

## Gaia's Biography

by Elizabeth Vinson Lonsdorf:

Gaia was born in 1993 and is Gremlin's oldest daughter. She is a sweet and funny chimp who loves nothing more than to play with her little twin sisters. She is also an ace at fishing for termites and will go on fishing long after her mother has stopped to take a rest. My favorite memory of Gaia was one day during a heavy rain. When a rainstorm first begins, chimps will sometimes head under a nearby tree to take advantage of the protection of the leaves, and will stay dry for quite a few minutes. However, as the forest begins to get soaked, the rain pours through the leaves and everything gets wet. On one such day, Gaia was hunkered down under a tree and was starting to get very wet. She apparently spied a better spot because she jumped and waddled (bipedally, with her arms folded across her chest) across the trail towards another tree. However, on the way, she slipped on a wet palm frond and fell flat on her back! She quickly shot a glance at me, as I was laughing hysterically, and then jumped up and ran off (on all fours) to her new spot.