

GUINEA PIGS

(**CAVIA PORCELLUS**)

CONSERVATION STATUS: NOT LISTED



WE ARE MAMMALS
with a lifespan
of 4-9 years



Origin: South America.

Diet: Grass, hay, plants and vegetables. They are herbivores.

Predators: Cats, coyotes, wolves, foxes, snakes, hawks and owls.

Habitat: Rocky areas, grasslands and forest edges. They are also domesticated.



Length

20-25cm



Weight

700-900g



Top Speed

5.5mph

DID YOU KNOW?

A male guinea pig is called a 'boar' and a female a 'sow'. Baby guinea pigs are known as 'pups'.

In the wild, guinea pigs live in social groups called 'herds'.

Their teeth keep on growing throughout their life. It is important to give them things to gnaw on so they can wear their teeth down.

Guinea pigs do not dig, they use the abandoned burrows of other animals. They have 4 toes on their forefoot and 3 toes on their hind foot.

They are tail-less rodents.

REPRODUCTION

A baby is born after a gestation period of 59-72 days. They are well developed at birth with fur, teeth, claws and their eyes open. They are ready to eat the same food as adults within 2 days. The average litter size is 3.

DID YOU KNOW?

There are three types of guinea pig: The American/English guinea pig which has short hair and a smooth coat; The Abyssinian guinea pig which has wiry, curly hair; The Peruvian guinea pig which has straight, long, silky hair. They are very active during the day and less so at night.

YOU CAN BUY FARM FOOD FROM THE ENTRANCE FOR 50p