

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



West Indian Manatee

Trichechus manatus

The West Indian Manatee is a large, gentle aquatic mammal known for its slow movements and friendly disposition. Found in shallow coastal areas, rivers, and estuaries throughout the Caribbean, Gulf o...

Quick facts

Classification: Mammal

Family: Trichechidae

Habitat: Shallow coastal waters, rivers, estuaries

Diet: Herbivore

Conservation status: Vulnerable

Lifespan: 40–60 years

Weight: 400–590 kg (880–1,300 lbs)

Scientific name: *Trichechus manatus*

Did you know?

- The bones in a manatee's flipper contain finger-like structures, similar to a human hand, which help them manipulate food and navigate their environm...
- West Indian Manatees are sometimes called 'sea cows' due to their grazing habits and slow pace. They need to surface for air every few minutes but ca...

What I learned

