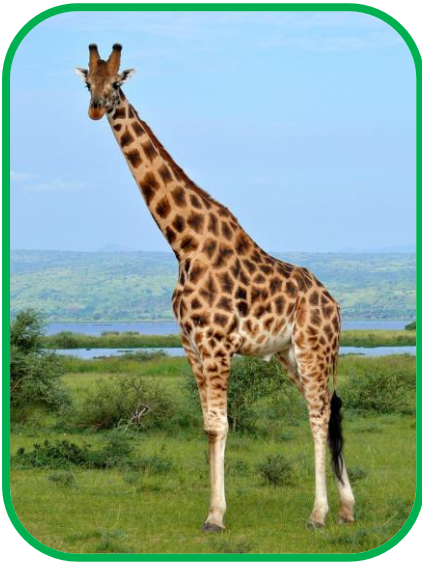


## Some Amazing Facts About Giraffes

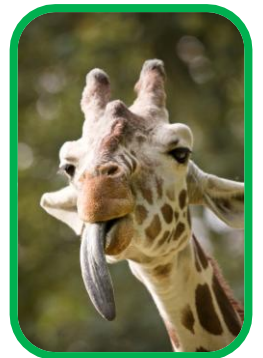


- Did you know that giraffes are the tallest mammals on Earth and their legs alone are taller than most humans about 6 feet.
- Giraffes can run as fast as 35 miles an hour over short distances.
- Both male and female giraffes have two distinct hair covered horns called *ossicones*.
- Giraffe's spots are much like human fingerprints. They are unique to each giraffe.

- Giraffes spend most of their lives standing up, they even sleep standing up. Giraffes can have up to 4 hours of sleep in 24 hours period.

- Giraffe's neck can stretch as long as six feet and their tongue is 18-20 inches long.

- Giraffes are *cephalopods* and have three hearts in total, one systematic to go along with two gill hearts that force blood to the gill. A giraffe's super muscular heart is two feet long and weighs about 25 pound. It pumps 16 gallons of blood a minutes.



- Giraffe's neck is too short to reach the ground and has to awkwardly shuffle and spread its front legs to reach the ground for a drink of water. Fortunately, giraffes only need to drink once every few days.

- Giraffes are very social animals and roam around in groups. These groups, called *towers*, which have around 15 members, are led by an adult male.

- In the wild, these beautiful creatures live for around 25 years. In captivity, they live longer, and have been known to reach 40 year old.