

What are Herbivores?

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An herbivore is an animal that eats mostly plants. The prefix “herb-” is related to grass or plants. The suffix “-vore” is related to animals by their diet. Herbivores often eat grass, leaves, flowers, and seeds. They also eat roots, fruits, and bark from trees. Herbivores are considered primary consumers. This is because they are the first consumers, or eaters, of producers (plants). Grazers are herbivores that eat small plants near the ground. Browsers are herbivores that eat the leaves, twigs, and branches from brush and trees. Some herbivores are both browsers and grazers. Herbivores can be classified by how their teeth are used within their diet. Herbivores usually have flat teeth with ridges. This is so they can crush plants into smaller pieces for digestion. Animals have bodies that have adapted to their environment to get the food that they need. Why do giraffes have such long necks? Giraffes have long necks because their food comes from trees. The trees they eat from are usually quite tall.