

# Animal Fact Sheet

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



## Giant Anteater

*Myrmecophaga tridactyla*

The giant anteater is a large, terrestrial mammal native to Central and South America, recognized for its elongated snout and distinctive bushy tail. It has a specialized tongue that can extend up to...

### 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.
- Giant anteaters have no teeth, relying on their sticky tongue to eat up to 30,000 insects daily. Their powerful forelimbs and claws can be used defen...

### What I learned

-----

-----