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How do animals eat porcupines

Nothing during the summer smells as sweet as a freshly cut lawn. The smell lingers for hours. Geez, you think, wouldn't look all those lumps of freshly mown grass and taste delicious on top of a salad or in the middle of BLT. After all, grass is green, as is lettuce, broccoli and spinach. It's got to be good for you, right? Not really. In general, you can eat grass. It's natural and not toxic. Still, there's no reason to eat it - unless you want to get sick. Just ask the gathering of a South African church. In 2014, their predecessor let them eat grass to be closer to God. While one person said her sore throat was healed after chowing down on the lawn, photos show many more sick. In addition, eating grass has zero of nutritional value for people who do it for cows, yaks, deer and sheep. These and other ruminants have special digestive systems, including a four-chamber stomach, which allows them to consume and metabolize the nutrients in grass. We humans don't have stomachs like that. That means grass doesn't break down in our guts. If we eat a lot of it, we'll probably vomit or have diarrhea. At the very least, we're releasing it undigested. Plus, eating grass is not good for human teeth. Grass contains a lot of silica, the main ingredient in many rocks, including quartz and sandstone. Eat enough grass, and it will wear out the enamel on your teeth. Cows, goats and sheep do not have this problem. Among other dental attributes, they chew grass in a side-to-side movement. Their molars shred the plant into small pieces, making it easy to digest. Ruminants also have teeth that always grow. This means that they can replace the worn surface quite quickly. Interestingly enough, there was a period in history when people could digest grass. That was about 3.5 million years ago. Our smaller, hair-less distant cousins, Australopithecus bahrelghazali had teeth that were well suited to the task. Discover Vacations Gardening Recipes and Cooking Decorate Home Improvement Ideas Cleaning and Organizing Shop Rooms News Beauty & Style Health & Family Pets Local Services Stay up to date with the latest daily buzz with the BuzzFeed Daily newsletter! Porcupines are large, slow-moving rodents with sharp spines on their backs. They can be found on every continent except Antarctica. Scientists group porcupines in two groups: Old World porcupines, found in Africa, Europe and Asia; and New World porcupines, which are found in North, Central and South America. The North American porcupine is the only species found in the United States and Canada.All porcupines have a few traits in common. The most obvious is the long, sharp spines that cover their bodies. Some quills can get up to a foot (30 centimeters) long, like those on the African crested porcupine, according to National Geographic. Porcupines use the spines as a defense. They make shaking shake that makes them rattle, as a warning to potential predators. If that doesn't work, they can charge backwards into the predator. The spines are loosely attached, but cannot be thrown or projected, according to the Animal Diversity Web. Some quills have scales or barbs that they are very difficult to remove. Once a spine is lost, it's not lost forever. They grow back in time. A North American porcupine may have 30,000 or more spines, according to National Geographic. SizeThe largest porcupine is the North African crested grape variety. It grows to 90 centimeters long. The smallest is the Bahia hairy dwarf porcupine. It grows to 38 cm long. Porcupines weigh 2.5 to 77 lbs. (1.2 to 35 kilograms), depending on the species, and their tails can grow to 8 to 12 inches (20 to 30 cm), according to the San Diego Zoo.The length of quills varies by type. New world porcupines have small porcupines that are about 4 inches (10 cm) long, while Old World porcupines have spines that can grow up to 20 inches (51 cm) long, but there are some exceptions. In general, porcupines live in just about every terrain, including deserts, grasslands, mountains, rainforests and forests. Caves in tree branches or tangles of roots, rock crevices, brush or logs are the home of the porcupine. Porcupine habits are night,which means they are active at night and sleep during the day. During the night, they feed for food. New world porcupines spend their time in the trees, while the old world porcupines remain on the ground. Porcupines aren't exactly social. Both types of porcupines are usually solitary, although New World porcupines can pair them. A mother and her boy is considered a family group called a spine. DietPorcupines are herbivores. This means that they usually eat vegetation. Some porcupines love wood and eat a lot of bark and stems. They also eat nuts, tubers, seeds, grass, leaves, fruits and buds. Although they don't eat meat, porcupines chew bones to sharpen their teeth. Bones also give them important minerals, such as salt and calcium, to keep them healthy. Porcupines are also known to eat insects and small lizards every now and then. Offspring Fignal porcupines carry their young for a gestation period of 16 to 31 weeks, depending on the species, and give birth to one to three babies at a time. Baby porcupines are called porcupines. Porcupines are about 3 percent of the mother's weight at birth, according to the San Diego Zoo. At birth, they have soft spines, which harden in a few days. Porcupines mature at 9 months to 2.5 years, depending on species and can live in the wild for up to 15 years. Classification/taxonomy World porcupines form the Erethizontidae family, which consists of four genera and 12 species. There are 11 species, in three genera, of Old World porcupines in the Hystricidae family. This is the classification of the North American porcupine, porcupine, to Integrated Taxonomic Information System (ITIS):Kingdom: Animalia Subkingdom: Bilateria Infrakingdom: Deuterostomia Phylum: Chordata Subphylum: Vertebrata Infraphylum: Gnathostomata Superclass: Tetrapoda Class: Mammalia Subclass: Theria Infraclass: Eutheria Order: Rodentia Suborder: Hystricomorpha Infraorder: Hystricognathi Family: Erethizontidae Subfamily: Erethizone Genus: Erethizon Species: Erethizon dorsatus, with seven subspecies Conservation statusPorcupines are listed by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as least worrying or vulnerable. , depending on the species. Species listed as vulnerable are the Phillipine porcupine and the porcupine with brushes. There are currently no species listed as endangered, although some species do not have enough data to decide on their status. Additional resources Recent news Coyotes, hawks, owls, raccoons, foxes, dogs and coyotes occasionally feed on domestic and feral cats. Feral cats and domestic cats that spend the night outdoors are most at risk of predation. While cats are able to climb trees, this ability does not protect them from all potential threats. Coyotes are the main predator of domestic cats, but wild dogs and foxes also consume many cats. Some foxes are able to climb, which is a skill that most dogs and coyotes miss, so they are able to catch cats that seek safety in the trees. Taking to the trees also does not save cats from raccoons, hawks or owls, since these predators are fully capable of finding their prey in trees. Although such events are rare, crocodiles, alligators and large snakes also eat cats from time to time. Large predators, such as mountain lions and wolves, occasionally kill and eat cats when the opportunity arises, but such large predators normally become larger prey. Both wild and domestic castal rely on their speed, agility and climbing skills to avoid most predators. When unable to escape direct confrontations, they use their sharp teeth and claws to fight predators. Predators of the octopus are eels, dolphins and sharks, among others. Octopi have many means to deter predators, including the ability to loosen an arm if it is in the grip of a predator and ink glands to release clouds of black ink and block the sight of attackers. An octopus can also deliver toxic saliva by biting its prey. The octopus has a soft body that lets it squeeze into small crevices and cracks to evade predators. It is also a fast swimmer who can expel water through his mantle to quickly get away from danger However, one of the most powerful defense mechanisms is the ability to camouflage itself to fit into its environment, so predators don't notice. Raccoons, mongooses, foxes, coyotes, wild boars, birds and other snakes regularly eat snakes. Snakes have a variety of which vary depending on their size and location. Snake eggs and young snakes are hunted more than adults, although there are animals that hunt mature snakes. Birds are one of the snake's most prominent predators. Birds have sharp eyesight, allowing them to spot snakes on land, in trees or even in the water. Birds are able to fly down unexpectedly, snatch snakes with their sharp claws and then carry them away to an ideal feeding area. The king snake actively hunts many species of snakes, and some other snakes are known to also cannibalize. Large snakes are often eaten by wild boars, although boars tend to avoid hunting venomous snakes. Wild boars are very powerful, and they often hunt in packs, making them highly efficient predators to even the largest snakes. Raccoons and foxes are able to climb trees to hunt snakes, and they can also run fast to catch escaping prey. Snakes flick their tongues to smell and taste for predators or prey in the area. Many species of snakes are able to inject venom into predators or prey as a defense mechanism, or to subdue their prey. Sea turtles have shells to protect them, right? You may be wondering what a sea turtle would eat, because the shell of a sea turtle only goes so far as to protect them. Unlike tortoises, sea turtles cannot retreat into their shell for protection. So this leaves their heads and flippers especially vulnerable to predators. Discover the species of sea creatures that prey on sea turtles and how they can protect themselves from predators. Animals that prey on adult sea turtles are sharks (especially tiger sharks), killer whales and large fish. Sea turtles are especially vulnerable as eggs and young, and sea turtles often lay their eggs on beaches. Although their nests can be a few feet deep in the sand, predators like coyotes and dogs are savvy and can dig them up. If the sea turtle eggs make it incubating, the little cubs need to make a crazy dash to the ocean, in which they can be attacked by other predators, such as seagulls. Unfortunately, more than ninety percent of these young are known to be destroyed by their predators. In addition to the aforementioned animals, seabirds, raccoons and ghost crabs are other animals known as natural predators against sea turtles. According to Seaworld.org, flatback turtle nests are also susceptible to unique predators such as lizards, dingoes and foxes. Fortunately, a sea turtle's shell is their best friend. Their hard shell helps protect them from predators when danger is near. In addition, sea turtles are usually highly skilled swimmers who are fast their natural habitat, the ocean, which helps them get rid of dangerous situations as they come. The only type of sea turtle that has a soft shell, rather than a hard shell, is the leatherback sea turtle. Because Because sea turtles are larger in size, their risk of danger is significantly low compared to other species of sea turtles. Learn about the trials and tribulations of sea turtle life and how to help these sea creatures. According to Sciencing.com, the biggest threat to sea turtles is human carelessness, from coastal debris to injuries with watercraft. Sea turtles often swallow debris floating in their environment that results in death by strangulation. Collisions have resulted in thousands of sea turtles ending up in fishing nets every year, eventually drowning them. The fact that sea turtles are unable to protect themselves from human situations as illustrated is, but the few reasons why sea turtles are considered an endangered species. Thanks to Defenders.org, there are several ways we can help save sea turtles. For example: We can turn off the lights that are visible from the beach. This is because sea turtles use light and reflections to find their way into the water at night, so disabling them will save them from confusion. We can reduce the amount of waste we produce and clean up all the waste found along the beach. This will help prevent sea turtles from becoming entangled in plastic and debris on the shoreline and in the ocean. Ocean.

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