

Buffalo



The buffalo is also known as the American bison. It is the largest land mammal in North America.

Buffalo live in herds, or groups, and travel from place to place looking for grass to eat. The buffalo was a major source of food for the Native Americans who lived on the Great Plains.

Millions of these animals once lived across most of North America. The buffalo was almost extinct after human hunting in the 1800s.

Conservation methods by ranchers and the government beginning in 1899 have saved the buffalo from extinction. Today, there are around 400,000 buffalo on public lands, private ranches and zoos.



Buffalo Facts

The average buffalo is about 5-6 feet tall at the shoulder and can weigh up to 2,200 pounds.

A buffalo can run 35-40 miles an hour.

Buffalo like to roll on the ground, often in the same spot as other buffaloes. This creates a hole in the ground, called a buffalo wallow.



Tell a Story

This picture shows a wolf pack which has surrounded a buffalo. Write a story about what happens next. Write the story either as one of the wolves or as the buffalo.


