

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Pygmy Hippo

Choeropsis liberiensis

The pygmy hippo is a small, elusive relative of the common hippopotamus, native to the forests and swamps of West Africa. It is semi-aquatic, spending much of its time in water to keep its sensitive ...

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal

Family: Hippopotamidae

Habitat: Swampy forests and wetlands

Diet: Herbivore

Conservation status: Endangered

Lifespan: 30–35 years (in captivity), 20–25 years (in the wild)

Weight: 180–275 kg

Scientific name: *Choeropsis liberiensis*

Did you know?

- The pygmy hippo was not scientifically described until the 19th century due to its secretive, nocturnal habits and dense forest habitat.
- Pygmy hippos secrete a pinkish 'sweat' that acts as sunscreen and antibacterial protection. Unlike common hippos, pygmy hippos walk with their heads ...

What I learned
