**Asset Information Page**

**Red Deer**

**Sticky Note 1:**

**With its massive antlers, the red deer is our largest deer!**

**Appearance:** The red deer has dark russet-brown fur, with a paler buff rump patch and a pale tail and branching antlers.

**Habitat:** It is an unmistakable icon of the Scottish Highlands, but can be seen in northwest and southern England, too.

**Movement:** The Eurasian lynx stalks its prey from the cover of thick vegetation. It then pounces on its unsuspecting lunch, delivering a fatal bite to the neck or snout.

**Diet:**  Red deer mainly eat grasses, sedges, rushes and dwarf shrubs like heather.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 1---------------------------------------------------------

**Sticky Note 2:**

**Red deer were one of the most familiar types of livestock among ancient Europeans!**

**Reproduction:** Mating takes place from the end of September to November. Calves are born from mid-May, with a peak of births in the 1st or 2nd week of June.

**Social Structures:** About 80% of the red deer population live in open-hill habitats year-round. These animals tend to be smaller and produce fewer young than those resident in woodland habitat.

**Communication:** Both sexes are known to produce low grunts when approaching each other.

**Survival Skills:** Red deer are an important source of food for animals. The red deer has long been hunted for both sport and food.

Hybridization with introduced sika deer is thought to pose a significant threat to the genetic integrity of native red deer.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 2---------------------------------------------------------