

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: English

Unit: Aardvark

## Aardvark

### Quick facts

Diet: Omnivore

Life span in captivity: 23 years

Size: 105 – 135 cm

Weight: 50 – 80 kg

Status: Least concern



Aardvarks (*Orycteropus afer*) live south of the Sahara desert in Africa. They are greyish-brown in colour with large ears, sharp claws and a cone-shaped tail. They are nocturnal creatures, meaning they come out at night. They spend the day in their burrows and appear just after sunset. They use their long nose to sniff out termites and ants. They use their powerful claws to break up the termite mounds and their long, sticky tongues to trap the termites. Aardvarks can eat up to 50,000 insects in one night!

Female aardvarks give birth to one cub after 7 months. The young stay with their mother in the den and leave after two weeks. At 6 months old, the aardvark will start digging its own burrows.

Lions, hyenas, leopards and pythons are the aardvark's main predators.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: English

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Unit: Aardvark

## Aardvark

Answer the following questions:

1. What is the scientific name for an aardvark?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Where do aardvarks live?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What colour are aardvarks?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What shape is an aardvark's tail?

**a** Square shaped

**c** Circular shaped

**b** Oval shaped

**d** Cone shaped

5. Where do aardvarks spend their day?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. How many insects can an aardvark consume in one night?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. When do baby aardvarks leave their mother's den?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Name three of the aardvark's main predators.

\_\_\_\_\_