

# LEARN AT CHESTERZOO



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**A very high risk  
of becoming  
Extinct in the Wild**

<b>Name</b>	Komodo dragon
<b>Scientific name</b>	<i>Varanus Komodoensis</i>
<b>Threats</b> (why they're at risk)	Habitat loss (tourism), climate change, illegal wildlife trade.
<b>Distribution</b> (where they live)	Flores, Komodo, Rinca, Nusa Kode and Gili Motang
<b>Habitat</b> (what they live in)	Forest, grassland, marine intertidal.
<b>Diet/feeding strategy</b> (what they eat and how they eat it)	Carrion, deer, pigs, smaller dragons, and even large water buffalo. When hunting, Komodo dragons rely on camouflage and patience, lying in wait for passing prey. The Komodo dragon is a venomous predator and one bite can lower blood pressure, prevent clotting and induce shock to their prey.
<b>Social behaviour</b> (how they live)	Komodo dragons are diurnal and solitary, and will mate once a year. Males sometimes wrestle one another to earn mating rights.
<b>Males and females</b>	Males can reach up to 3m in length, whereas females can reach up to 2.5m.
<b>Lifespan</b> (how long they live for)	Up to 30 years.
<b>Number of young</b> (how many babies)	Can lay up to 30 eggs which hatch 8 months later
<b>Interesting fact</b>	When there aren't any males around, female Komodo dragons have other means of reproducing: As they have both male and female sex chromosomes, female dragons can reproduce asexually in a process called parthenogenesis. In other words – they can clone themselves!