

Name _____



What Does a Panda Look Like?

Pandas are one of the most easily recognizable animals in the world, thanks to their black-and-white fur. Their bodies are mostly white, with black patches around their eyes, ears, and legs. These bold colors help pandas blend into their natural environment, which is full of rocks and shadows in the forests where they live. Pandas have a round face

with large, dark eyes, giving them an adorable and friendly appearance.

Adult pandas are about the size of a small sofa! They are 4 to 5 feet long from head to tail and stand about 2 to 3 feet tall when on all fours. Pandas are not small animals—they weigh between 200 and 300 pounds. Male pandas are usually larger and heavier than females.

One unique feature of pandas is their special "thumb." This is not a real thumb, but an extra bone on their paw that acts like one. This "thumb" helps pandas grip and hold bamboo while they eat. Pandas also have strong jaws and large molar teeth to crush tough bamboo stalks. These features make them perfectly designed for their bamboo diet.

Pandas do not have stripes or horns like some other animals, but their black-and-white fur pattern is their standout feature. This pattern isn't just for looks—it helps them stay safe in the wild. The black fur blends in with shadows, while the white fur helps them match snowy surroundings.

In addition to their fur and "thumb," pandas have thick, woolly fur that keeps them warm in the cool mountain forests where they live. Their tails are short, and their bodies are round and chubby, which helps conserve heat. Overall, pandas are built for comfort and survival in their unique habitat.