

Wonders of GOD'S Creation



Hungry, Hungry Hippos

Do you know what 88 pounds of grass looks like?

I sure don't. But that's roughly how much a hippo can eat at night before it descends back into the water to rest and seek refuge from the hot African sun.

The obvious problem for a multiton mammal trying to take a nap underwater is the matter of breathing. But God had that all figured out when He designed the hippo. In addition to ears and nostrils that flap shut when submerged, He gave it an automatic reflex that allows it to surface for air and then resubmerge—all without waking up!

Beyond that, hippos are terrifying powerhouses. With a jaw that can open nearly 180 degrees, a bite three

times stronger than a lion's, and sharp canine teeth that grow to 20 inches long and can puncture the hull of a boat, a hippo is powerful and feared both in the water and on land. Hippos can run faster than a man, and when angered, they are one of the most deadly mammals.

Some scholars theorize that the behemoth mentioned in Job 40:15 might actually be based on a hippopotamus.

Pictured: hippopotamus (*Hippopotamus amphibius*)

Photo by James Capo

Text by James Capo and Jeremy Lallier