

PECCARY

Peccary is from the Brazilian Tupi language and means 'animal which makes many paths through the woods'. They are also known as tayassuids, 'the gnawers of roots'. Their fossil record extends back 37 million years in North American.

Peccaries are short, stout animals with coarse, rough hair, large heads and small, deep set eyes. They have long snouts that have a hard, disk-shaped nose pad that they use for rooting for tubers, their self sharpening teeth are used for peeling spiny cacti and prickly pears.

Peccaries look similar to pigs but are classified in a family of their own because of several anatomical differences. Peccaries are smaller than pigs, have longer, thinner legs and smaller hooves. They are speedy and agile. Peccaries have 3 toes on each hind foot and the upper tusks are pointed down. Peccaries have a powerful musk gland on the top of their rump. Their odor is always noticeable, especially when they are agitated or excited.

In the southern states of America peccary herds occur in deserts, where they prefer habitats with an abundance of prickly pear cacti and other high water content plants. They also occur in semi-desert canyons, cliffs and watering holes near cacti, chaparral and oak.

Peccaries are social animals that live in mixed-sex groups. Herd sizes can vary from 4 to hundreds of individuals, although 6 to 12 is more common. They have a complex social system and, unlike other herd animals, they live with the same herd and in the same area for their entire lives. Peccaries have a home range of between 75 to 100 square miles. This space will have designated sleeping, foraging, and defecating areas.

Peccary social hierarchy is maintained through the use of a wide range of vocalizations, which include 'purring', and 'tooth chattering', and behavioral displays (such as grooming among members of the herd). Peccaries are known to be fiercely loyal to their herd. Hunters tell tales of being chased into trees after shooting an animal travelling at the front of a herd. They have been known to launch themselves at the trees in an attempt to bring down the tree and the hunter.

JAVELINA

Javelina is Spanish for javelin and they have earned this name from their impressive razor sharp tusks. The Javelina is also referred to as the Collared Peccary, Tayaussa and Musk Hog. Javelina, like other Peccaries have poor eyesight and exceptional hearing.

PLATYGONUS

The Platygonus is the Pleistocene peccary and has been native to North America for more than 10 million years. This species is the largest known peccary ever, weighing up to 360 lbs and standing over 3 feet at the shoulder. The Platygonus has longer legs than its modern relatives, a heavier, larger body and larger tusks.

The Peccary statistics below are a template for different peccaries with the following modifications.

JAVELINA Listen 65%, Spot 25%

PLATYGONUS + 2D6 STR, CON, SIZ, 2D6 Tusks

PECCARY Characteristics	Average			
STR	1D6+3	06-07	Move	12
CON	2D6	07	HP	07
SIZ	1D6+3	06-07	Fatigue	14
INT	06	06	DEX SR	03
POW	2D6	07	SIZ SR	03
DEX	2D6+6	13		

Location	Melee (d20)	Missile (d20)	Ap/HP/%
RHLeg	01-04	01-04	02/02/33
LHLeg	05-08	05-08	02/02/33
HindQ	09-11	09-12	02/03/40
ForeQ	12-13	13-17	02/03/40
RFLeg	14-15	18	02/02/33
LFLeg	16-17	19	02/02/33
Head	18-20	20	02/03/40

