CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Vicuña

Vicugna vicugna

The vicuna (Vicugna vicugna) is the wild ancestor of the alpaca and the smallest of the four South American camelids, standing under a metre at the shoulder and weighing around 45 kilograms. It grows…

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal
Family: Camelidae
Habitat: High-altitude grasslands and Andean plateaus
Diet: Herbivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 15-20 years
Weight: 35-65 kg
Scientific name: Vicugna vicugna

Did you know?

- The vicuña is the wild ancestor of the domesticated alpaca, and both were revered and protected by the ancient Inca civilization.
- Vicuna wool is about 12 microns thick, finer than cashmere, and a single animal produces only a couple of hundred grams every other year. It is the o…

What I learned

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