

monkeys, and residents get trash cans with locks.

The city also hires guards to patrol certain areas. The guards scare off aggressive baboons using noisemakers and paintball guns.

Some animal rights groups have complained. They say the city is treating the baboons cruelly. But the city says it is helping the baboons. Animals that get food from humans often forget how to survive in the wild.

That doesn't seem to worry the baboons. They avoid the paintball guns by waiting just



Cape Town is the second biggest city in the country of South Africa. Grocery shoppers there are often the target of unusual thieves—baboons!

outside the city. Then they dash in for five minutes, grab some food, and leave.

Scientists say baboons in the wild spend more than half their time looking for food.

The Cape Town baboons find what they need pretty quickly. That gives them plenty of free time to spend resting, grooming, fighting—and planning their next raid. •

## Action Activity

# Why are there baboons in Cape Town?

Write a paragraph to answer this question.

Get started by using facts from the article to finish the sentences below.

Remember to indent the first sentence!

Topic Sentence

Baboons go into the city of Cape Town to

The main idea of your paragraph: Why do baboons enter the city?

Detail 1

Usually baboons live

Where do baboons usually make their homes?

Detail 2

Now some baboons live close to Cape Town because

What caused baboons to move closer to the city?

Detail 3

The baboons in Cape Town cause problems by

What do baboons do that is a problem for people?

Conclusion

To control the baboons,

How are Cape Town officials trying to solve the problem?

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