

Giraffes - Facts File and Worksheet

 *Subject: Animals*



Learn About Giraffes

Get ready to learn about the tallest animals in the world! Giraffes are incredible creatures with super long necks, beautiful spotted coats, and amazing abilities that will blow your mind. Let's discover what makes these gentle giants so special!

What's Inside This Fact File?

Amazing Quick
Facts

Fun Activities &
Puzzles

Draw & Label
Challenge

Answer Key for
Teachers

Quick Facts

- 1** Giraffes belong to the animal family called Giraffidae, and their scientific name means "camel-leopard" because early scientists thought they looked like a mix of both animals!
- 2** A giraffe's neck alone can be 8 feet long - that's taller than most basketball hoops, and their legs are 6 feet tall (taller than most grown-ups)!
- 3** Their tongues can be 21 inches long (longer than most kids' arms) and are dark blue or purple to protect them from sunburn!
- 4** Giraffes live in African savannas with scattered acacia trees and open grasslands in countries like Kenya, Tanzania, and South Africa!
- 5** Giraffes are herbivores who eat up to 75 pounds of leaves daily (that's as heavy as a third-grade student) and can reach leaves 20 feet high!
- 6** Baby giraffes are 6 feet tall when born (taller than most adults), can walk within an hour, and fall 6 feet to the ground when born but don't get hurt!
- 7** Despite their size, giraffes can run up to 35 miles per hour - faster than you can ride a bicycle!
- 8** Giraffes only need 5-30 minutes of sleep in 24 hours and often nap while standing up!
- 9** They have golf ball-sized eyes with excellent vision and can spot predators from over a mile away!
- 10** Adult giraffes can defend themselves with powerful kicks that can seriously injure lions, and they have very few predators because of their size!



Learning Activities

A. Fill in the Blanks

Complete these sentences with the correct words:

1. A giraffe's _____ can be 8 feet long - taller than a basketball hoop!
2. Giraffes have dark blue or _____ tongues that protect them from sunburn.
3. Each giraffe has a unique pattern of _____, just like human fingerprints.
4. Giraffes eat _____ from acacia trees and other plants.
5. Baby giraffes are called calves and these _____ can walk within an hour of being born!



Word Bank: tongue, spots, neck, babies, leaves, zebras, lions, purple

B. True or False

Circle **T** for True or **F** for False:

T / F

Giraffes have the same number of neck bones as humans (seven).

T / F

Giraffes need to sleep for 8 hours every night like people do.

T / F

A group of giraffes is called a "tower" when standing together.

T / F

Giraffes can only eat plants that grow close to the ground.

T / F

Baby giraffes are born only 2 feet tall and grow slowly.

C. Multiple Choice

Circle the correct answer:

1. How much can a full-grown male giraffe weigh?

- a) 500 pounds
- b) 1,500 pounds
- c) 4,250 pounds
- d) 8,000 pounds

2. What do giraffes use their long tongues for?

- a) Making loud noises
- b) Stripping leaves from thorny branches
- c) Fighting other giraffes
- d) Digging holes

3. How long is a giraffe's pregnancy?

- a) 5 months
- b) 9 months (like humans)
- c) 12 months
- d) 15 months

4. What helps giraffes blend in with their environment?

- a) Their long necks
- b) Their spotted pattern
- c) Their purple tongues
- d) Their large eyes

5. Which of these is NOT true about giraffe communication?

- a) They use low-frequency sounds humans can't hear
- b) They can make hums and snorts
- c) They stamp their feet to warn others
- d) They roar loudly like lions



Draw and Label

What do giraffes look like? Draw one and label its important parts:

A large rectangular area with a dashed teal border, intended for drawing a giraffe.

Parts to label: Long neck (helps them reach high leaves), Spotted pattern (unique like fingerprints), Long purple tongue (protects from sunburn), Tall legs (taller than most humans), Large eyes (can spot danger from far away), Ossicones (small horn-like structures on head)



Answer Key

Section A - Fill in the Blanks:

1. neck
2. purple
3. spots
4. leaves
5. babies

Section B - True or False:

1. True
2. False
3. True
4. False
5. False

Section C - Multiple Choice:

1. c) 4,250 pounds
2. b) Stripping leaves from thorny branches
3. d) 15 months
4. b) Their spotted pattern
5. d) They roar loudly like lions

Draw and Label Guide:

Students should label: Long neck (helps them reach high leaves), Spotted pattern (unique like fingerprints), Long purple tongue (protects from sunburn), Tall legs (taller than most humans), Large eyes (can spot danger from far away), Ossicones (small horn-like structures on head)

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