CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Pygmy Hippopotamus

Choeropsis liberiensis

The pygmy hippo shares a name with the common hippopotamus and very little else about how it lives. It is a forest animal of West Africa — solitary rather than herd-forming, nocturnal, and far less b…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Hippopotamidae
Habitat: Lowland forests and swamps
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Endangered
Lifespan: 30-35 years in captivity, 20-30 years in the wild
Weight: 180–275 kg (400–600 lbs)
Scientific name: Choeropsis liberiensis

Did you know?

- The pygmy hippopotamus was not scientifically described until the 19th century, and wild individuals are so elusive that most information comes from …
- Despite the name it lives nothing like a common hippo — it is solitary, nocturnal, and forages alone in dense forest rather than living in water. Its…

What I learned

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