CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Pygmy Hippo

Choeropsis liberiensis

Choeropsis liberiensis is not a small version of the common hippo — it is a different animal with a different life. It is a solitary, secretive, nocturnal forest dweller of Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gui…

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.
- The pygmy hippo's closest living relatives, like the common hippo's, are whales and dolphins — a relationship confirmed by molecular work and by foss…

What I learned

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