

## **Baby Giraffes**

15 month pregnancy

**Height at birth:** 1.8m

**Weight at birth:** 60kg

About 30 minutes after the baby giraffe is born they can stand up. It takes 1 hour before they can run with their mums.

Giraffes are mammals, so their babies feed on milk. It takes 15 months before they are fully weaned.

## **Predators**

Lions, tigers, hyenas, and other big cats.

Due to their great height they are the watch towers of the animals. They often see the predators first, when other animals see them running, it is time for them to run too!

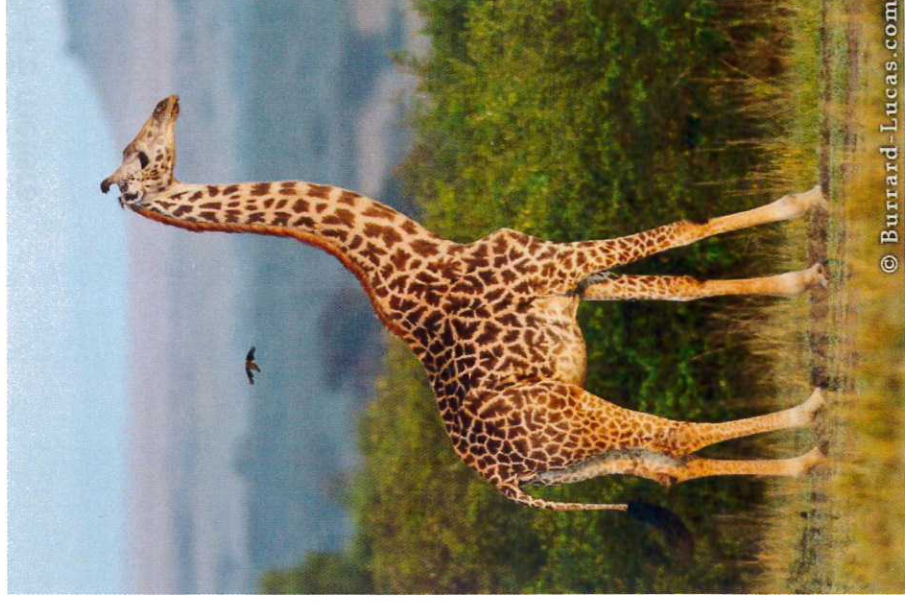
The giraffe has an extremely powerful kick that can kill a lion.

## **Meeting Giraffes at the zoo**

For a special treat when we were on holiday last summer we got to feed the giraffes at Blackpool Zoo.

Their favourite treat is brambles! So that is what we got to feed them, I feed my bucket and most of my dad's too. Their tongues are amazing for taking the food.

# All you need to know about the Giraffe



By Amelia Slater

Giraffes live in the continent of Africa



### Height including horns

Male: 4.7-5.3 meters

Female: 3.9-4.5 meters

### Weight

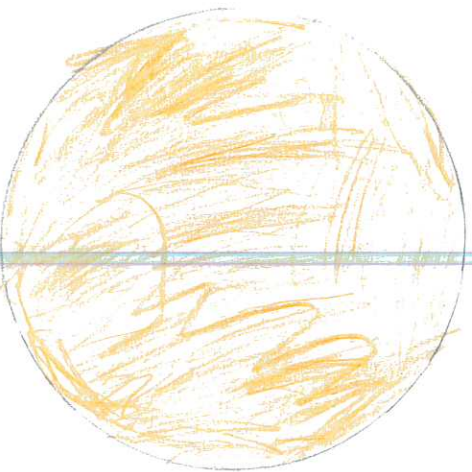
Male: 800-1930kg

Female: 500 to 1180kg

### Speed

Their top speed is 35mph over short distances, they can go longer distances at 10mph.

No giraffe pattern is the same, they are all unique.



The heart of a giraffe is the size of a basketball. It works hard to pump the blood up to their head. They have special valves in their necks. These stop them passing out when they put their head down.

They have 7 bones in their necks. The same as humans have.

They are awake 20 hours a day and can sleep standing up.

### Groups in wild

They don't form permanent herds, rather loose groups of about 6 that change often.

### Noises they make

They can grunt and snort, and even make a sound like a lion's roar.

### What they eat

-Acacia

-Leaves

-Bark

Giraffes have blue tongues, they think this is to help them not get sunburn when they are eating. Their tongue is 45cm long.

They have four stomachs and ruminants like cows.

Their poo is smaller than you would think it is, its the size of a malteser but as they are so tall it ends up everywhere.



They don't really need to drink much because they mostly get it from their food. They are at risk from predators if they put their head down.