



the
giant panda



Endangered

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Despite having hardly any predators in its native habitat of China, threats created by humans such as deforestation, poaching, and human over-population have left just 1800 giant pandas in the wild. The species is the rarest of the bear family, and its distinctive black and white coat is symbolic of wildlife conservation around the world. It has also become a revered animal in China.
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Diet

Giant pandas need to eat at least 12—40 kilograms of bamboo per day. To consume this amount of food, pandas have developed enlarged wrist bones that function as opposable thumbs to get through food more easily.

Habitat

Giant pandas are mostly found in the Yangtze Basin, which also happens to be the economic heart of China. Roads and railroads increasingly fragment their habitat, isolating many panda populations.

Features

Pandas are well known for their black and white furry coat and black-patched eyes. Giant pandas grow up to 1.2 metres tall and weigh up to 150 kilograms.