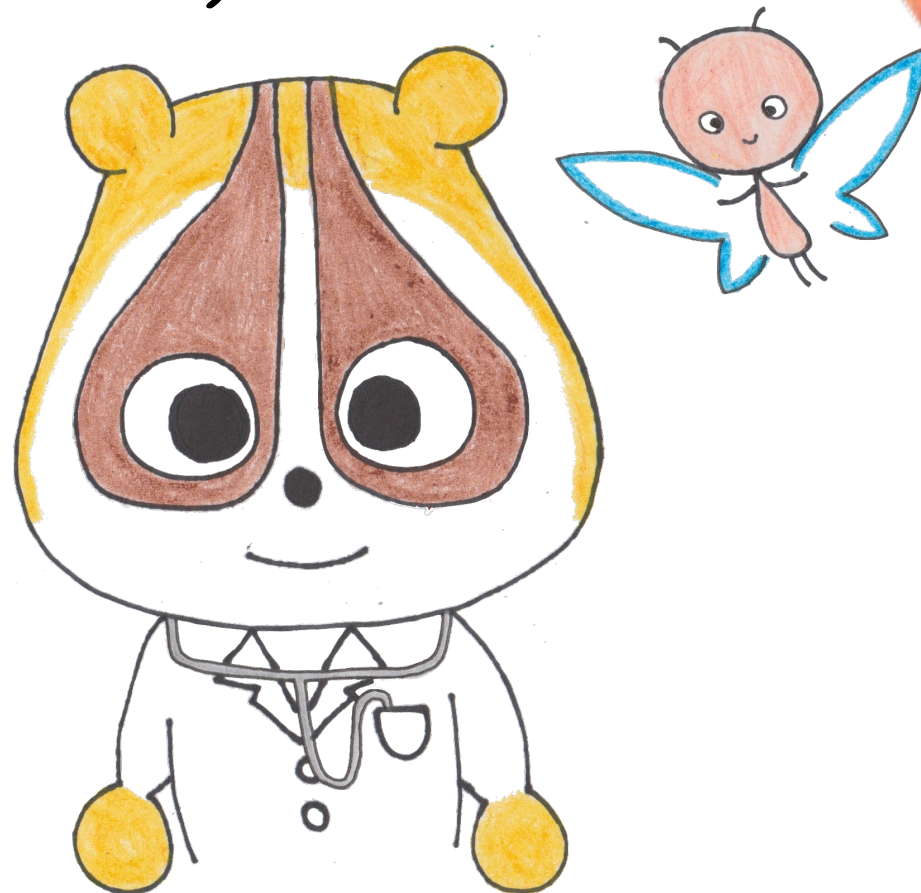
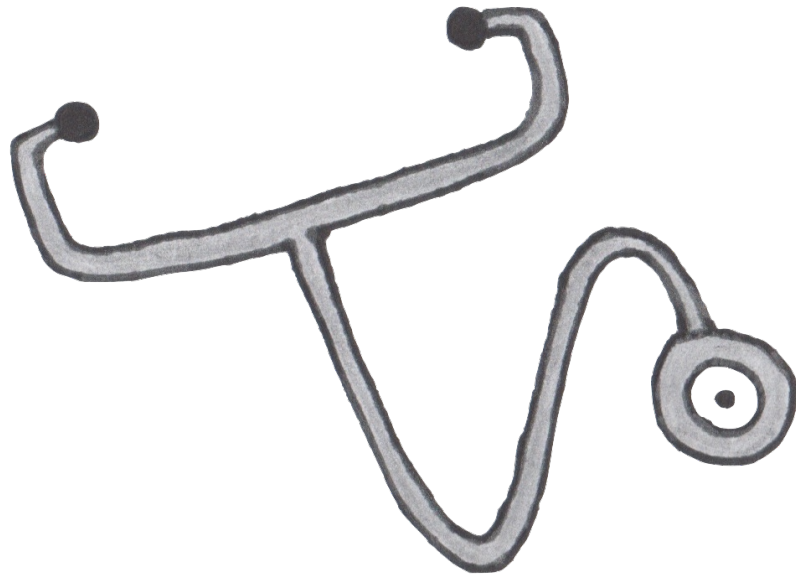


# Dr. Slow Loris Got It!

by kana kawanishi



# For All the kind-hearted children



Special thanks to:

Anna Nekaris • Brendan Benson • Katy Vance • Mum

Summary: A kind-hearted doctor named Dr. Slow Loris goes around the world to help other slow lorises who are in need of help.

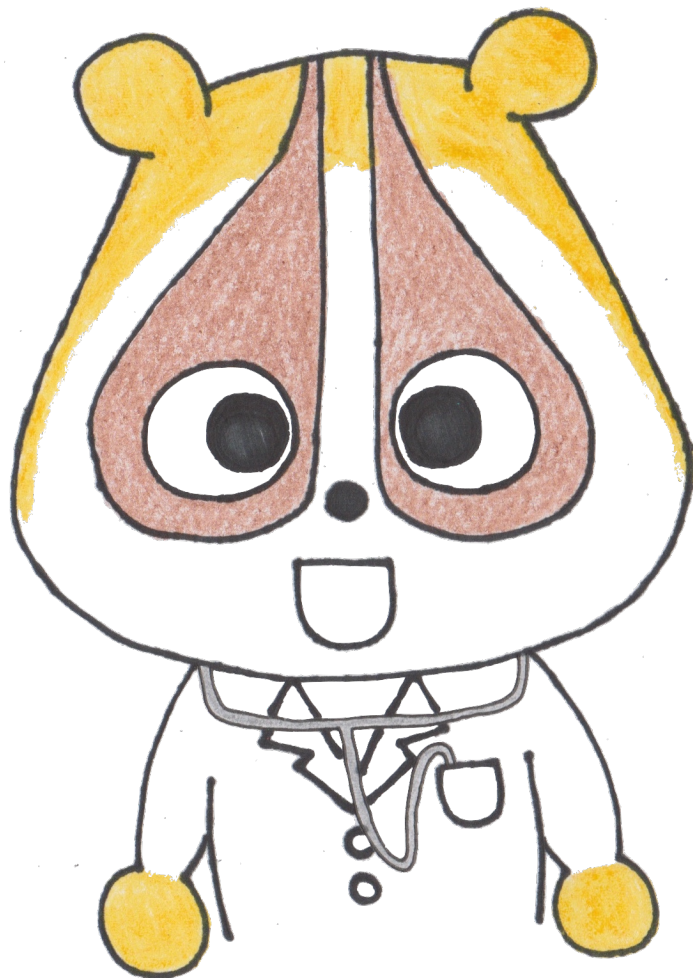
Illustrations for this book were created using crayons, markers and coloured pencils.

Printed in Yokohama, Japan

(c)Kana Kawanishi

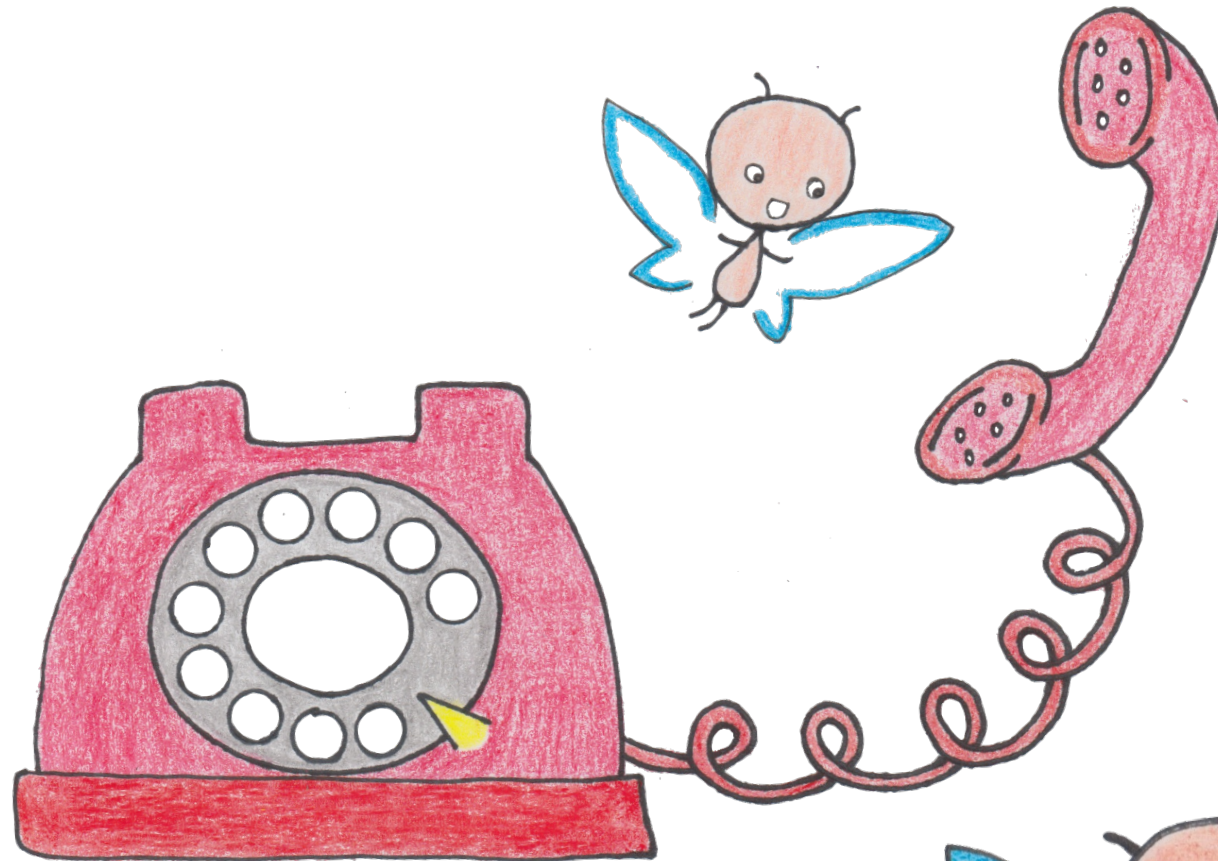


Hello! My name is Dr. Slow Loris. I work in a little clinic in the middle of a deep, deep forest with my helper Lily. She is no ordinary helper though — she is a little fairy!



With Lily's help, we go around the world together and do our best to help slow lorises with any kind of injuries.





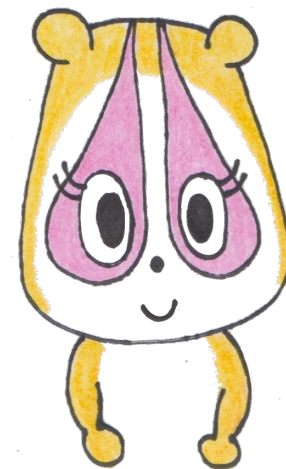
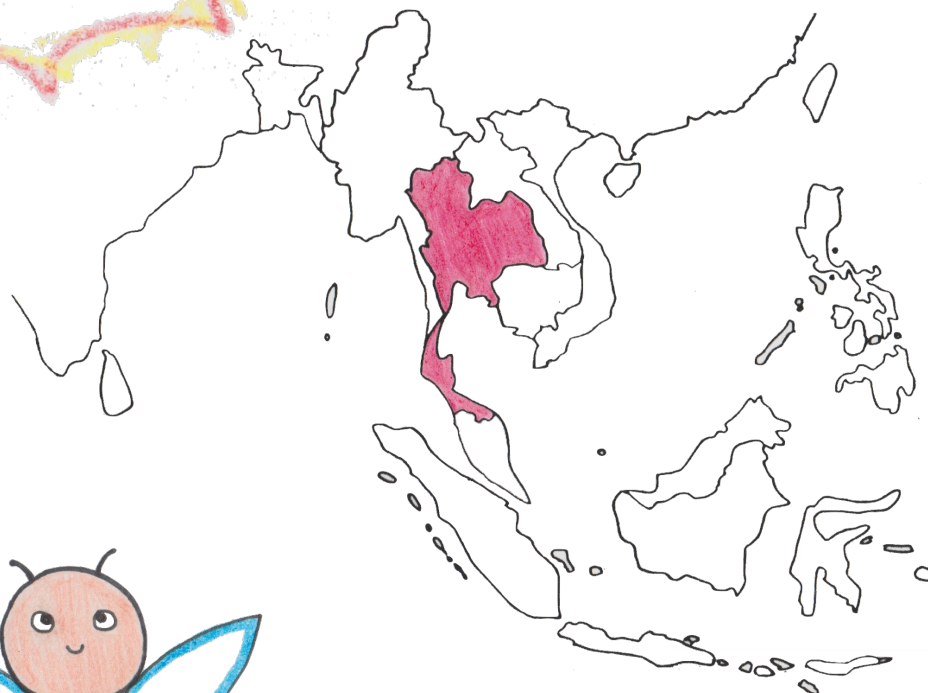
It was a busy weekend. On Saturday, we got a call from Mina, a Bengal slow loris from Thailand.

Lily is super helpful, especially when we travel. She got her magic wand, sprinkled us both with sparkly powder and...





**BOOM!**



In no time, we arrived at a tourist stand in Thailand and met Mina!

## PATIENT'S CHART

Name: Mina

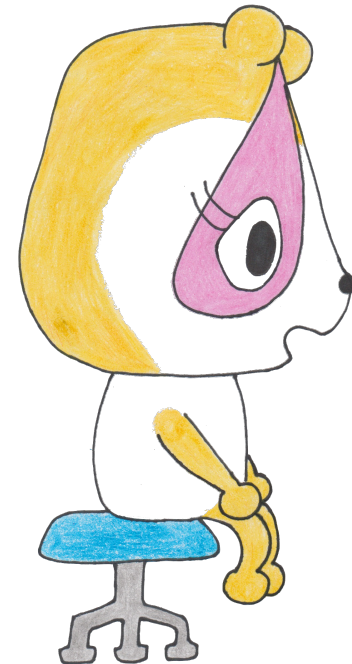
Type: Bengal slow loris

Job: Model

Problem:

- Bad eyesight
- Itchy skin

“My name is Mina and I am a super model here. I have photo shoots everyday with my fans. People really love me. But everyday, their faces become blurry, and my skin is getting itchy.”

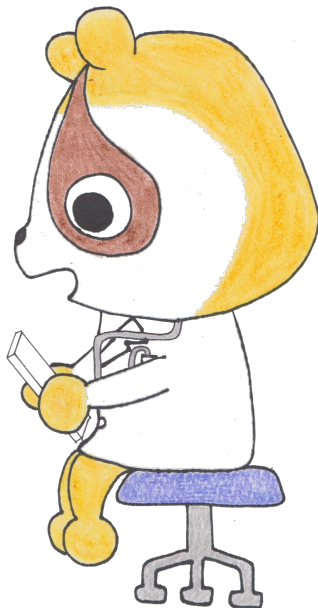
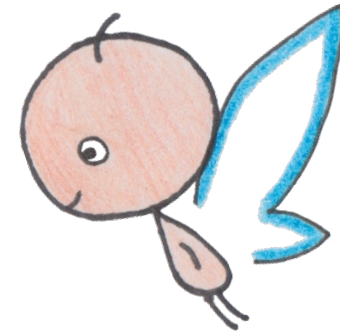




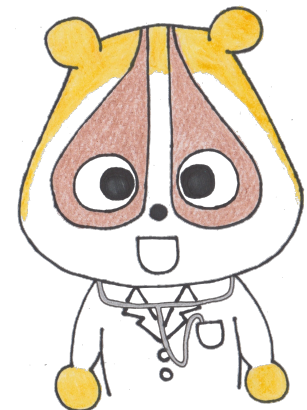
“People. I see.”

Bad eye sight and itchy skin?

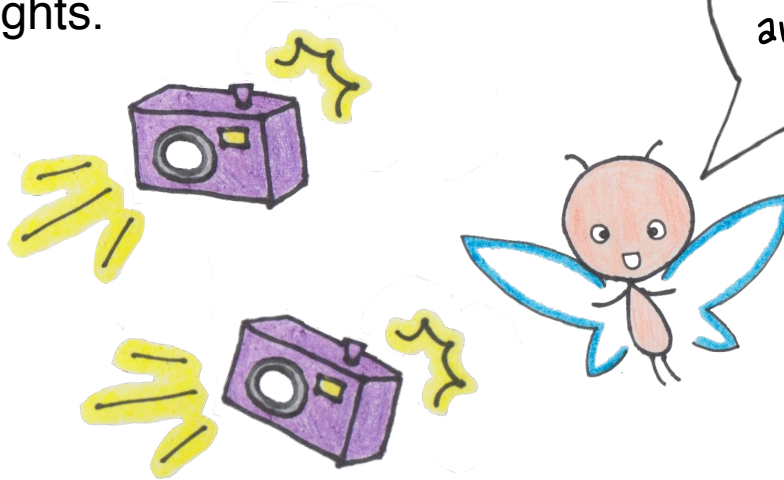
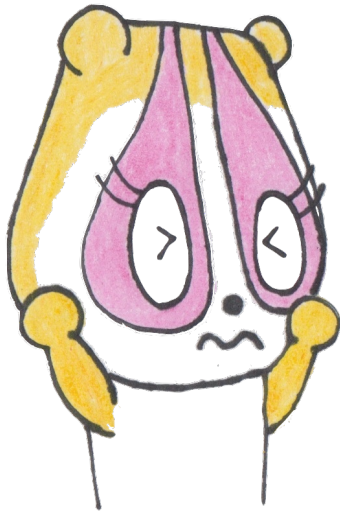
It was a little difficult for me to find the reason for this problem, but...



“I got it!”

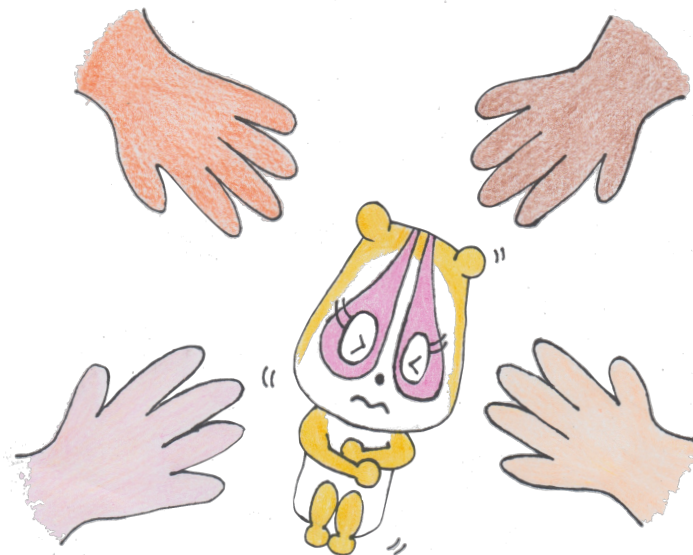
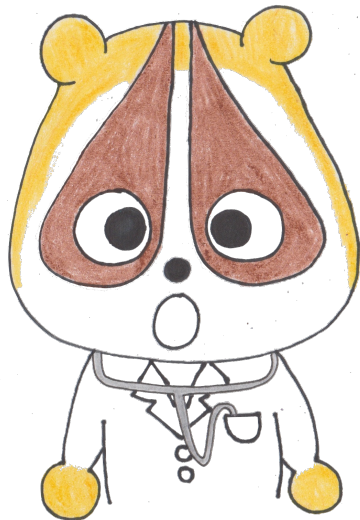


“The bad eye sight must have been caused by the flashes of cameras. We slow lorises are nocturnal, so we aren’t used to bright lights.



Nocturnal animals  
are animals that  
are active at night

Your skin must have become itchy because you were being touched by people. People’s hands contain lots of bacteria that we are not used to.”

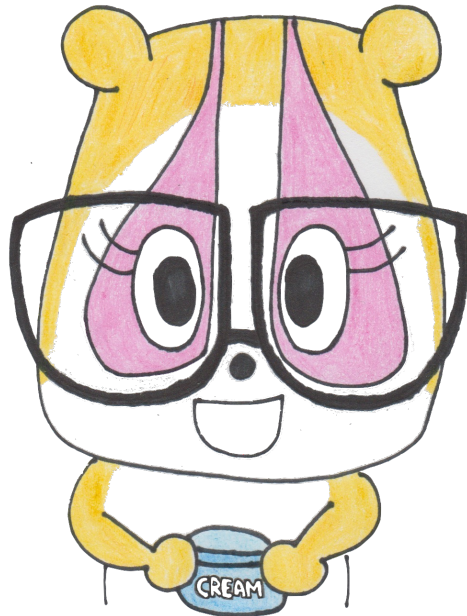




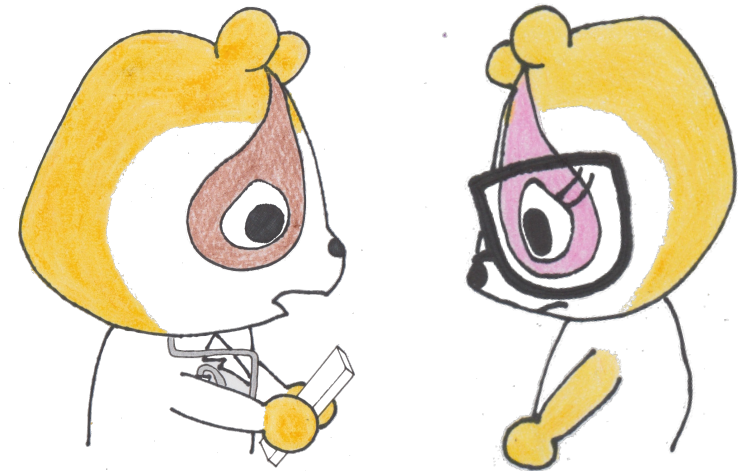
“I think the best cure is to quit the job.”

“No, no. I really can’t do that. I have to stay here.” Mina refused sadly.

“Then for now, I will give you these glasses and this cream for your skin.”

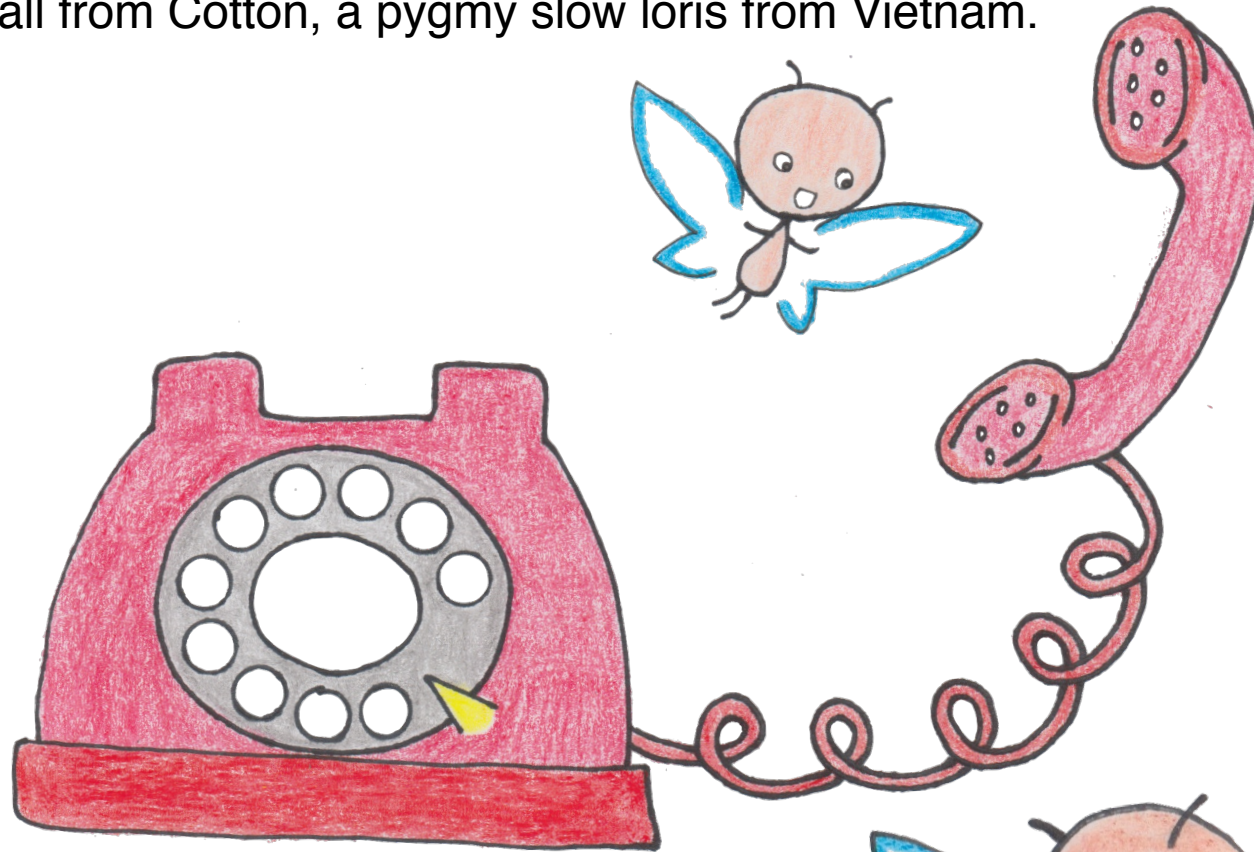


“Thank you!”



“But I’m afraid you have to wear these glasses for the rest of your life if you want to see things clearly, and the rashes on your skin may not be cured completely.”

We took care of two patients on Sunday. First we got a call from Cotton, a pygmy slow loris from Vietnam.

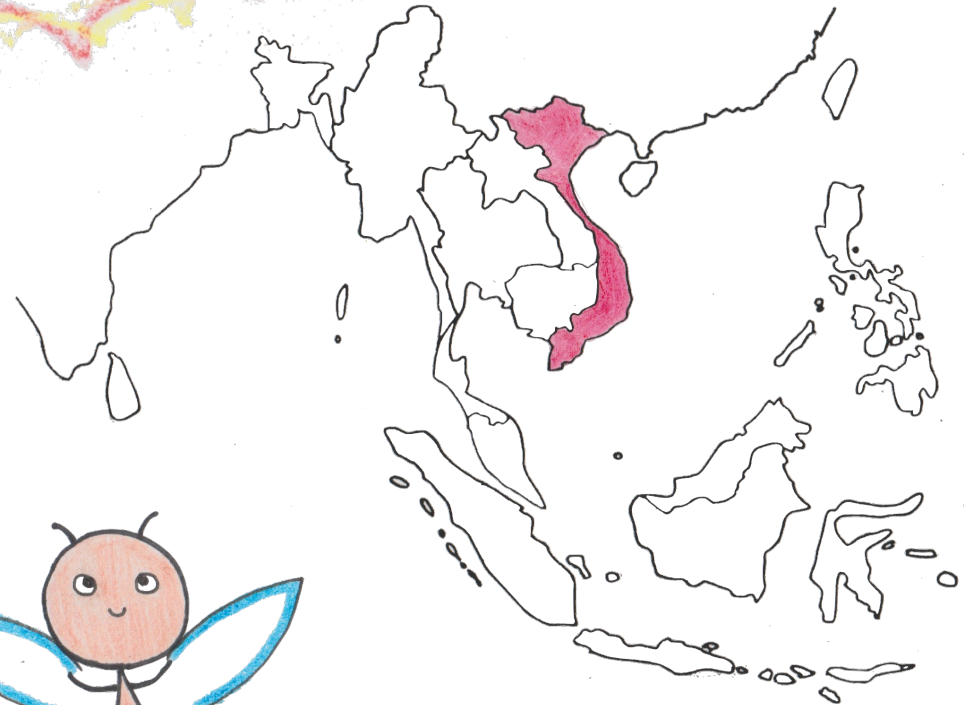
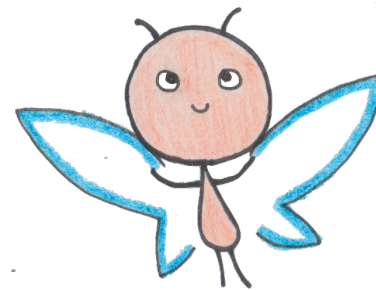


Lily got her magic wand, sprinkled us both with sparkly powder and...

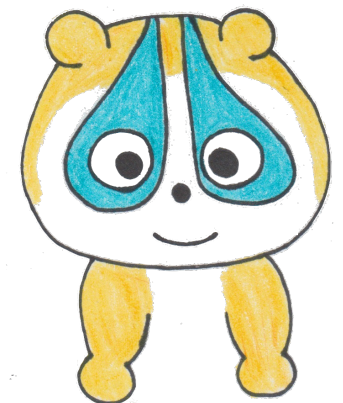




**BOOM!**



In no time, we arrived in a big house in Vietnam and met Cotton!



(c)Kana Kawanishi

## PATIENT'S CHART

Name: Cotton

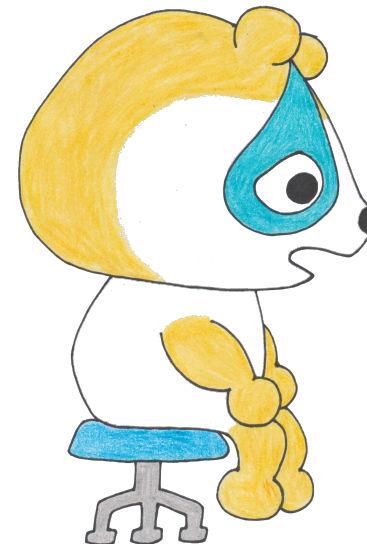
Type: Pygmy  
slow loris

Job: Pet

Problem:

- Stress
- Overweight

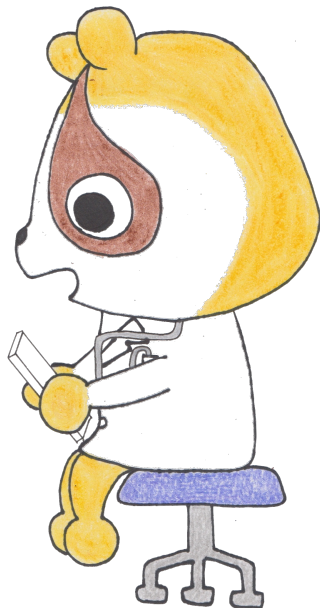
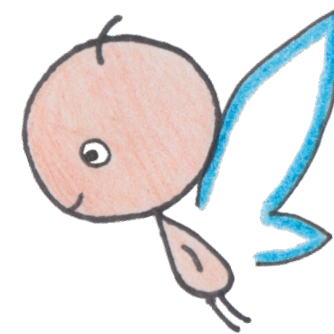
"My name is Cotton, and I am a pet. I can get out of my cage once in awhile and people treat me like a human. My owner especially loves me but... I think I'm getting stressed and chubby. I don't know why."



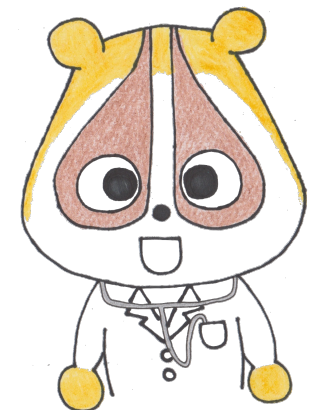
“People. I see.”

Stress and overweight?

It was a little difficult for me to find the reason for this problem, but...

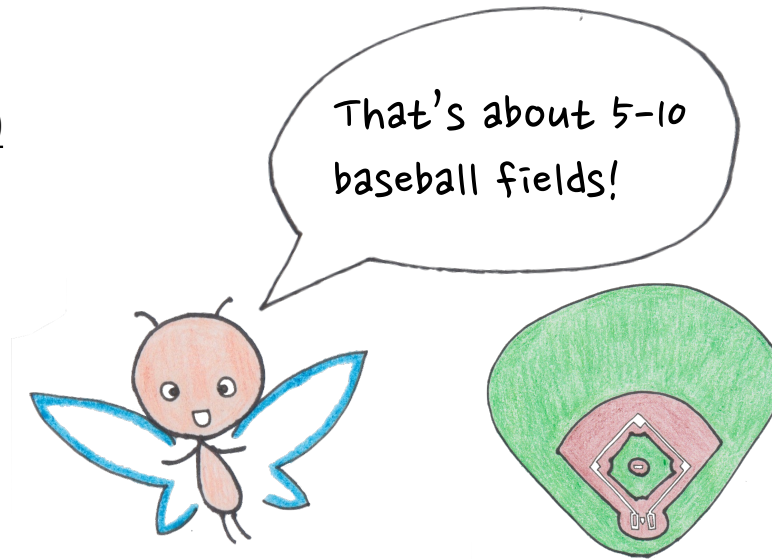


“I got it!”

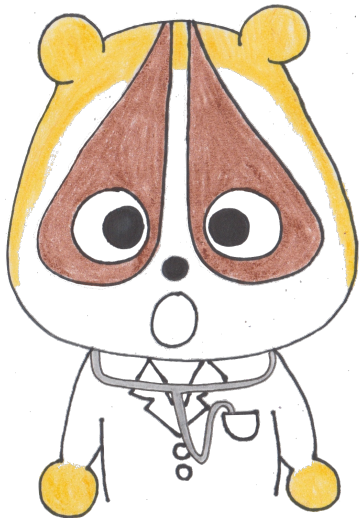




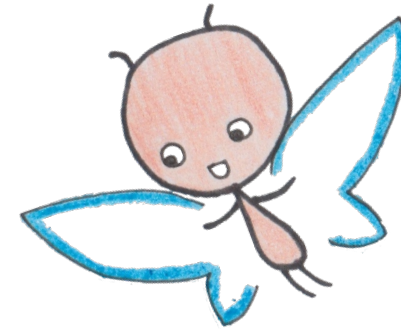
“Stress must be coming from many different reasons. We slow lorises move around 5-10 hectares but you live in such a small cage.



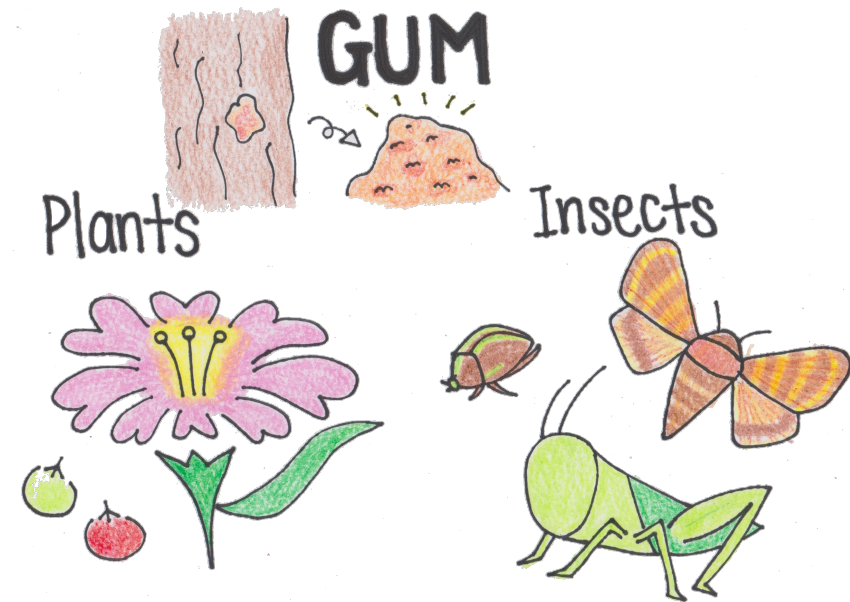
Also, in this place, there's nothing that you can grab onto. We love grabbing onto things like branches and food, but you are surrounded by flat surfaces. That must be stressing you out.



Overweight is most likely caused by eating human food. We love eating healthy, and we normally exercise a lot from moving around.”



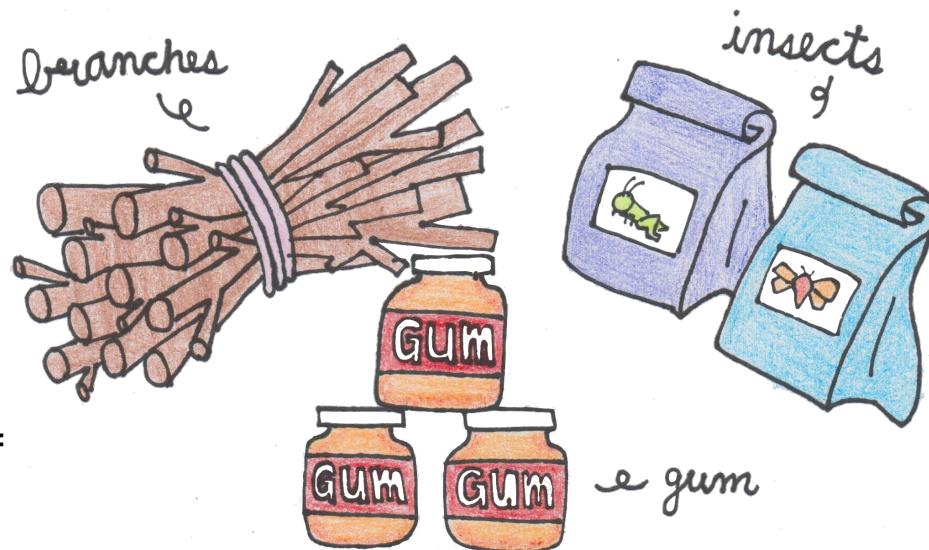
We are omnivores! Meaning that we eat both plants and animals. We eat flowers, fruits, bugs, sometimes even eggs and lizards! But we especially LOVE gum (NOT chewing gums though, but sticky stuff that's found in stems of some trees).



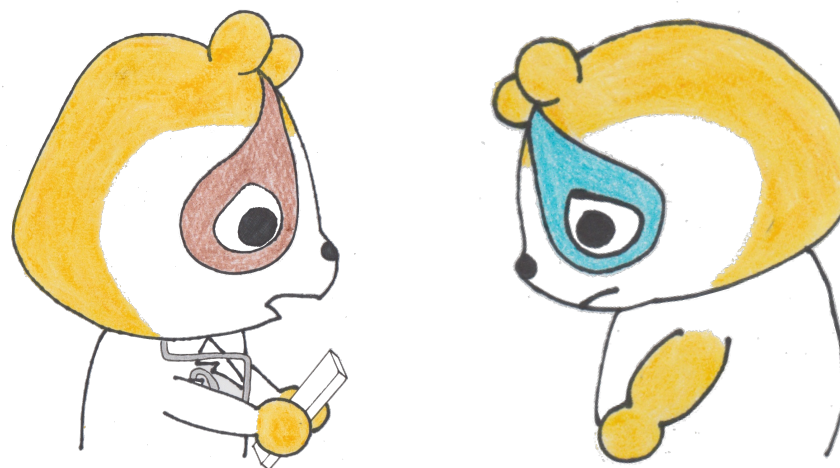
"I think the best cure is to leave the cage."

"No, no. I really can't do that. I can't leave my owner." Cotton refused sadly.

"Then for now, I will give you these branches, packets of insects and jars of gum."

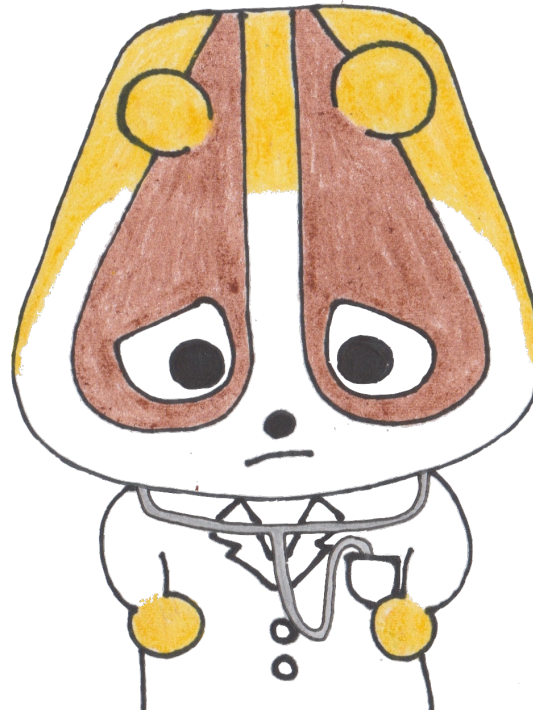


"Thank you!"



"But I'm afraid these are temporary. If the branches all break and the food runs out, we probably have to get you more."

These two patients got me thinking.

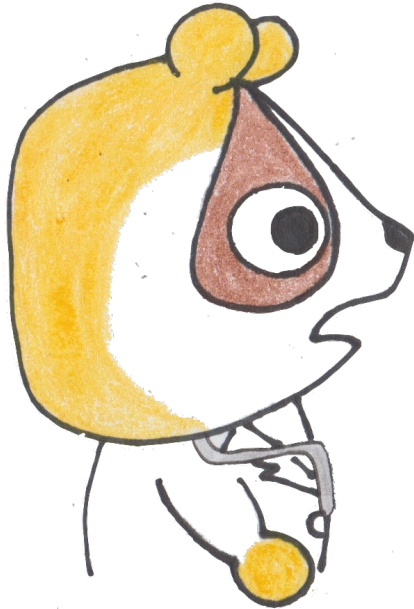


If they could just go back to the forest, they would be healthy again.

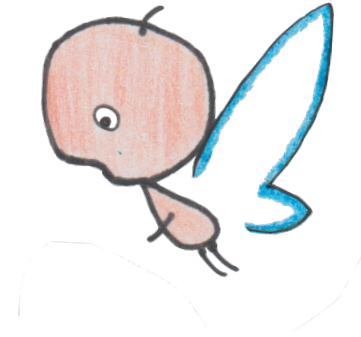


Then we got another call from Tara, a Javan slow loris from Cambodia.

“Aren’t Javan slow lorises from Indonesia?”  
Lily asked.



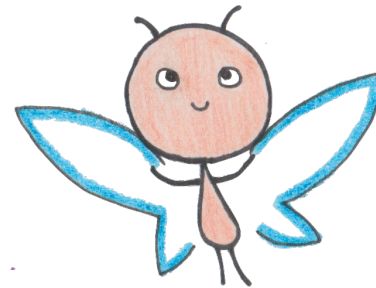
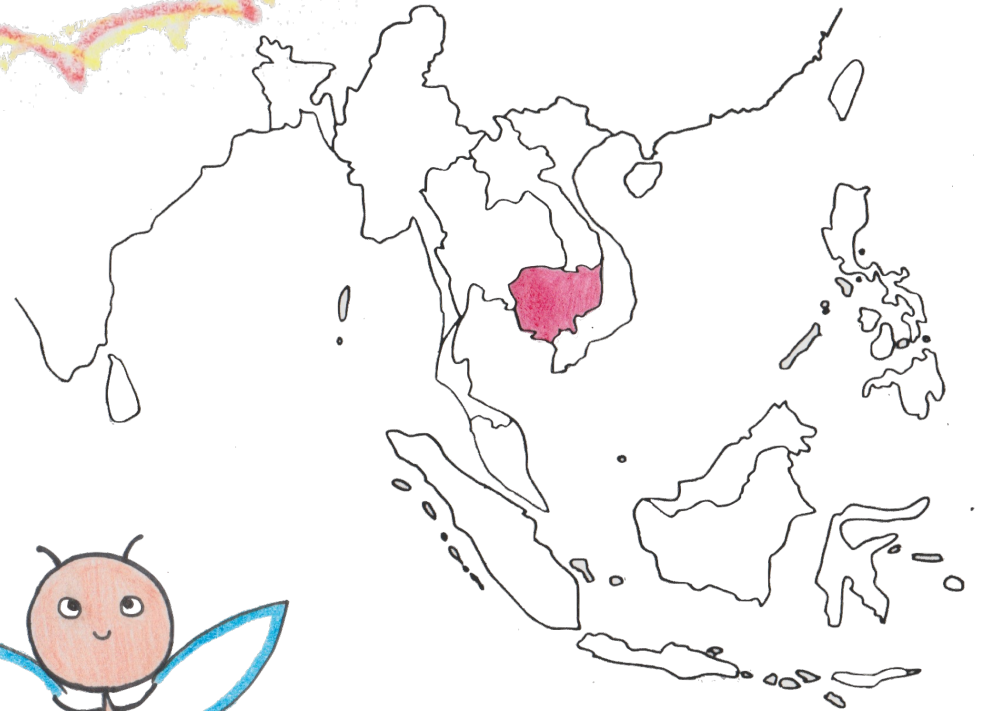
Lily got her magic wand, sprinkled us both  
with sparkly powder and...



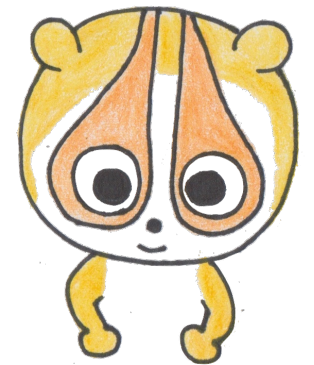
“Hmm... that’s weird. But we  
got to go there and help Tara  
as soon as possible.”



**BOOM!**



In no time, we arrived in the middle of a deep, deep forest in Cambodia and met Tara!



(c)Kana Kawanishi

## PATIENT'S CHART

Name: tara

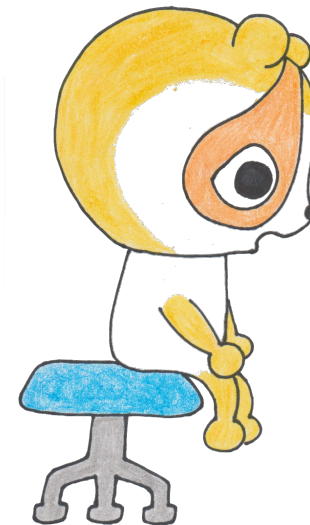
Type: Javan slowloris

Job: slowloris

Problem:

- lonely
- i can't get used to my home

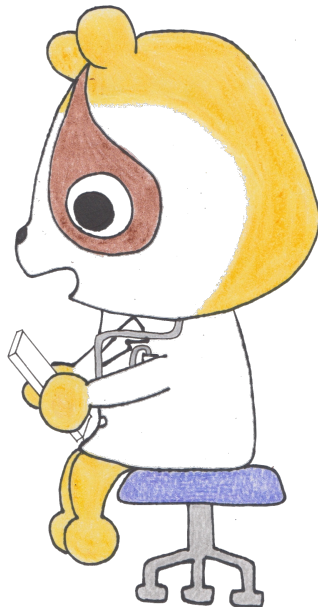
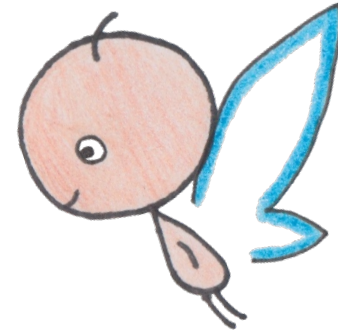
"My name is Tara and I got rescued from the market here. People helped me to get into the middle of the deep, deep forest where I belong. I mean, where I should belong, but I don't feel like I belong here. I can't find any friends."



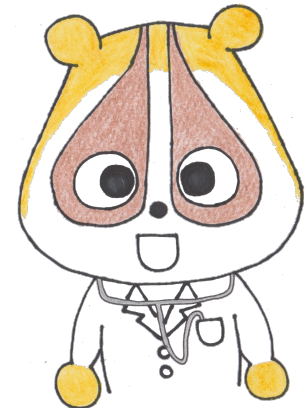
“People. I see.”

Loneliness and difficulty adapting to his new home?

It was a little difficult for me to find the reason for this problem, but...



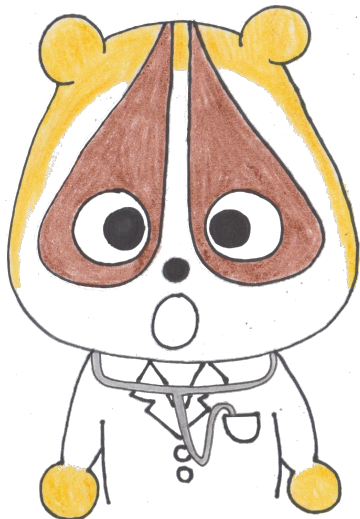
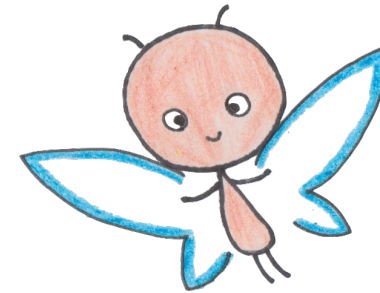
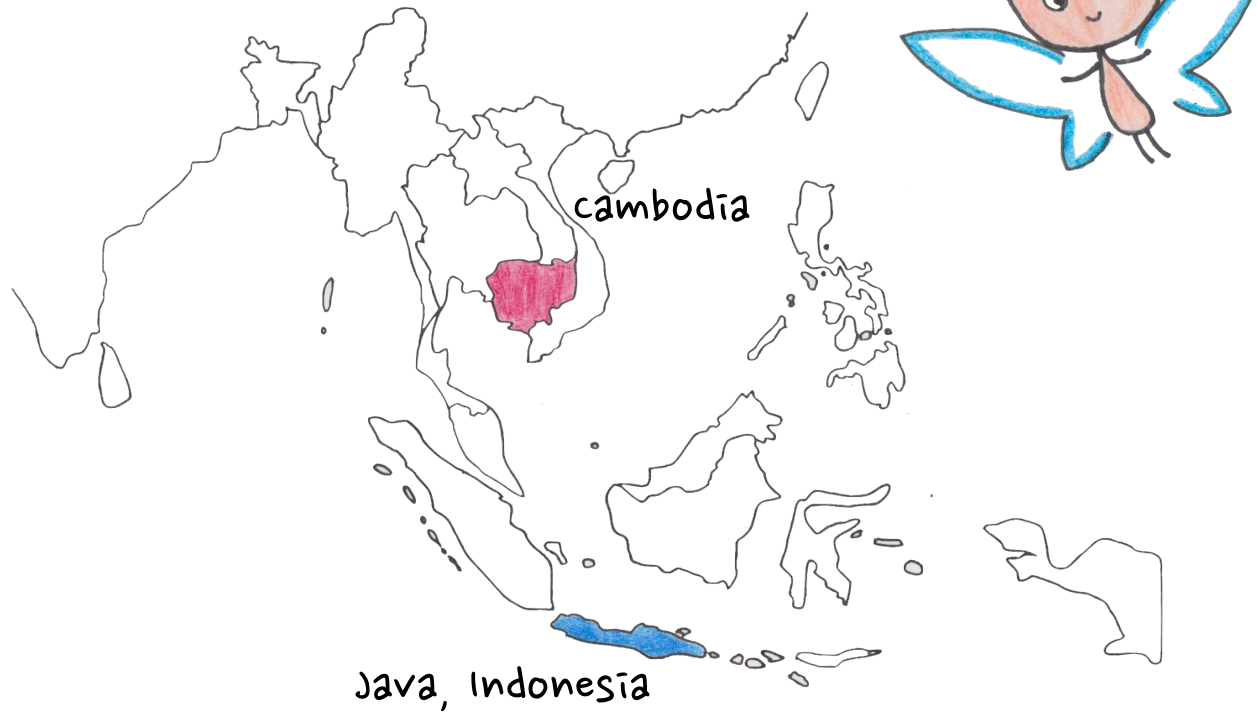
“I got it!”



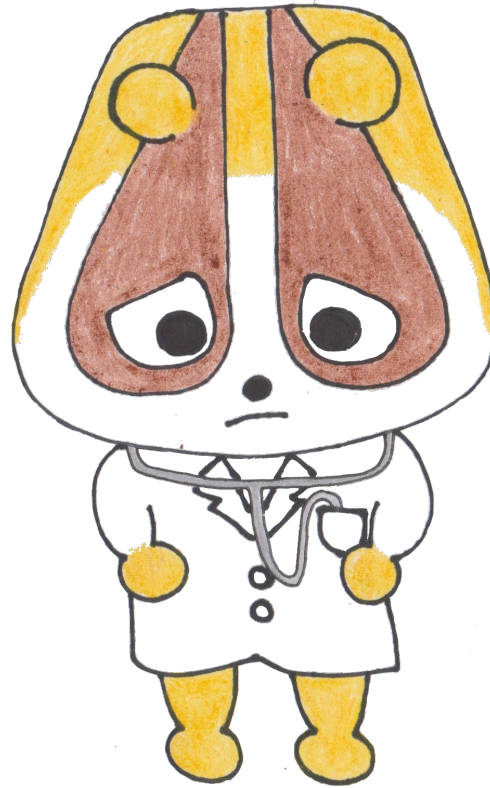


“You don’t belong here! I mean, this isn’t where your home is. You are a Javan slow loris, and Javan slow lorises live in the forest in Java, Indonesia, but this is Cambodia.”

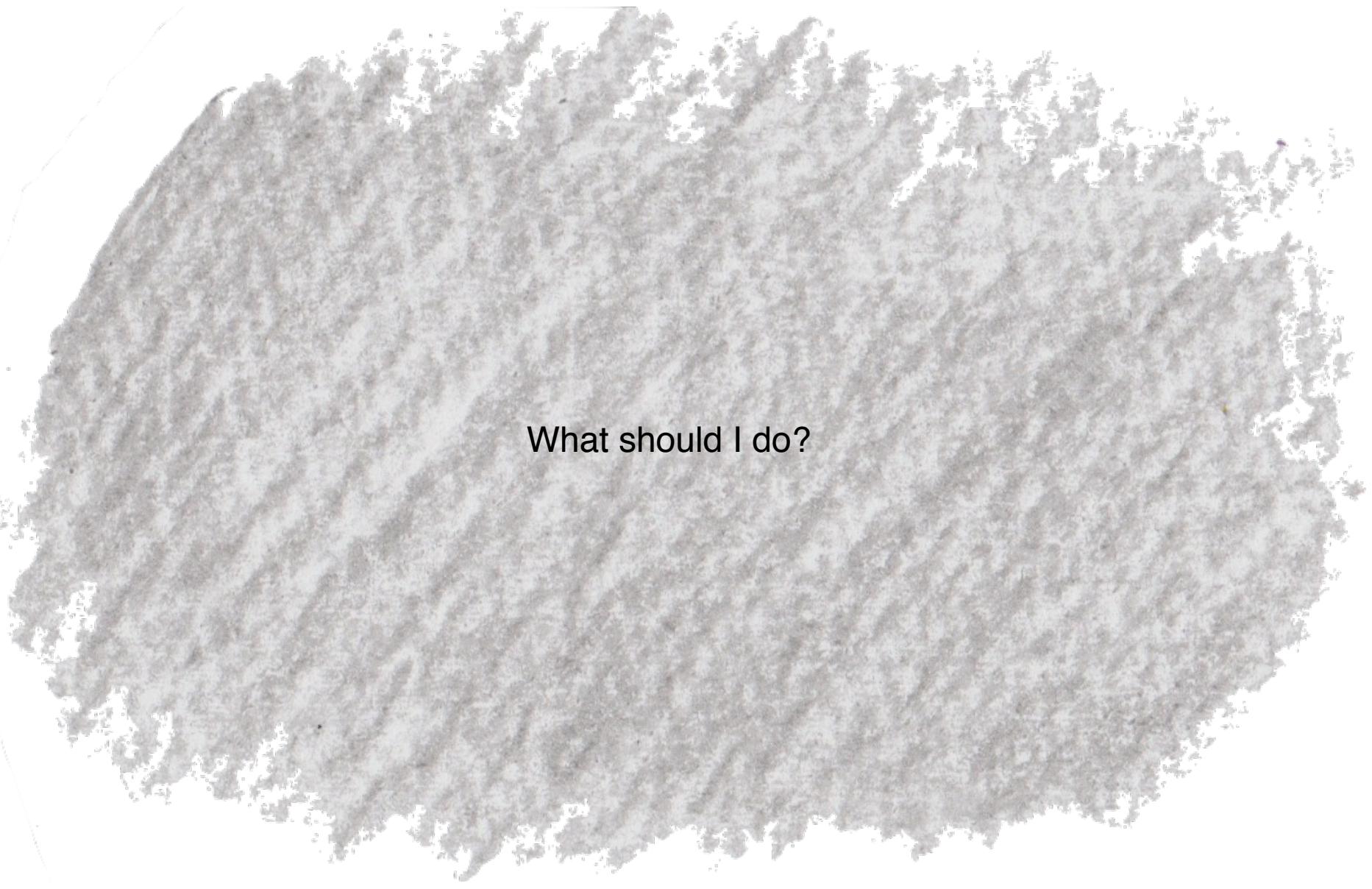
Map of Southeast Asia



And here I am now, thinking what I could do. But I really can't think of anything.




“I am so sorry, but I’m afraid I don’t have any medicine that can cure this.”



What should I do?





Why are people always in  
the middle of this?



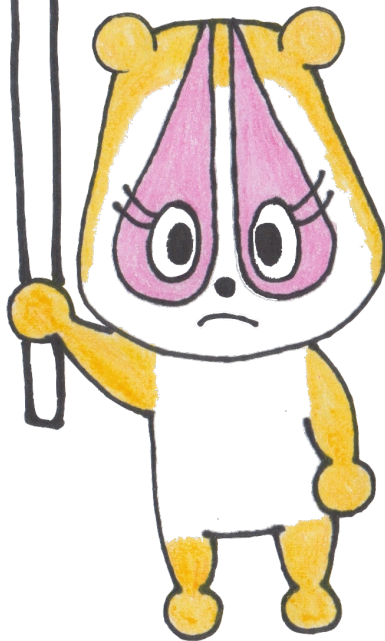
Aha!

**“ I got it!”**



You guys could help me! You guys are good people right? It's not just Mina and Cotton and Tara who are struggling. There are lots of other slow lorises who are also in need of help. Would you help me help these guys?

We are **NOT**  
**MODELS!**



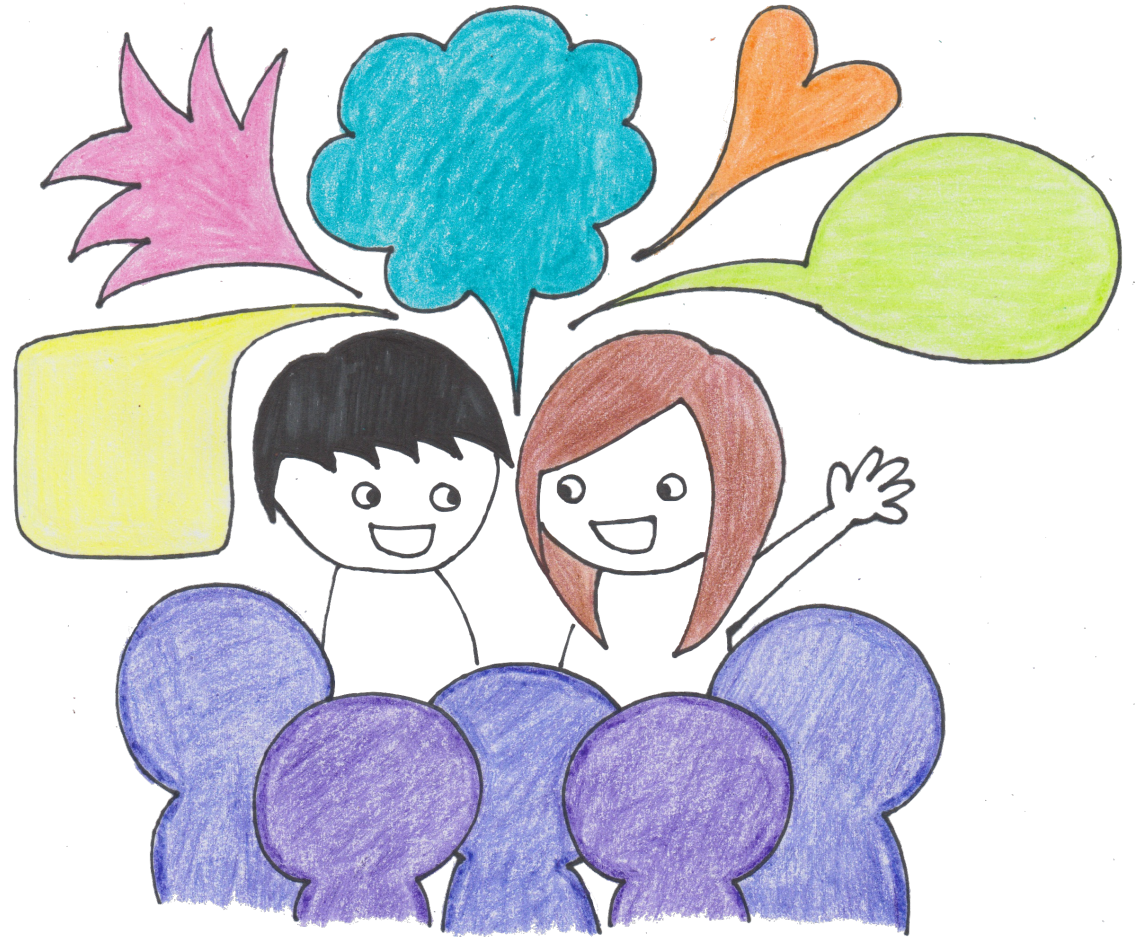
We are **NOT**  
**PETS!**



we have our own  
**HOMES!**



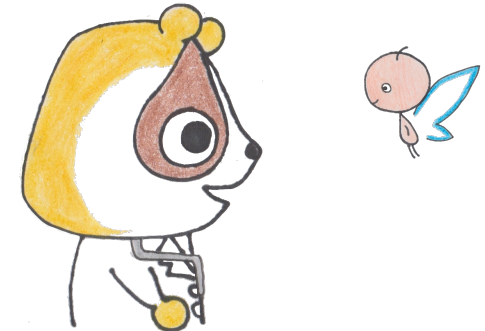
You could help me by  
spreading awareness!



Tell your friends and family.

**NEVER EVER BUY SLOW LORISES. ANYWHERE!**

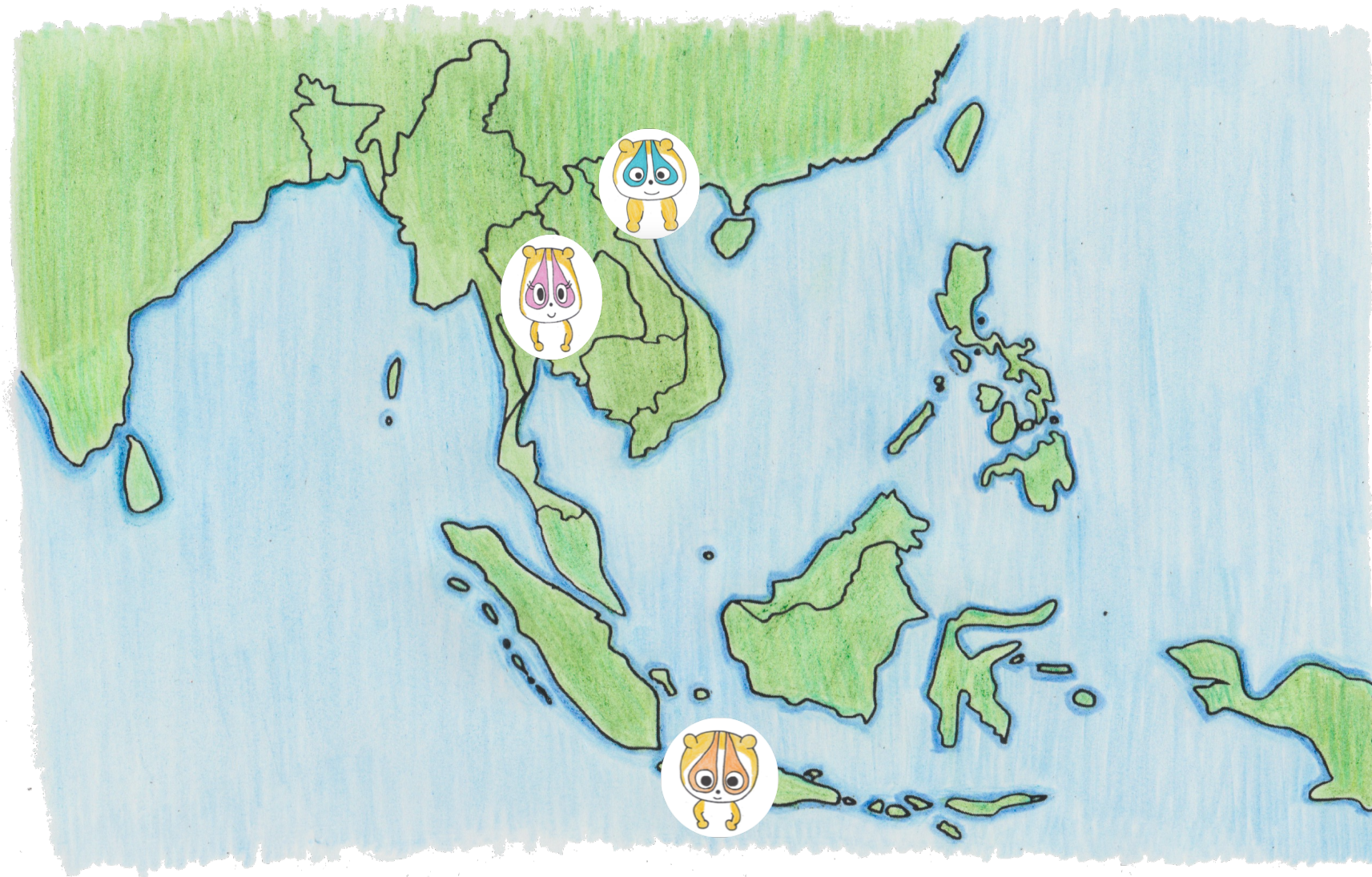
Even if you buy one to save them, it will always be  
replaced with another one.



The best way to help, though, is...



To let us live



where we belong.





# INFORMATION

## About Slow Loris

There are **8** different types of slow lorises:

**Bengal Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus bengalensis*)

Habitat: Bangladesh - Cambodia - China - India  
Laos - Myanmar - Thailand - Vietnam

**Javan Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus javanicus*)

Habitat: Indonesia (Java)

**Greater Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus coucang*)

Habitat: Indonesia (Sumatra) - Malaysia (Malay Peninsula) - Singapore

**Kayan Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus coucang*)

Habitat: Borneo (Sarawak - Sabah - Eastern, Southern Kalimantan)

**Bornean Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus borneaus*)

Habitat: Borneo (Western, Southern, and Central Kalimantan)

**Hill's Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus hilleri*)

Habitat: Indonesia (Sumatra)

**Pygmy Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus pygmaeus*)

Habitat: Cambodia - Laos - Vietnam - China

**Philippine Slow Loris** (*Nycticebus menagensis*)

Habitat: Philippine - Borneo (Eastern Kalimantan - Sabah - Bulatan)

They live high up in the trees of lowlands of **tropical rainforests**, and they sleep inside **hollow trees** during the day. They go on the ground 1-2% of their lives, only when there is no other choice to get to their destination. They live up for **15-25 years**.

They are the only primates that can create **poison**. It is made by mixture of their saliva and secretion produced from their upper arm. They get injured often, especially when they are young due to territorial fights. However, their poison can heal their injuries within 3 months!

## Problems

### Pet Trading

They are under serious danger of **extinction**, and pet trading is big part of the cause.

#### Process of Being Sold

- **Capture**: Slow lorises cannot jump, and since they tend to cling to branches, hunters can easily capture them by cutting down the tree.
- **Transportation**: Smugglers pack many slow lorises in one cage. Because they usually live alone and especially males are highly territorial, that causes a lot of stress, resulting in **30-90% mortality rate**.
- **Markets**: Especially in street markets of Indonesia, many slow lorises are kept in one cage, some even in the same cage with their predator. They will be constantly alarmed, causing a lot of **stress** as well.
- **Teeth Cutting**: Since their bites are deadly, even to humans, their teeth are cut using either nail clippers, wire cutters or pliers. This can cause infection or blood loss, leading them to death. **Teeth are essential** to their living because they use them for eating and healing injuries using poison.

#### Living as a Pet

- Many pet slow lorises are kept in brightly lit places, which is unnatural to them as they are **nocturnal**.
- They easily become **overweight** because of the food that they receive. Natural gum is 60-80% of their diet and flowers/pollen are 20-40% of their diet. They also eat fruits, bugs and small mammals, which are all very difficult to provide as a pet owner.
- Slow lorises really love to **grab** onto things like branches, so being kept in a room surrounded by flat surfaces causes them a lot of stress.

#### Social Media Influence

- Videos of pet slow lorises became viral on Youtube, which lead to misunderstanding that it is okay to have them as pets. They became very popular, especially because of their cute appearance.

## Habitat

### Deforestation

- Each slow loris moves around 5-10 hectares.
- It is crucial for slow lorises to live in rich forests, as they cannot jump and can only move by grabbing onto one branch to another.
- Going down to the ground is extremely dangerous because there are predators. In addition, they cannot move well as there are nothing that slow lorises can grab onto.

### Improperly Released

- Many tourists, locals and even organisations have purchased slow lorises and release them to any rainforests nearby to “help” them. However, as listed on the left, there are multiple types of slow lorises, which all come from different parts of the world. It is highly likely that the forest they were released in is not their original home.
- 90% of low lorises, which were released without proper care will not survive.

## Others

### Cultural / Traditional Use

- **Myanmar:** Because slow lorises have very strong grips, they believe that having a keychain of a slow loris’ arm will protect them.
- **China / India:** They keep slow lorises (dried alive) for luck and are also used as medicine. It is told that it cures 100 illnesses and gives them strength.
- **Cambodia:** Pregnant women drink ice wine, in which 3 slow lorises are soaked, for luck.

### Photo prop / souvenir

- Most frequently used in Thailand.
- When famous **celebrities** post a picture with a slow loris on their social media, it becomes trendy, and many people follow suit.

## What has Already Been Done

### Little Fireface Project

This project is headed by Professor Anna Nekaris, and their aim is to protect slow lorises from extinction through research, education and conservation. Visit their site to learn more about slow loris and about their project.

[www.nocturama.org](http://www.nocturama.org)

### CITES

**CITES** (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) is an international agreement to regulate trade for any plant or animal species, so they will not be threatened or harmed. [Since September 13, 2007, slow lorises are under Appendix II of CITES.](#)

*Appendix II shall include:*

- (a) all species which although not necessarily now threatened with extinction may become so unless trade in specimens of such species is subject to strict regulation in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival; and*
- (b) other species which must be subject to regulation in order that trade in specimens of certain species referred to in sub-paragraph (a) of this paragraph may be brought under effective control.*

Meaning that the animal or plant is not yet threatened but will be if trading continues.

*The Parties shall not allow trade in specimens of species included in Appendices I, II and III except in accordance with the provisions of the present Convention.*



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Mar. 2015. Web. 26 June 2016.



**kana kawanishi** is a student of Yokohama

International School. She chose to research on illegal trafficking of slow lorises as a topic for her Personal Project. Japan is known to be the world's biggest market for slow lorises and social media has a huge influence on this problem. This is why she made a picture book for children to give them prior knowledge about illegal animal trading before getting influenced by social media.

