



Feeling Drowsy?

Scientists are studying how animals slumber in hopes of understanding a fundamental question: why sleep even exists.

ANIMAL	HOURS OF SLEEP PER DAY	PERCENT OF SLEEP THAT IS REM	PERCENT OF SLEEP THAT IS REM	EYE POSITION DURING SLEEP
Little pocket mouse	20.1	16%		●● both closed
Brown bat ▶	19.9	10%		●● closed
Southern opossum	19.4	29%		●●
◀ Owl monkey	17.0	11%		●●
Kangaroo rat	16.0	17%		●●
Common tree shrew	15.8	16%		●●
Zebra finch	14.7	2%		○● one eye sometimes open
Ground squirrel	14.5	19%		●●
Mountain beaver	14.4	17%		●●
Burrowing owl	14.3	5%		○●
Cat ▶	13.2	26%		●●
Chinchilla	12.5	12%		●●
Pigeon	11.9	8%		○●
Domestic chicken	11.8	10%		○●
Rhesus macaque	10.8	12%		●●
Chimpanzee	10.8	15%		●●
Dog	10.7	29%		●●
Three-toed sloth	10.5	11%		●●
Emperor penguin	10.5	13%		○●
European hedgehog	10.1	29%		●●
Fruit fly	10.0	0%		○● no eyelids
Duck ▶	9.1	16%		○● eyelids
Rabbit	8.7	14%		●●
Pig	8.4	26%		●●
Bobwhite quail	6.6	17%		○●
Asiatic elephant ▶	5.3	34%		●●
Red-tailed hawk	4.5	9%		○●
Cow	4.0	19%		●●
Horse	2.9	27%		●●
Giraffe	1.9	21%		●●



Sources: Dr. Charles Amlaner, Indiana State University; Jerry Siegel, UCLA; Dr. Giulio Tononi, University of Washington

Photos by E. R. Degginer (owl monkey), S. R. Maglione (bats), Francois Gohier (cat), William H. Mullins (duck), Mary Beth Angelo (elephant)/Photo Researchers Inc.

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