

# Animal Fact Sheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_



## Common Hippopotamus

*Hippopotamus amphibius*

The common hippopotamus is a large, mostly herbivorous mammal native to sub-Saharan Africa. It is characterized by its massive barrel-shaped body, nearly hairless thick skin, short legs, and an enorm...

### Quick facts

**Classification:** Mammal

**Family:** Hippopotamidae

**Habitat:** Rivers, lakes, and swamps in sub-Saharan Africa

**Diet:** Herbivore

**Conservation status:** Vulnerable

**Lifespan:** 40-50 years

**Weight:** 1,400–4,500 kg

**Scientific name:** *Hippopotamus amphibius*

### Did you know?

- A hippopotamus can open its mouth up to 150 degrees, revealing tusks that can grow over 50 cm (20 inches) long.
  - Hippos secrete a natural reddish oily fluid sometimes called 'blood sweat' that acts as a sunscreen and antibiotic.
- Despite their aquatic lifestyle, ...

### What I learned

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