

## **Meerkat**

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> < http://img2.wikia.nocookie.net/\_\_cb20100626123007/meerkats/images/1/12/Meerkat\_group\_2.jpg>

The meerkat is a fascinating animal it is found in Namibia and Botswana Africa

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Meerkats live in groups of 40-50 individuals . They have very slim bodies that help them move through tunnels underground. the meerkat Has over 50 different calls . they have 4 canine teeth for ripping flesh from their food . They are part of the mongoose family . meerkats are 24-26 cms long adding another 6 cms is the tail. meerkats are squirrel sized animals .in the group the dominate male and female are the ones to successfully breed . meerkats look for food with in 9 sq miles . they also take there time getting out of there burrow in the morning. there enemies are jackals eagles goshawks and falcons . they catch their own food but hunt in groups .they bring back very little food for their young .

meerkats are not going extinct at all ! they live in the ground in tunnels . meerkats are a big tourist attraction for southern africa . when a female is ready to mate she jumps in front of the male . The meerkat mothers feed the babies milk for between 4-6 weeks. meerkats have a layer on their eyes to keep the sand and dirt out they work like protective glasses. meerkats are very sociable animals . 620-969 g . meerkats gather in the front of their burrow in the early morning to get sunlight .

babysitters have to be very cautious for the eager young ones . meerkats are very cool animals in my opinion they are such fascinating animals. meerkats are not shy anima