CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Southern Tamandua

Tamandua tetradactyla

The southern tamandua (Tamandua tetradactyla) is the lesser anteater of South America, a strictly toothless animal that catches ants and termites with a 40-centimetre tongue coated in sticky saliva f…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Myrmecophagidae
Habitat: Forests and savannas of South America
Diet: Insectivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 9-12 years
Weight: 4-8.4 kg
Scientific name: Tamandua tetradactyla

Did you know?

- Unlike many mammals, the Southern Tamandua has no teeth—it uses its tongue and strong stomach muscles to process its insect prey.
- A tamandua may visit dozens of ant and termite nests in a night but spends only about a minute at each, which prevents it from wiping out its own foo…

What I learned

© Creature Atlas · www.creatureatlas.com · Free for classroom & personal use