CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Giant Anteater

Myrmecophaga tridactyla

The giant anteater has no teeth at all. In their place it deploys a tongue up to about 60 cm long, coated in sticky saliva and anchored to the sternum rather than the skull, which it flicks in and ou…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Myrmecophagidae
Habitat: Grasslands, savanna, and forests of Central and South America
Diet: Insectivore
Conservation status: Vulnerable
Lifespan: 14–16 years in the wild; up to 26 years in captivity
Weight: 33–50 kg (73–110 lbs)
Scientific name: Myrmecophaga tridactyla

Did you know?

- The giant anteater's sense of smell is 40 times more sensitive than that of humans, helping it locate insect nests even underground.
- The giant anteater has no teeth, and a 60 cm tongue anchored to its sternum rather than its skull. It flicks that tongue about 150 times a minute and…

What I learned

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