



ANSWER KEY

Sloth Smarts: What do you know?

ACROSS

- 2** What type of animal is a sloth?
MAMMAL
An animal that typically bears live young, like a baby, rather than laying an egg that hatches later.
- 5** In what country is the Sloth Sanctuary located?
COSTA RICA
Country located north of Panama, south of Nicaragua and bordered by the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea.

DOWN

- 1** In what biomes do sloths reside?
RAINFORESTS
A biome is a large community of plants and animals that occupies a distinct region. Sloths live in rainforests where there is a wide variety of trees for shelter and leaves for their diet.
- 3** The largest known prehistoric sloth
MEGATHERIUM
Ancestors of today's tree sloths, the extinct ground sloth Megatherium is one of the largest land mammals known to have existed, weighing up to 4 tons and measuring up to 20 ft in length from head to tail, about as large as modern elephants. Rising on powerful hind legs and using its tail to form a tripod, Megatherium could support its massive body weight while using the curved claws on its long forelegs to pull down branches with the choicest leaves. This sloth, like a modern anteater, walked on the sides of its feet because its claws prevented it from putting them flat on the ground. Megatherium had a narrow mouth and strong, grasping lips that were probably used to select particular plants and fruits. Paleobiologists believe it was a very selective eater. Megatherium inhabited woodland and grassland environments of the lightly wooded areas of South America 10,000 years ago.
- 4** Sloths spend most of their time hanging this way
UPSIDE DOWN
Sloths have evolved with special anatomical features that allow them to hang upside down comfortably for hours and hours.
- 6** The word for "tree-dwelling"
ARBOREAL

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