**Learning Objective**

We are learning how to write sentences that use powerful verbs to create precise images.

**Challenge 1**

**Highlight the powerful verbs in the paragraph below.**

The young sifaka observed her mother spring from tree trunk to tree trunk. Feeling confident, the youngster tried to copy her mother’s actions. Unfortunately, she mistimed her jump and plummeted to the forest floor. Luckily, dense vegetation broke her fall and she landed safely. However, the forest floor was no place for a young sifaka as danger lurked in every corner. Somewhere in the darkness, a fossa stirred. Seemingly aware of the fossa’s presence, the youngster scrambled up the trunk of the nearest tree and rejoined her mother high up in the canopy. For now at least, the lucky sifaka was safe. After examining her daughter for injuries, the protective mother continued to feast on some fresh, juicy leaves.

**Challenge 2**

**Complete each sentence by putting a powerful verb in the space provided. You might find a thesaurus useful for this activity.**

1. On the forest floor, the sifaka \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in a sideways motion.
2. The sifakas needed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for another pocket of vegetation.
3. The calls of the sifakas \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ through the forest.
4. Flashes of snow-white fur \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ amongst the greenery.
5. As the sun appeared from behind the clouds, the sifakas started to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for food.
6. All sifakas are \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by the destruction of their forest habitats.
7. The deadly fossa \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the unfortunate sifaka.

**Challenge 3   
Imagine you are a member of the camera crew that has been tasked with filming sifaka lemurs for the BBC’s Earth’s Tropical Islands series. As you walk through the lush undergrowth, the forest comes alive with sound. You think you see some flashes of white high above, and there they are – an entire family of Decken’s sifakas!**

**Using some of the words in the Word Wall, write a description of what you see. It should include lots of powerful verbs to describe the way the sifakas moved through the forest and across the limestone shards. Perhaps their journey is made more perilous by the presence of a fossa?**

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**Word Wall**

towering

deadly

bounded

scaled

limestone

lemur

juicy

tentatively

primate

clambered

fossa

shards

leapt

devoured

Decken’s sifaka