

Ella B.

General Introduction

- a. Where it lives
 - Lives in dense rain forest in Congo
- b. What layer it lives in
 - Understory
- c. Interesting Fact
 - It is cousins to the giraffe, not a zebra as some may think based on its looks.
 - Scientists didn't know about the Okapi until the 1900's.

Physical Appearance

A Colors and Fur/Skin

- Brown fur
- Stripes on legs
- Hooves
- Horns on head if male, bump if female
- Long tongue
- Oily fur

B Body Size

- 5 feet (1.5m)

C Body weight

- Male 440-660 lbs
- Female 495-770 lbs

Life Cycle

- a. Lives Until
 - 20 to 30 years
- b. Daily life
 - Roam set paths
 - Search for food
 - Spend time with calf
 - Feed with young

c. Diet

- Shoots, leaves, buds and twigs (herbivores)
- Clay to get minerals that it needs
- Eat between 45 and 60 lbs.
- 4 chambered stomach helps them digest tough food matter

d. Interactions

- Mostly live alone and with their young
- Only come together to mate and eat together

e. Babies

- Stand up 30 min. after birth
- Follow their mother's stripes
- Moms pregnant for 14 months
- Gives birth to one baby at a time (sometimes have twins)
- Stay with their young for 14 to 16 months
- 2.6 feet long and 35 lbs.

Adaptations

a. Physical Adaptations

- Good hearing and large, upright ears to hear predators
- Males have horns to protect them
- Oily fur to keep them from getting wet (rain pours off fur)
- Stripes for good camouflage
- Long tongues to reach leaves on the higher branches

b. Behavioral Adaptations

- Being cautious of humans and other animals by staying away from them
- To protect young from predators, young don't poop until they are 2 months old and stronger
- To protect territory, secrete a tar-like substance from a scent gland behind each foot when they walk
- Males spray urine to mark the

Conclusion

a. Sustainability

- Near threatened
- Believed to be about 22,000 in the wild

b. The future for your animal

- Near threatened because of habitat loss
- There are 10,000-35,000 individual okapis
- Protected by the law in the Congo