



DIVISION: TRICKSY TAXONOMY

Tangled placement in mammal phylogeny

Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *The Dugong does not have a viable way of attacking other animals.*

Defense:

- *Dugongs are slow-moving and have little protection against predators, however, their large size prevents most predators from attempting to attack them. Only large species of shark are known to attack Dugongs.*

Behavior:

- *Dugongs, unlike other manatees, live strictly in the water. They are herbivorous and like to avoid contact with potential predators. If they come in contact with a predator, the predator is often driven away by the Dugong's large size.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Dugongs are strictly marine mammals who live in various areas in the Indian Ocean, including the east coast of Africa, parts of Southern and Southeastern Asia, Northern Australia, and throughout the Malay Archipelago.*

Diet:

- *Dugong's diet mainly consists of sea-grass. If sea-grass is scarce, Dugong will resort to eating algae.*

Size:

- *Dugongs are large marine mammals that can grow up to 8.4 feet long.*

Summary:

- *The Dugong is a large, resilient herbivorous marine mammal. The Dugong mostly avoids conflict due to its large size and can only be bested in size by some large species of shark. The Dugong, given time to develop into a healthy adult, is a strong manatee that most marine animals will not mess with.*

Dugong

(*Dugong dugon*)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Sharp teeth and is incredibly strong*

Defense:

- *Great eyesight, excellent sense of smell and hearing, brownish-red color allows them to camouflage. (Weaponry can be used to defend as well)*

Behavior:

- *Surprisingly shy and timid, no human injuries since 1987*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Due to its extremely low population, you can only find this animal on the eastern North Carolina's Albemarle Peninsula. This peninsula is made up of forests, swamps, wetlands, and bushlands.*

Diet:

- *They are carnivores, so they hunt on smaller animals like racoons, deer, rabbits, and other small rodents.*

Size:

- *About four feet long, and 26 inches high. Can weigh 45-85 lbs.*

Summary:

- *The red wolf will be a great contender against other animals. It has a great offense lined up with their sharp teeth and strength, and a great defense as well with their keen senses. Although shy and timid, they know how to use their adaptations given to them.*

Red Wolf

(Canus rufus)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *There sharp teeth help them hunt animals and attack on them.*

Defense:

- *They have a great sense of hearing and can hear when predators are close to them. They also have great eyesight and sense of smell.*

Behavior:

- *They are shy when it comes to humans and other animals.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Red wolves used to live from southeastern Texas to central Pennsylvania. Today, red wolves can only be found in eastern North Carolina's Albemarle Peninsula, home in forest, swamps and coastal prairies.*

Diet:

- *Red wolves are carnivores, they hunt mammals like raccoons, rabbits, rodents, and the white-tailed deer.*

Size:

- *The red wolf is between the size of the grey wolf and a coyote. They are about four feet long and stand about 26 inches to the shoulder. They weight around 60 pounds for males and 50 pounds for females.*

Summary:

- *The red wolf is great at hunting with there sharp teeth for hunting and with there great eyesight and sense of smell are able to defend themselves and protect themselves from predators.*

Red Wolf

(Canus rufus)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Mountain Tapirs are not known to attack other animals unless provoked, but they can attack using their sharp teeth and strong jaws if the situation permits.*

Defense:

- *Mountain Tapirs have very few natural predators due to their tough and thick skin on their necks. It can defend itself with its strong jaws and sharp teeth.*

Behavior:

- *Mountain Tapir roam the mountain sides eating leaves and grass. They may travel in pairs and congregate at natural salt licks. They are most active in the late afternoon and early morning.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Mountain Tapir live in the northern Andes mountain chain in Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia. They are the only Tapir species known to live outside of rainforests in the wild.*

Diet:

- *Mountain Tapirs are herbivorous and eat a wide range of plants, including leaves and grasses.*

Size:

- *Mountain Tapir is a mid-sized land mammal that can grow up to 6 feet long.*

Summary:

- *The Mountain Tapir is a strong, mid-sized land mammal that is fit to travel the mountainous regions of South America. They are herbivorous but can defend themselves when it comes to a fight with a predator. Fights are rare, however, as many animals would prefer to choose a different target due to their thick, tough skin around their necks.*

Mountain Tapir

(*Tapirus pinchaque*)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *They have retractable claws.*

Defense:

- *They're nocturnal which helps them avoid predators and they use camouflage to hide.*

Behavior:

- *They store fat in their tails for the winter. Which can add up to 25% of their body weight. They're also nocturnal and very territorial. They use smells/other bodily chemicals to communicate.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *They are native to Ethiopia, Africa. They tend to live in tropical regions such as rainforests and scrub forests. They're found all throughout Madagascar.*

Diet:

- *They eat small mammals such as rodents and tenrecs. They also feed on reptiles, frogs, small birds, and invertebrates such as freshwater crabs.*

Size:

- *They can weigh 3.3-4.4lbs. They're body is between 40-45 centimeters and their tail is 21 to 25 cm. Females are usually longer.*

Summary:

- *They hunt at night so that they are less seen, and they have claws to hunt prey with. They also are the second largest predator in this area, so they aren't really targeted by other animals.*

Malagasy Striped Civet

(*Fossa fossana*)



Kinda Baboon

Papio kindae

Thought to be a type of Yellow Baboon until 2013
(Kinda is the smallest type of baboon, babies are white instead of black, larger groups than other baboons, more docile)

Biome: Savanna, Grassland Scrub, Open Woodland

OMNIVORE: Mostly fruit but also seeds, roots, insects, meat (rabbits and vervet monkeys)

TERTIARY in Food Chain



Jaguarundi

Herpailurus yagouaroundi

Good sight, hearing and sense of smell,
secretive

Biome: Grassland, Savannah, Scrub,
Rainforest, Swamp, Temperate Forest

CARNIVORE: Small mammals, reptiles,
birds, frogs, fish

TERTIARY in Food Chain



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Have padded fingertips and claws to grip their prey*

Defense:

- *Have incredible hearing, they can hear 4.5 times better than humans*
- *Can rotate their heads 180 degrees*
- *Have strong hind legs that help them jump*

Behavior:

- *Are nocturnal animals*
- *Some species are more solitary, and some are more social*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Found in the Philippine Islands*

Diet:

- *Is an insectivore and eats insects, spiders, and sometimes small birds*

Size:

- *Is about 3 in – 6 in in length*

Summary:

- *The tarsier is a good contender because the tarsier is known to face any predator it stand in its way. They are known to be shy around humans. Another reason the tarsier is a good contender is their incredible jumping ability, which they use to get away from predators and attack their prey.*

Tarsier

(Tarsius syrichta)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Tusks (Males only)*

Defense:

- *Speed (Musk Deer are Very Fast)*

Behavior:

- *Mild Social Behaviors but are Mostly Solitary*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Himalayas, Nepal, Afghanistan, Southern China and Northern India*
- *Commonly found on Gradual Slopes and in Forrests*

Diet:

- *Grass and Vegetation*

Size:

- *60cm Tall When Standing on Avg*
- *22-33 Lbs*
- *100cm Length From head to Tail*

Summary:

- *Males have tusks rather than antlers, which are arguably more difficult to use in combat compared to antlers. Musk Deer are also much smaller than other species of deer, which is not good for offence or defense. Speed is a good defense, however.*

Musk Deer

(*Moschus moschiferus*)

(ADD YOUR PICTURE HERE)

Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Fangs/Tusks*

Defense:

- *Long hind legs and hooved feet for jumping*
- *Size and fur color for hiding*
- *Scent-producing gland to warn other deer to stay away from territory*

Behavior:

- *Often flees when danger is sensed*
- *Active at night*
- *Travels in small groups*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Often live in East and Central Asia in mountainous areas, taiga, and tundra*

Diet:

- *Lichens, leaves and bark, pine needle,*

Size:

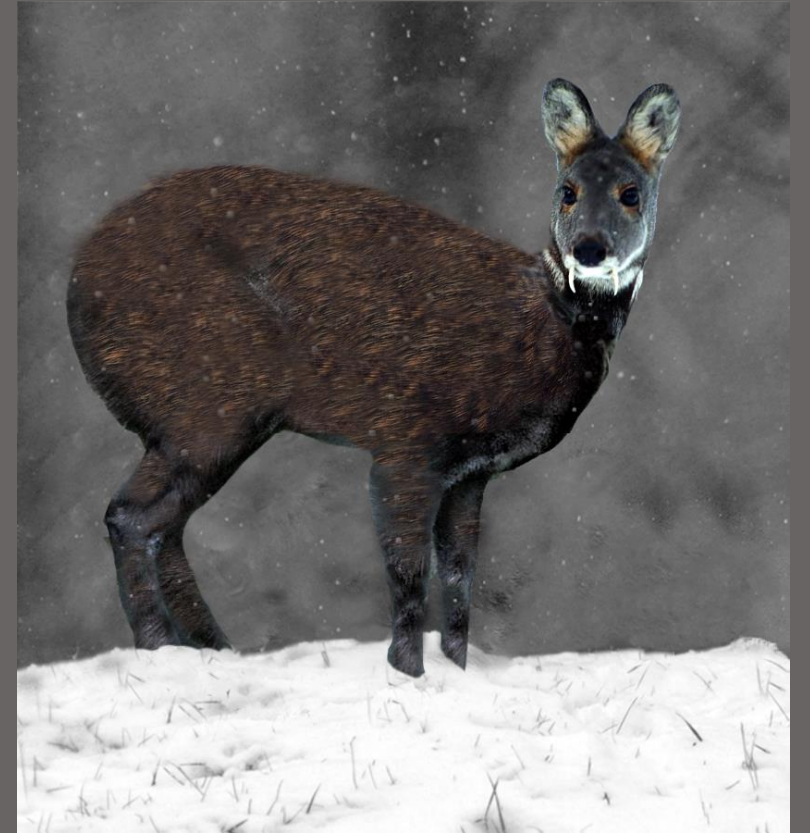
- *Weighs 24-40 lbs., 3-4ft in body length, and 20-22 in in height*

Summary:

- *With its hooves this species can climb rocky and elevated terrain. Its rabbit-like hind legs are strong for walking and coordinated jumping however, not for running. To make up for this, musk deer are great at hiding and sensing nearby threats.*

Musk Deer

(*Moschus moschiferus*)



Aoudad

Ammotragus lervia

Can survive a long period of time without fresh water

Biome: Desert, Savanna, Grassland, Mountains

HERBIVORE: Grasses and Shrubs

SECONDARY in Food Chain



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *They don't have anything for weaponry and are mostly passive.*

Defense:

- *Its well-developed senses of hearing, vision and smell allow it to detect predators, and with its speed allows them to run away.*

Behavior:

- *They travel in male-female pairs, and form in large groups called settlements.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Patagonian maras live only in the arid central and southern regions of Argentina.*

Diet:

- *The Mara is an herbivore and eats leaves, plants and flowers.*

Size:

- *The Mara have an average length of 700 mm. They have an average weight of 7.73 kg for males and 8.44 kg for females.*

Summary:

- *The Mara is fast, smart, and able to sense predators from even the furthest of distances, which it uses to survive.*

Mara

(Dolichotis patagonum)



Amami Rabbit

(Pentalagus furnessi)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *They don't have anything for weaponry and are mostly passive.*

Defense:

- *They hide in burrows and vegetation to protect them from predators. They also make vocalizations when*

Behavior:

- *The species are nocturnal. Amami rabbits live in forested areas and use tree hollows and burrows for cover in the daytime. When discovered at night, they hide in nearby vegetation.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Amami rabbits live in the southern areas of Japan, in forest areas.*

Diet:

- *The species feed on mostly forest plants from the habitat they're in.*

Size:

- *They have an average body length of 451 mm in males and 452 mm in females. They have an average weight of 2.1 kg for males and 2.2 kg for females.*

Summary:

- *While they aren't as competitive as a lot of the other animals on the bracket, they have a strong will to survive, and their tactics have prevented them from extinction (along with some human help of course)!*



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Wings, teeth and nails can be used for weapons.*

Defense:

- *A scuffle that represents boxing which is striking with a half open wings.*

Behavior:

- *Will not bother you but will bite or hurt you if it is provoked.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Range: Sub-Saharan Africa, northern Africa, and the Middle East*
- *Habitat: Forests, grasslands, and deserts.*

Diet:

- *Soft fruits such as dates, apples & apricots.*

Size:

- *It is a medium sized megabat and it is about 15cm.*

Summary:

- *This would be a good contender because the species knows how to defend itself and it can fly. The species knows how to survive.*

Egyptian Fruit Bat

(Rousettus aegypticus)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *They use echolocation to navigate in the dark. They also produce sounds in through their mouth or nose. They use these same techniques for predator avoidance and prey detection.*

Defense:

- *Egyptian fruit bats tend to get aggressive when feeding to prevent other bats from stealing their fruit.*

Behavior:

- *They have very long wings to keep them warm during roosting and they also use them to conserve their body heat.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *They tend to live in tropical rainforest, tropical deciduous forest, dry scrub forest and savanna. They prefer habitats with large fruit production near caves.*

Diet:

- *Soft fruits, such as dates, apples, and apricots*

Size:

- *Adult Egyptian Fruit bats have an average total body length of 15cm (5.9in) and an average wingspan of about 60cm (24in).*

Summary:

- *Egyptian Fruit Bats listen to echoes and can tell with precision and accuracy the shape, size, and texture of even the smallest insects. This shows how well the bat can protect itself from predators. They are also aggressive by nature to protect their food.*

Egyptian Fruit Bat

(*Rousettus aegypticus*)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Although these bats don't have 'weapons' voice weaponry to scare enemies*

Defense:

- *These bats can use their echolocation to know when there are enemies nearby, and they uses their voices to collectively make noise and pierce the ears of predators.*

Behavior:

- *The fruit bats usually breed from April-august. Whenever these bats are out looking for food, they won't eat it, but they'll bring it back to their roost*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *These bats can be found in Egypt of course, and they are dispersed sparsely across the continent of Africa. They live together in roosts/caves.*

Diet:

- *The bats feed on are fruits, more specifically, fruits that are soft and pulpy.*

Size:

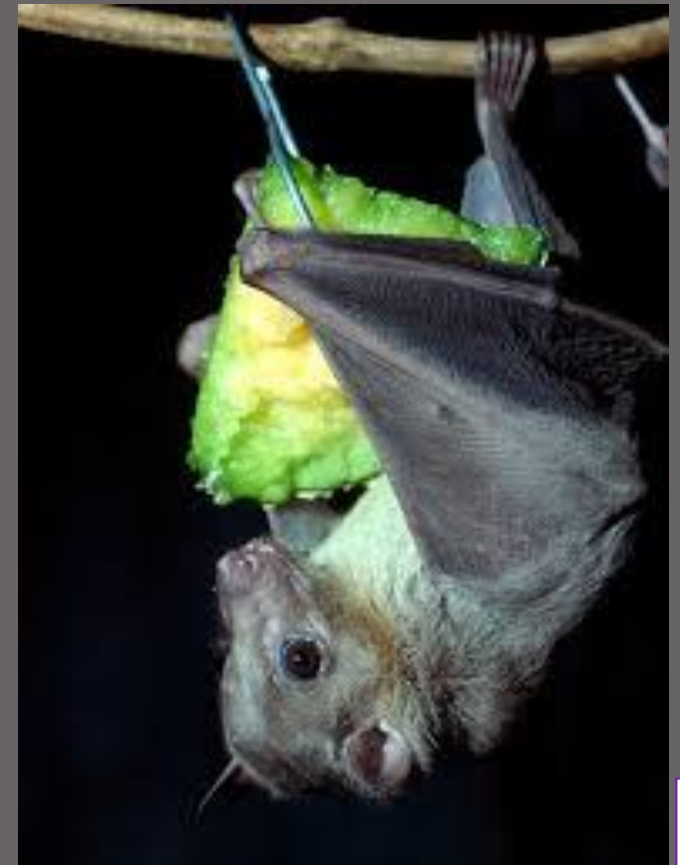
- *The size of these bats are 60 cm, including their wingspan. Their weight ranges from 2.8-6.0 ounces.*

Summary:

- *Their lifespan ranges from 8-10 years, but if in captivity, their life span can reach up to 22 years. Since these bats feast on human fruits, many farmers try to kill them when spotted.*

Egyptian Fruit Bat

(*Rousettus aegypticus*)



Solenodon

Solenodon paradoxus

Venomous, excellent at burrowing, gland secretion used for communication

Biome: Tropical agricultural

CARNIVORE: Insects, arthropods, mollusks and worms

TERTIARY in Food Chain



Common Tree Shrew

Tupaia glis

Sharp claws, good at climbing

Biome: Tropical Forests

OMNIVORE: Amphibians, reptiles, eggs, insects, worms, leaves, seeds, grains and fruit

TERTIARY in Food Chain



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *Four strong front claws, two of which are shaped like pickax*

Defense:

- *Strong legs with curved claws*

Behavior:

- *(excellent sense of touch and hearing which can be used for detection of vibrations that may signal danger)*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *Live in South African forests with soft, deep leaf litter layers and undergrowth. They live in the burrows.*
- **Diet:**
- *Are insectivores so they eat different kinds of insects, worms, and snails. Termites are their favorite.*

Size:

- *3.9 inches in length and 1.23 ounces in weight*

Summary:

- Giant golden moles are specialized to live underground, so they have various special features that many other animals don't have. Since they don't have eyes, their other senses are incredible.

Giant Golden Mole

(Chrysothalax trevelyani)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- The giant golden mole is equipped with 2 claws, used mostly for movement throughout the dirt. It can also be used to collect any prey it finds.

Defense:

- The giant golden mole has exceptionally poor defense, being both blind and deaf. This makes it near impossible for it to detect any foes and act accordingly.

Behavior:

- It sleeps for the majority of the day, only coming out during the night. During its active hours, it aimlessly feels around for either food or mates.

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- The golden mole mainly occupies soft-soiled forests in Africa, particularly along the Eastern cape.

Diet:

- The giant golden mole eats any insect it can get its hands on, whether it be millipedes, earthworms, or snails.

Size:

- Its size averages around 20 centimeters, the largest of any golden mole.

Summary:

- The giant golden mole is a sleeper pick at best. Its combat ability is lacking and it has no defensive ability, but it could potentially take down a winded opponent if the mole can find it by chance.

Giant Golden Mole

(Chrysothalax trevelyani)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *They have 50 teeth which can be used for killing their prey.*

Defense:

- *They have an excellent sense of smell for hunting.*

Behavior:

- *They are nocturnal and communicate by making trilling calls that finish with a coughing noise, and they produce buzzing noises as well.*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *They occupy South America. Specifically, Chile and Argentina. They've been found in the mountains of these areas and the islands. They like to be in dense, cool, humid forests, and they like the thickets of the Chilean Bamboo.*

Diet:

- *They eat insects and larvae from tree branches and in bark crevices, as well as moths and butterflies. During the austral summer, these animals eat lots of fleshy fruits, such as mistletoe fruits. In captivity, these animals eat a wide range of food, including fruits, meat, fish, vegetables, potatoes, oats, vertebrates, invertebrates, eggs and cheese.*

Size:

- *They are 8-13 cm. long and weigh 16-42.*

Summary:

- *They can survive a poisonous snake bite because they have very strong immune systems and rarely get sick. They are also immune to rabies.*

Colo Colo Opossum (*Dromiciops gliroides*)



Key Adaptations for Tournament:

Weaponry:

- *These monkeys have approximately 50 teeth which can cause harm to any enemy that comes near them*

Defense:

- *These monkeys warn each other to prepare for danger nearby by using trilling calls that end in a cough. This isn't something that predators and enemies could easily catch on to.*

Behavior:

- *These monkeys can be nocturnal. This along with their locomotor skills can help them survive extreme weather periods. Both monkeys, male and female, become sexually mature after two years*

Geographic Range & Habitat:

- *This monkey can be found in South America, more specifically, Chile and Argentina. They also are found in temperate rain forests.*

Diet:

- *These monkeys feed on insects along with small invertebrates. Something else that many of these monkeys feed on are mistletoe fruit.*

Size:

- *These monkey's weight ranges from 0.56-1.48 ounces. Their body length is 8-13 cm, while their tail length is 9-13 cm.*

Summary:

- *These monkey are very similar regarding gender; the females often have thicker tails than males and this can help them during hibernation and give energy. The female and male monkeys also have a monogamous relationship.*

Colo Colo Opossum (*Dromiciops gliroides*)

