

TOP 10 SLOTH FACTS



Pygmy Three-Toed Sloth Facts

1. There are two different types of sloths, **two-toed and three-toed**. Of the **three-toed sloths**, there are **four living species**:
 - * Brown-throated sloth
 - * Pale-throated sloth
 - * Maned sloth
 - * Pygmy three-toed sloth
2. The Pygmy three-toed sloth is the **smallest of the three-toed sloths** and was only recognized as a distinct species in 2001.
3. Pygmy three-toed sloths **can only be found** on the **Isla Escudo de Veraguas**, off the coast of mainland Panama.
4. Pygmy three-toed sloths can **extend their tongues 10 to 12 inches** out of their mouths.
5. The sloths **move incredibly slowly** and mainly **live in red mangrove trees**. They can **stay up in the trees for as long as seven days** and usually only descend to the ground to urinate and defecate.
6. These sloths are considered **critically endangered** due to **habitat destruction**. Humans cutting down the red mangrove trees in which they live, making it hard for these sloths to survive. There are **less than 100 Pygmy three-toed sloths** left in the world.
7. Sloths are **great swimmers** and can hold their breath underwater for up to **40 minutes**.
8. Pygmy three-toed sloths primarily **feed on the leaves on the red mangrove trees** in which they live.
9. The sloths outsmart their predators by relying on **camouflage provided by the algae that grows on their fur**. This allows them to blend in with the mangrove trees, making it hard to spot them.
10. The average Pygmy three-toed sloth is **20 inches** long and can **weigh between 5.5lbs–8lbs**.