



# Capybara

The World's  
Largest Rodent



by Natalie Lunis

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The World's Largest Rodent

by Natalie Lunis

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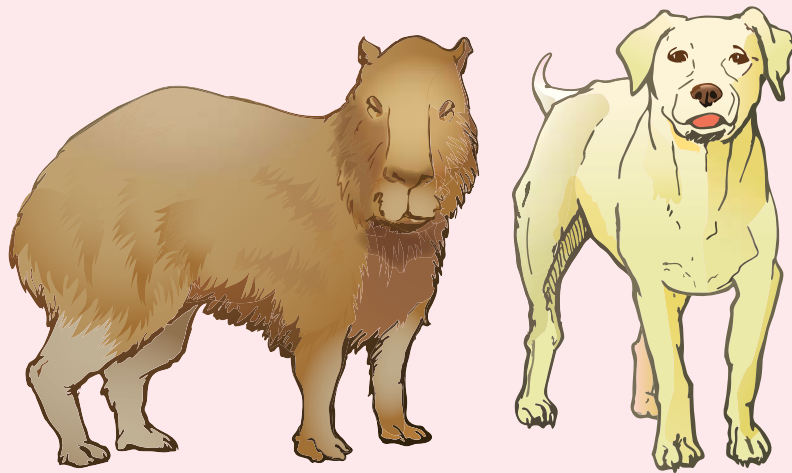


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# A Really Big Rodent

The capybara (kap-i-BAR-uh) is the biggest rodent in the world.



A capybara is the size of a large dog.



A capybara is about 4 feet (1.2 m) long. It weighs about 110 pounds (50 kg).

# Wet, Grassy Homes

Capybaras live in South America.

They live in grassy areas or forests that are near rivers, lakes, or ponds.



The places where capybaras live are warm all year. To stay cool during the hottest times, the large rodents rest in shallow water or in mud.

# Capybaras in the Wild



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## Read More

**Kalman, Bobbie, and Reagan Miller.** *Guinea Pigs and Other Rodents*. New York: Crabtree (2006).

**Manera, Alexandria.** *Capybaras*. Chicago: Raintree (2003).

**Ricciuti, Edward R.** *What on Earth Is a Capybara?* Woodbridge, CT: Blackbirch Press (1995).

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## Learn More Online

To learn more about capybaras, visit  
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## Capybara

### The World's Largest Rodent

Some rodents such as mice are so small they can hide in the tiny cracks and holes inside houses—but not capybaras! Weighing about 110 pounds (50 kg) and growing up to 4 feet (1.2 m) in length, these giant rodents are bigger than many dogs!

Look inside to find out what the world's biggest rodent eats, how it takes care of its young, and the ways it stays safe from animals that are even bigger than it is.

#### **Brown Bear**

The Biggest Meat-eater on Land

#### **Capybara**

The World's Largest Rodent

#### **Emperor Penguin**

The World's Biggest Penguin

#### **Killer Whale**

The World's Largest Dolphin

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The World's Longest Snake

#### **Siberian Tiger**

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The Biggest Seal in the World

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