



MAMMALS <http://www.peoriazoo.org/mammals.html>

Domestic Donkey

Equus asinus asinus

Peoria Zoo Exhibit Contact Area

<http://www.peoriazoo.org/exhibits.html>

Habitat: Stony desert country

Range: Once found in the wild from Morocco to Somalia and from Mesopotamia to Oman, now they occur throughout the world.

Activity Cycle: Mainly diurnal– active during the day

Size: Can reach heights of 5 feet at the shoulder and weigh up to 700 pounds.

Social Structure: Groups often contain 1 male and several females with their young. Live in areas where food can be scarce, so they spread out and use their loud braying calls to communicate with each other.

Distinguishing Features: Similar in appearance to horses with stocky bodies, long ears and a cow-like tail. Range in color from gray to white depending on the breed, usually has a dark strip running down their back with a short mane. They have long narrow hooves that are designed for sure-footedness, not for speed.

Diet: Grasses, sedges and browse–they have a tough digestive system that allows them to eat rough vegetation most animals can't.

Life Span: 25-30 years

Did you know?

They can carry up to 200 pounds at a time and were used to build the great pyramids.