

# Crazy Creatures

## *Eremotherium rusconi*

**Eremotherium rusconi** was a very large ground sloth that **lived in** north and south america.

Time: 4.9 million to 11,000 years ago

Sloths today are small and live in trees but Eremotherium was part of the Megatherium group – a group of lots of different large ground sloths that lived in America. Eremotherium was 6 meters long and weighed as much as an elephant!

Period: Pleistocene

## ***The Mega Sloth***

**Your task 1: Draw Eremotherium!** It had:

- Long arms with hooked fingers
- A wide tail
- Strong chunky legs
- A broad face and short snout
- A long flexible tongue

**Your task 2:** Eremotherium had long curved claws but ate leaves and plants. What do you think it could have used its claws for?

## **Creature Fact!**

Modern day sloths often have long tongues. Some Palaeontologists think **Eremotherium** had one too.

**Your task 3:** What would Eremotherium have used its long tongue for? How would that help it eat?

**Your task 4:** Eremotherium was much much bigger than sloths today but might have lived a bit like them. Can you find four facts about sloths?

1.

2.

3.

4.

**Your task 5: Eremotherium** lived at the same time as the first humans to live in America. Archaeologists have found fossils that show we even hunted these giant beasts! How do you think it felt to meet a giant sloth?

**Your task 6: Eremotherium** had a strong, wide tail that would have helped it to sit up on its back legs when eating. This meant it could reach high into the trees. Draw an Eremotherium sitting up to eat here!

**Research key words:**

**Mammal**  
**Pleistocene**  
**Sloth**

## CRAZYOMETER!

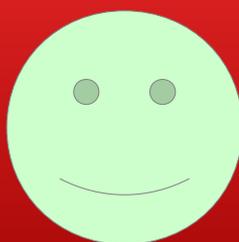
How weird do you think this creature was?



Boring!



Yeah Ok



A bit weird



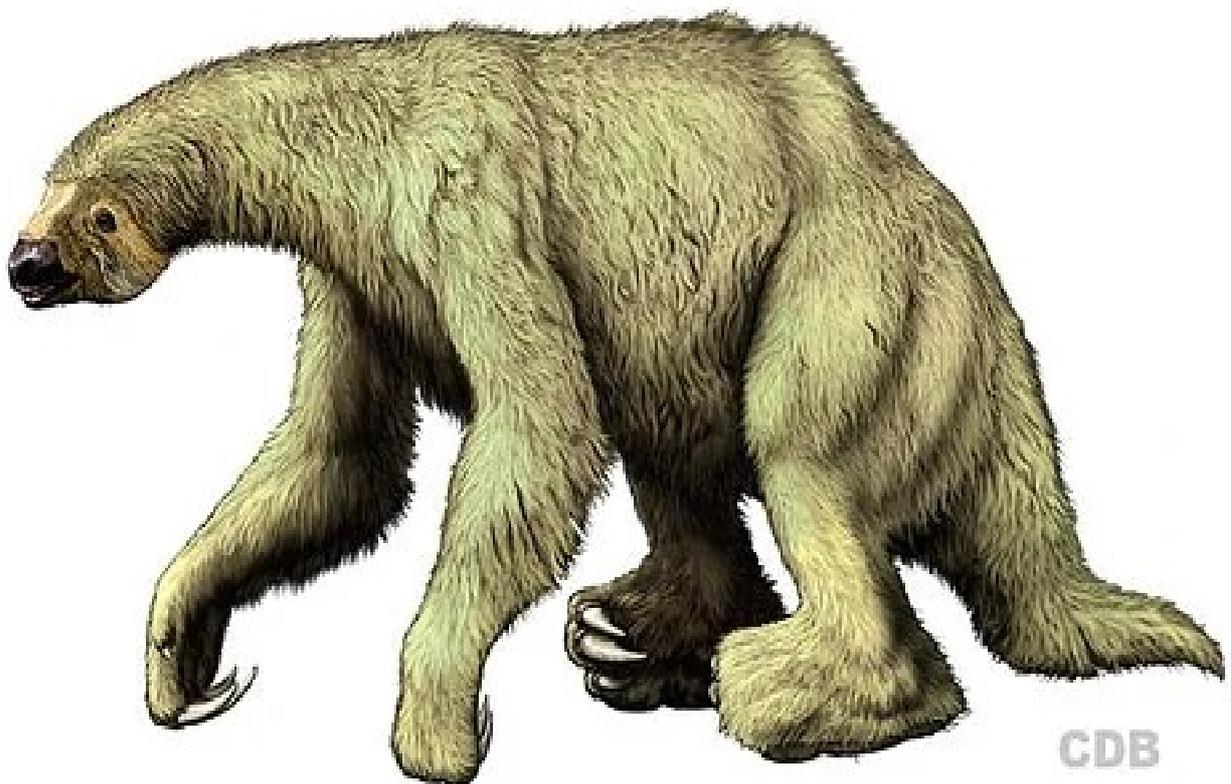
Really weird!



Woah!



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