MEET THEM AT PLUMPTON PARK ZOO

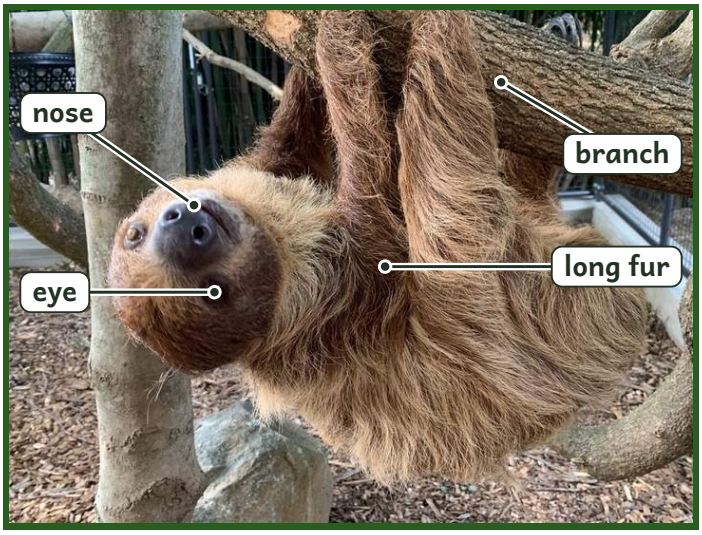
TWO-TOED SLOTH

Choloepus didactylus

GRADES K–2

Teacher & Student Fact Sheet · © 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.
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Teachers: read this page aloud, one part at a time (about 5 minutes). Children follow along and say the bold words.



A sloth hangs from a branch at our zoo.

Its body

A sloth hangs in the trees.
Its long claws are like hooks.
Its front feet have 2 claws.
Its back feet have 3!

Its home (habitat)

It lives in South America.
It lives high in rainforest trees.
Brooke and Sid live at our zoo.



■ Lives in parts of this area ★ Plumpton Park Zoo, Rising Sun, MD

Its food

It eats mostly leaves.
It eats fruit and flowers too.

Its babies (life cycle)

A baby holds on to its mother.
It stays on her belly about 5 weeks.
She feeds and cares for it.

Fun facts

It sleeps about 15 hours a day.
Its fur can look a little green.
It swims faster than it climbs!

Words to know

claws: sharp, hard nails on its feet
rainforest: a warm, wet forest

Talk about it

1. How do long claws help a sloth?
2. Where does a baby sloth ride?
3. How much does a sloth sleep?

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/mammals/sloth/ · **Sources:** Smithsonian's National Zoo; IUCN Red List; Plumpton Park Zoo keepers.
Supports Maryland and Delaware (NGSS) and Pennsylvania (STEELS) standards: K-LS1-1 (3.1.K.A) · 1-LS1-2 (3.1.1.B)
Plumpton Park Zoo · 1416 Telegraph Rd, Rising Sun, MD 21911 · (410) 658-6850 · plumptonparkzoo.org · a 501(c)(3) nonprofit zoo · Photo: Plumpton Park Zoo

TWO-TOED SLOTH

Before and after your visit

GRADES K–2

Page 2 of the two-toed sloth fact sheet for grades K–2 · © 2026 Plumpton Park Zoological Gardens Inc.
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Name _____ **Date** _____

Before you visit · 5 minutes

What do you think? Circle **YES** or **NO**.

1. A sloth hangs in trees. **YES** **NO**
2. A sloth sleeps very little. **YES** **NO**
3. A baby holds on to its mother. **YES** **NO**
4. A sloth cannot swim. **YES** **NO**

At the zoo · with a partner

Check each one you see.

- ☐ long claws
- ☐ shaggy fur
- ☐ nose
- ☐ eyes
- ☐ branch
- ☐ a baby

What is it doing? Circle one.

sleeping · eating · climbing

After your visit · 10 minutes

Draw a sloth hanging from a branch. Show its long claws.

Draw here

A sloth has _____

I learned that _____

ADJUST IT Kindergarten: read everything aloud; children talk and draw, and an adult writes their words. **Grade 2:** children read page 1 on their own. **Grades 3–5:** use the regular two-toed sloth sheet on Teacher Resources. **Second source:** read about this animal in your class database or a library book too, then ask what both said and what was new. **No zoo trip?** Check off what you can find in the photo on page 1. **Answers:** 1 yes, 2 no, 3 yes, 4 no.

Learn more: plumptonparkzoo.org/mammals/sloth/ · Page 1 of this sheet has the words and picture this page refers to.
Science, grades K–2: Maryland and Delaware (NGSS): K-LS1-1 · 1-LS1-2 · Pennsylvania (STEELS): 3.1.K.A · 3.1.1.B
Reading and writing, grade 1: Maryland and Delaware: RI.1.1 · RI.1.7 · RI.1.9 · W.1.8 · Pennsylvania: CC.1.2.1.B · CC.1.2.1.G · CC.1.2.1.I · CC.1.4.1.W
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