

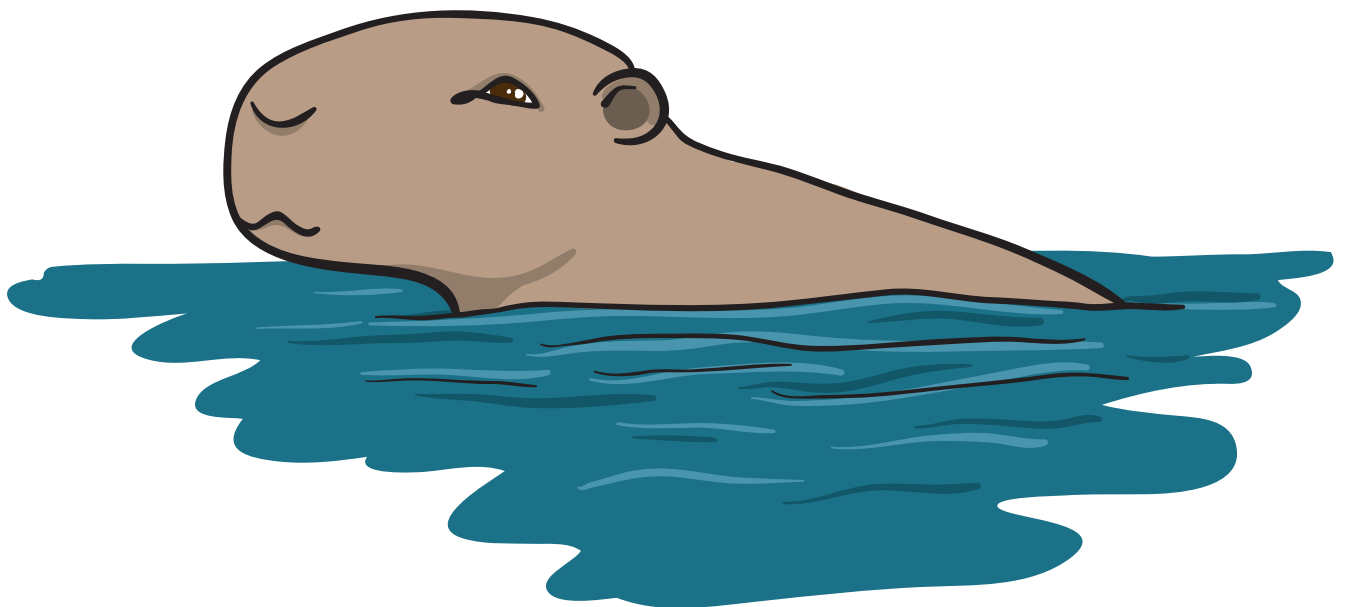
# Capybara

The capybara is the largest type of rodent. It can be found in Central and South America in the grassy areas along rivers and ponds. Full-grown capybaras can reach up to four feet in length and stand two feet tall. Female capybaras are bigger than male capybaras.

The capybara's diet consists of mostly grass and water plants. They also eat fruit as well as tree bark.

Capybaras live in herds. The females take care of each other's babies. If they sense an enemy nearby, they will let out a loud warning bark.

One amazing fact about the capybara is that it can stay under water for five minutes without having to take a breath! It's no wonder that the scientific name for this animal (*Hydrochoerus*) means "water hog."



# Capybara

Use the information from the article to answer the following questions. Use complete sentences when needed.

1. Circle the sentences that are true statements.

A. The capybara is part of the rodent family.

B. Capybaras live in the grassy areas along rivers and ponds.

C. A capybara can grow up to 8 feet long.

2. The scientific name for the capybara is *Hydrochoerus*. What does this mean?

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3. What do capybaras do to warn each other of an enemy? Write your answer in a complete sentence.

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4. Write one interesting fact you learned about the capybara. Write your answer in a complete sentence.

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