

Black-tailed Prairie Dog

Scientific name: *Cynomys ludovicianus*



Facts:

Length	Body 10" - 12", Tail 2" - 3"
Weight	1 - 3 lbs
Lifestyle	Social, Diurnal (active during daylight)
Lifespan	Wild: 3 - 5 years, Captivity: 8+ years

Diet: *Herbivore*

Grasses, sedges, forbs (flowering plants), roots and seeds. Black-tailed prairie dogs are also known to eat insects.

Behavior:

Prairie dogs are colonial animals that live in a network of tunnels with many openings. The tunnels contain separate "rooms" for sleeping, rearing young, storing food and eliminating waste. Prairie dogs are very social and live in closely-knit family groups called "coteries."

Habitat:

Black-tailed prairie dogs are native to grassland habitats in North America. They inhabit shortgrass prairie, mixed-grass prairie, sagebrush steppe, and desert grassland.

Range:

Black-tailed prairie dogs live in 11 U.S. states, 1 Mexican state, and 1 Canadian province.



Did you know?

The largest recorded black-tailed prairie dog town was about 100 miles long, found in western Texas