

N. American Beaver *Castor Canadensis*



Height: 1-2 ft at shoulder **Weight:** up to 55 lbs

The modern North American beaver is a semi-aquatic rodent that lives in dams and lodges it builds from trees and branches. It cuts down trees and cuts them apart using its powerful bite and sharp incisors. Their front teeth are orange because they have iron in their enamel, which makes the teeth stronger. They can swim at speeds of up to 5 miles per hour, and can stay underwater for up to 15 minutes. They lived alongside the Giant Beaver during the last ice age.

Status: Extant **Last Seen:** current day

Giant Ground Sloth *Megalonyx Jeffersonii*



Height: 6ft at shoulder (standing) **Weight:** up to 1,500 lbs

This Giant Ground Sloth, *Megalonyx Jeffersonii*, was named in honor of Thomas Jefferson, who, upon seeing the giant claw bones of an unknown animal that had been found in a cave in Kentucky in the early 1800s, mistook them for the claws of a giant lion. Thus, *Megalonyx* ("great claw"). The bones were later discovered to be from Giant Ground Sloths, large herbivores the size of cows that could stand on their hind legs to eat from trees. Its large claws are adapted for digging.

Status: Extinct **Last Seen:** about 13,000 years ago