

Name _____



What Does a Komodo Dragon Eat?

The Komodo dragon is a powerful carnivore, meaning it eats meat. These giant lizards live on a few islands in Indonesia and are at the top of the food chain in their habitat. Komodo dragons hunt large prey such as deer, wild boar, and even water buffalo.

They have sharp teeth and strong jaws to tear into their prey easily.

Komodo dragons use a special hunting technique. They often wait in hiding and ambush their prey. When they bite their target, their sharp teeth create deep wounds. The Komodo dragon also has venom in its saliva. This venom prevents the prey's blood from clotting, causing the animal to become weaker and slower. If the prey manages to escape, the Komodo dragon can use its excellent sense of smell to track the injured animal until it becomes too weak to run.

Komodo dragons are not picky eaters. They also eat smaller animals like birds, reptiles, and insects. Sometimes, they scavenge, feeding on dead animals they find. This helps keep the environment clean by removing decaying meat.

Komodo dragons eat large meals. A single meal can make up to 80% of their body weight. After eating, they may rest for several days to digest their food fully.