CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Bush Dog

Speothos venaticus

The bush dog looks like a mistake: a squat, short-legged, bear-faced animal with tiny ears and a stubby tail, which barely reads as a canid at all. It is nevertheless one of the most social dogs in t…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Canidae
Habitat: Tropical and subtropical forests, wetlands, and grasslands near water sources
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Near Threatened
Lifespan: 6-10 years
Weight: 5-8 kg
Scientific name: Speothos venaticus

Did you know?

- Despite being widespread across South America, Bush Dogs are so elusive that they were first described from fossil remains before living individuals …
- Male bush dogs urinate in a handstand, walking their hind legs up a tree trunk to place a scent mark as high as possible — an unusual posture for a c…

What I learned

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