



Sardinian Donkey

Equus asinus

Geographical Range: The domesticated donkey is found worldwide. Its ancestor, the African dwarf donkey, is found in only a few remote parts of northeast Africa.

Habitat: Donkeys can live in a wide variety of habitats around the world and are known for their ability to survive in areas with scarce water and vegetation levels.

Exhibit Location: The Zoo's donkey is located in the Children's Zoo.

Physical Characteristics: The donkey has a gray coat that varies in color according to its breed. The dark color of the short mane extends down the donkey's spine to the tail, with a dark stripe running across the shoulders. The donkey's tail and ears are large in proportion to its body. The ears have dark tips, and sometimes dark bands encircle the lower legs.

Diet: In the wild, the donkey eats leaves, bark, twigs, thistles and grasses. In Captivity, they are fed alfalfa hay and grains.

Did you know?

- Donkey's need little water and only drink every two to three days. The donkey can go without water longer than any other equine animal.
- A male donkey is called a jack.
- A female donkey is called a jennet or jenny.
- Donkey's milk was once valued as a medicine and was given to premature babies and sick children and to people suffering from tuberculosis. Donkey's milk contains more sugar and protein than cow's milk and less fat.

Status: Numbers are stable at this time.