

# The Three-Toed Sloth

This weird but well-known mammal is found hanging from the branches of the trees in the damp rainforests of South and Central America.

## BEHAVIOUR

Sloths spend most of their time high-up in trees. They sleep up to 20 hours a day and when they are awake, they are often motionless. When they do move, sloths are extremely slow, they are the slowest animals on the planet.



*Did you know?*

Nearly 900 other species live on the back of a sloth including mosquitos, sandflies, lice, ticks, mites and moths.

## APPEARANCE

Sloths are 23 inches long and weigh 8.75 pounds. They have long limbs and long, curved claws on each foot. Because sloths are so slow, algae grows on their long, shaggy, grey fur. They have black eye patches.

*Did you know?*

Sloths are excellent swimmers because they use their long arms to



## DIET

Sloths are very fussy eaters. Some only eat from one or two trees but their leaves are tough and toxic. They get most of their water from juicy plants and leaves. At night, sloths

