



Science in the Language Class

South American Endangered Species

Los animals de Sudamérica en peligro de extinción

ANSWERS & FACT FILES

Endangered Species

English	Spanish
 <p data-bbox="386 406 632 447">giant armadillo</p>	<p data-bbox="853 406 1179 447">el armadillo gigante</p>
 <p data-bbox="386 648 619 689">giant anteater</p>	<p data-bbox="853 648 1286 689">el oso hormiguero gigante</p>
 <p data-bbox="386 886 743 928">Linne's two toed sloth</p>	<p data-bbox="853 886 1272 969">el perezoso de dos dedos de Linneaus</p>
 <p data-bbox="386 1127 494 1168">jaguar</p>	<p data-bbox="853 1127 996 1168">el jaguar</p>

Acknowledgements:

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Threats & Conservation

English	Spanish
threat	la amenaza
habitat loss	la pérdida de hábitat
burning of plantations	la quema de plantaciones
climate change	el cambio climático
over hunting	el exceso de caza

Language Challenge - adjectives

English	Spanish
giant	gigante
big	grande
small	pequeño
long	largo
short (length or duration)	corto
fat	grueso
thin	delgado
tall	alto
short (height)	bajo

Language Challenge – sloth-like & opposites

English	Spanish
lazy	perezoso
slow	lento
fast	rápido
inactive	inactivo
busy	ocupado
boring	aburrido
interesting	interesante

Language Challenge – invertebrates

English	Spanish
ant	la hormiga
bee	la abeja
butterfly	la mariposa
snail	el caracol
spider	la araña
scorpion	el escorpión
fly	la mosca
centipede	el ciempiés

Language Challenge – cognates*

English	Spanish
jaguar	el jaguar
animal	el animal
colour	el color
camera	la cámara
chocolate	el chocolate
melon	el melón
decision	la decisión
doctor	el doctor
habitat	el hábitat

*Cognates: words which look the same and mean the same.

Fact Challenge – armadillo species

giant armadillo

dwarf armadillo

greater fairy armadillo

lesser or pink armadillo

Andean hairy armadillo

small hairy armadillo

larger hairy armadillo

southern lesser long nosed armadillo

greater long nosed armadillo

nine banded armadillo

hairy long nosed armadillo

Brazilian lesser long nosed armadillo

northern long nosed armadillo

Yunga's lesser long nosed armadillo

northern naked tail armadillo

Chacoan naked tail armadillo

greater naked tail armadillo

southern naked tail armadillo

southern three banded armadillo

Brazilian three banded armadillo

yellow banded armadillo

Fact Challenge – animals that sleep a lot

Animal	Approximate hours sleep in a day
koala	20-22 hours
sloth	18-20 hours (although half of this is rest time rather than true sleep)
armadillo	19 hours (spent in burrow but may not be sleeping all this time)
little brown bat	19 hours (although may be in torpor for this length of time)
lemur	16 hours
lion	14-16 hours
tiger	14-16 hours
squirrel	13-14 hours

Fact Challenge – animals that mainly eat ants

Animal
anteaters
armadillos
bats
birds
spiders
other insects
other ants

Fact Challenge – big cats

English	Spanish
jaguar	el jaguar
leopard	el leopardo
cheetah	el guepardo
lion	el león
tiger	el tigre
cougar	el puma

Giant armadillo *Priodontes maximus*

El armadillo gigante

Distribution East of the Andes, from Columbia and Venezuela, south to Paraguay and northern Argentina. Although a wide distribution, it is rare over its entire range.

Habitat Mainly wetlands, forests near to water sources, grasslands and scrubland.

Diet Mostly ants and termites but other invertebrates can be eaten.

Breeding

gestation ~150 days
litter size 1
lifespan 15-20 years

Size

length 85-100cm
tail length 50-55cm
weight 30-50kg

IUCN Red List Status

Vulnerable

Main threat

Habitat loss
Over hunting



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Additional Information

The giant armadillo's front feet have four claws. The third claw is really long. It can grow to 20cm. With this large claw, giant armadillos can dig burrows to live in and break into termite mounds for food.

Other species of armadillo can be seen at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo.

Giant anteater *Myrmecophaga tridactyla*

El oso hormiguero gigante

Distribution Southern tip of Mexico to Uruguay and north western Argentina.

Habitat Grasslands, woodlands and rainforests.

Diet Ants and termites.

Breeding

gestation 183-190 days

litter size 1

lifespan 15-20 years

Size

length 185-200cm

tail length 75-90cm

weight 50-55kg



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IUCN Red List Status

Vulnerable

Main threat

Habitat loss – especially burning of plantations

Over hunting

Illegal pet trade

Additional Information

Giant anteaters have no teeth. Their diet consists mainly of ants and termites. The anteater uses its large claws to rip open a termite mound or ant hill and then sucks the insects in with the help of their long sticky tongues.

The giant anteater can be seen at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo.

Linne's two toed sloth *Choloepus didactylus*

El perezoso de dos dedos de Linnaeus

Distribution Venezuela, the Guyanas, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil

Habitat Rainforest

Diet Mainly leaves, some twigs and fruit.

Breeding

gestation ~180 days
litter size 1
lifespan 20-30 years

Size

length 60-86cm
tail length ~1.5cm
weight 4-8kg



IUCN Red List Status

Least concern

Main threat

Habitat loss
Effects of climate change

Additional Information

The sloth lives up in the trees most of the time and they only really need to come down to the ground to go to the toilet! They only do this about once a week because it takes the sloth a long time to digest their food.

The Linne's two toed sloth can be seen at RZSS Edinburgh Zoo.

Jaguar *Panthera onca*

El jaguar

Distribution From Mexico in Central America to north Argentina in South America. Although a wide distribution, it is rare over its entire range.

Habitat Rainforests, scrubland & grassland but always near water.

Diet Wide range of prey including large mammals, reptiles & fish

Breeding

gestation 101-105 days

litter size 1-4

lifespan 15-30 years

Size

length 130-150cm

tail length 60cm

weight male 54-158kg
female 36-85kg



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IUCN Red List Status

Near threatened

Main threat

Over hunting
Habitat loss

Additional Information

Jaguars are the largest of the South American big cats and the third largest cats in the world.

Differences between the jaguar and the leopard:

1. The jaguar has a stockier build than a leopard.
2. The jaguar has a broader head and more powerful jaws.
3. The jaguar's tail is usually shorter.
4. Although the patterns look similar, the jaguar's rosettes have spots inside them.
5. The jaguar is found in South America while the leopard is found in Africa and Asia.