CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Common Degu

Octodon degus

The Common Degu is a small, social rodent native to central Chile, known for its diurnal (daytime) activity and complex social structure. Sporting a brownish agouti coat, long tail with a tufted end,…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Octodontidae
Habitat: Semi-arid scrublands and grasslands
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 5-8 years in captivity, 1-4 years in the wild
Weight: 170-300 grams
Scientific name: Octodon degus

Did you know?

- Degus are one of the few non-primate animals known to demonstrate a sense of object permanence and can even use tools in experimental settings.
- Common degus have continuously growing teeth that are yellow-orange due to pigments that help protect against decay. Unlike many rodents, they are pr…

What I learned

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