

# Tufted Capuchin



## Fast Facts



**Other Names:** Brown Capuchin,  
Black-capped Capuchin

**Scientific Name:** *Sapajus apella*

**Conservation Status:** Least Concern

Extinct      Threatened      Least Concern



**Body Length:** 30–57 cm

**Weight:** 1.1–3.3 kg

**Gestation:** 180 days

**Number of young:** 1

**Habitat:** Sub-tropical, tropical and  
mountain forest

**Distribution:** The Amazon



Distribution 

## Description

Tufted Capuchins have a prehensile tail which acts as a fifth limb when the capuchin travels through the trees. There are two tufted 'horns' above the eyes which gives them their other name, Tufted Capuchin.

## Diet

The Tufted Capuchin is an omnivore and eats nuts, fruit, insects, frogs, lizards and small bats.

## In the wild

Capuchins are diurnal, which means they are most active during the day. They live in large social groups of up to 30 individuals. There is frequently more than one adult male in the group. These capuchins are not sexually mature until seven years of age. Females usually only mate with the dominant male in the group. The natural predators of capuchins are raptors (eagles), constrictors (reptiles) and jaguars

## Threats

Their ability to breed any time during the year and to adapt quickly to changes in their environment has reduced the impact of threats such as habitat destruction and hunting.

## At Perth Zoo

Perth Zoo's Tufted Capuchins can be seen in the Primates area.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Tufted Capuchins communicate with different facial expressions that represent many things from greetings and friendliness to threats and fear. When choosing a mate, capuchins 'flirt' with other capuchins by raising their eyebrows.